

**HISTORY**  
of the  
**KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF  
FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA**  
1929-1943



**A Review of the Progress of the  
F. F. A. in Kansas During Its  
First Fifteen Years**

*Compiled by*  
**A. P. DAVIDSON, Executive Adviser**  
**Kansas Association Future Farmers of America**  
**Manhattan, Kansas**

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Manhattan	

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A. P. DAVIDSON, Executive Adviser  
Kansas Association Future Farmers of America  
Manhattan, Kansas

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## Dedication



**"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."**

Over 50,000 members and former members of the FFA have answered their country's call for military service and are found on all fighting fronts in every branch of Uncle Sam's armed forces. At Guadalcanal, in North Africa, on the sea, as in all areas of the services, FFA boys are accepting their responsibilities as good soldiers, sailors, and marines.

To the 50,000 members and former members of the Future Farmers of America who have answered their country's call, this fifteen year history of the Kansas Association of FFA is gratefully dedicated.

Delegates in Session, 12th National Convention, Future Farmers of America, Kansas City, Mo., 1939. Albert Coates, Jr., Shawnee Mission, Kansas, Chapter, Third Vice President





## Foreword

The origin of the Future Farmers of America in Kansas is unique in that it grew from the desires and needs of farm boys who were enrolled in vocational agriculture in Kansas high schools.

In the early 1920's when vocational agriculture was in its infancy, it was found that vocational agricultural classes had of their own initiative perfected a local organization, elected officers, drawn up by-laws, and appointed committees to bear certain responsibilities. Groups of boys with a common interest in project work were quick to recognize that in acquiring seed, feed, breeding stock, feeding stock, etc., they could purchase to greater advantage cooperatively. They found that securing credit for such purchases could be greatly facilitated through cooperative or group loans. Boys found that by cooperating they could have such facilities as feed grinders, dipping vats, seed treaters, livestock trailers, etc. with much less investment than if each boy were to provide his own. Many purebred sires were owned cooperatively.

Many vocational agriculture classes desired to entertain their parents at a banquet each year. This, along with other social and recreational activities, could be accomplished much more effectively through an organization. Community campaigns to control livestock diseases, insects, destroy rodents, improve livestock, etc., could be promoted and executed much more expeditiously through an organization.

As a result, "Junior Farmer Clubs," "Junior Breeders Associations," "Purebred Livestock Associations," "Klond and Kernel" clubs and local organizations of various other names appeared in vocational agriculture departments, all growing out of a recognized need of organization if the things the boys wished to accomplish were to be realized.

Such trends were prevalent in other states, but it was not until 1928 that the states merged their local organizations into local chapters, state associations, and a national organization of the Future Farmers of America.

While the initiative for local FFA organizations rested with the boys, vocational agriculture teachers as local advisers have done a splendid job of guiding and stabilizing the efforts of the members. Teachers saw in the organization a most effective and efficient device for all-round boy development.

No small part of the growth and success of the FFA can be attributed to loyal farm parents who were interested in having their boys develop leadership and citizenship responsibilities along with ability to farm.

—L. B. Pollom.

## Introduction

The fifteen year history of the FFA in Kansas consists of two parts. Part I is devoted to the National Organization of Future Farmers of America, and Part II records activities of the Kansas Association of Future Farmers of America during its first fifteen years.

That part of the history pertaining to the National Organization includes only those activities in which the Kansas Association has had a part, and in no sense should Part I be considered as a complete history of the National Organization of FFA.

Active membership in the FFA is ever changing. Each year a group of members automatically join the associate membership class. Each year a new group of vocational agriculture students join the organization as Green Hand members. This history is being compiled for the purpose of making available to this ever changing membership group the achievement record of the Kansas Association of Future Farmers of America.

The local FFA adviser or vocational agriculture teacher will find this history supplemental to his own records and experience.

It is hoped that this publication will carry information relative to the FFA and its place in a program of rural secondary education which will be informative and helpful to patrons, school board members, school superintendents, and high school principals.

The History of the Kansas Association of Future Farmers of America is intended to supplement the official FFA Manual. Chapter officers should acquaint their membership with the achievement record of their state association, as well as merited recognition given to individual FFA members and the local FFA chapters. Check your chapter achievement against this record. Chapter advisers and FFA members should be proud of the record of this splendid farm boy organization, and find in this history an inspiration and a challenge.

—A. P. D.

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## The Future Farmers of America Organization

### What It Is : : What It Does

By W. A. Ross,  
National Executive Secretary

#### Introduction

The Future Farmers of America, or "FFA" as it is commonly known, is the national organization of, by, and for boys studying vocational agriculture in public secondary schools under the provisions of the National Vocational Education Acts.

As an integral part of the program of vocational education in agriculture in the public school system of America, the FFA has become well known in the past fifteen years. No national student organization enjoys greater freedom of self-government under adult counsel and guidance, than the Future Farmers of America. Organized in November of 1928, it has served to motivate and vitalize the systematic instruction offered to students of vocational agriculture and to provide further training in farmer citizenship.

The FFA is an intra-curricular activity having its origin and root in a definite part of the school curriculum—vocational agriculture. Among other things, members learn through active participation, how to conduct and take part in a public meeting; to speak in public; to buy and sell cooperatively; to solve their own problems; finance themselves; and to assume civic responsibility. The foundation upon which the Future Farmers of America organization is built, includes leadership and character development, sportsmanship, cooperation, service, thrift, scholarship, improved agriculture, organized recreation, citizenship and patriotism.

National headquarters of the Future Farmers of America is located in the Agricultural Education Service, United States Office of Education, Federal Security Agency. National conventions are held annually at Kansas City, Missouri, at the time of the American Royal Livestock Show.

#### How the F. F. A. Developed

Federally aided courses in vocational agriculture under the National Vocational Education (Smith-Hughes) Act were first established in the United States in 1917. From the very beginning the boys who were enrolled in these courses in the various states felt a spirit of comradeship due to their back-ground of country life and their desires with regard to farming as a vocation.

Within a few years, local departments of vocational agriculture in high schools of various states had developed organizations, the membership being composed of the students of vocational agricul-



ture. Such organizations were, in many instances, largely social and recreational in nature but certain educational, self-improvement and co-operative features were often included as well. Undertakings of this type, therefore, under the guidance of enterprising local teachers of vocational agriculture marked the first expression of such students to come together and to do things in an organized way.

As these local vocational agriculture organizations grew in numbers, their successes and failures formed a pattern of experience by means of which efforts toward group action became more successful. Naturally, the idea of banding together local groups of students of vocational agriculture into a larger organization grew in the minds of progressive leaders. Instead of each local group functioning to itself, why not have some actual contact and definite ties between them? Certainly, the interests and tendencies of the members were along similar lines. And so the idea of state-wide groups, with each local group as an active unit thereof, developed and came into the picture.

Between 1923 and 1928 a number of States actually formed organizations of vocational agricultural students. Some splendid work along this line was done in Virginia, Tennessee, Arkansas, North Carolina, South Carolina, Oklahoma, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Utah, California and Wyoming, as well as in certain other states.

It is interesting to note that such names as "Junior Farmers," "Young Farmers," "Future Farmers" and the like, appeared in various sections of the country. However, the pioneer efforts of the Future Farmers of Virginia attracted the greatest attention nationally due to the very excellent ideals, purposes, ceremonies, and definite constitution formulated by Henry C. Groseclose, and his associates. Two years after the F. F. V. was formed, six southern states had in operation similar organizations patterned closely after the Virginia set-up.

By 1927 the goal of a national organization of students of vocational agriculture was gleaming in the distance in the minds of various leaders. The call came clear and strong from various sections; the country was ready; the time was ripe. From the western states came a definite proposal to build upon the good work of the Future Farmers of Virginia and similar organizations, formulate a constitution for the Future Farmers of America, and launch it as the national organization for boys studying vocational agriculture.

Accordingly, a temporary constitution patterned very closely after that of the Future Farmers of Virginia was drafted under the leadership of the staff of the Agricultural Education Service of the Federal Board for Vocational Education during the summer of 1928. The first National Convention was held in November of that year and since that time the Future Farmers of America has ex-

tended to forty-seven states, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. In 1942 there were 245,830 members in 7,542 agricultural centers where vocational agriculture departments are found in the local high school.

### Aim and Purpose of the F. F. A.

The primary aim of the Future Farmers of America is the development of agricultural leadership, cooperation and citizenship. The specific purposes for which this organization was formed are as follows:

1. To develop competent, aggressive, rural and agricultural leadership.
2. To create and nurture a love of country life.
3. To strengthen the confidence of farm boys and young men in themselves and their work.
5. To encourage members in the development of individual farming programs and establishment in farming.
6. To encourage members to improve the farm home and its surroundings.
7. To participate in worthy undertakings for the improvement of agriculture.
8. To develop character, train for useful citizenship, and foster patriotism.
9. To participate in cooperative effort.
10. To encourage and practice thrift.
11. To encourage improvements in scholarship.
12. To provide and encourage the development of organized rural recreational activities.

### The F. F. A. Emblem



Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

The national emblem of the Future Farmers of America is significant and meaningful in every detail. Used by members in all recognized units of the organization, it is made up of five symbols; the owl, the plow, and the rising sun, within the cross section of an ear of corn which is surmounted by the American eagle. Upon the face of the emblem appear also the words "Vocational Agriculture"



and the letters "FFA." The owl is symbolic of wisdom and knowledge; the plow is the symbol of labor and tillage of the soil; the rising sun is emblematic of progress and the new day that will dawn when all farmers are trained and have learned to cooperate; the cross section of an ear of corn represents common agricultural interests since corn is native to America and grown in every state; and the eagle is indicative of the national scope of the organization. The emblem is protected by copyrights.

### The F. F. A. Creed

An official Creed was adopted at the Third National Convention. Every paragraph expresses hope and faith in the future. The Creed is as follows:

I believe in the future of farming, with a faith born not of words but of deeds—achievements won by the present and past generations of farmers; in the promise of better days through better ways, even as the better things we now enjoy have come up to us from the struggles of former years.

I believe that to live and work on a good farm is pleasant as well as challenging; for I know the joys and discomforts of farm life and hold an inborn fondness for those associations which, even in hours of discouragement, I cannot deny.

I believe in leadership from ourselves and respect from others. I believe in my own ability to work efficiently and think clearly, with such knowledge and skill as I can secure, and in the ability of organized farmers to serve our own and the public interest in marketing the product of our toil. I believe we can safeguard those rights against practices and policies that are unfair.

I believe in less dependence on begging and more power in bargaining; in the life abundant and enough honest wealth to help make it so—for others as well as myself; in less need for charity and more of it when needed; in being happy myself and playing square with those whose happiness depends upon me.

I believe that rural America can and will hold true to the best traditions in our national life and that I can exert an influence in my home and community which will stand solid for my part in that inspiring task.

### The F. F. A. Colors and Motto

Perhaps no more appropriate colors for a live "up-and-coming" youth organization could have been selected than national blue and corn gold. Rich and cheerful, these colors appear in all equipment and paraphernalia used.

The motto consists of only four lines but these lines are filled with practical philosophy reflecting a spirit and sincerity that shows the true viewpoint of farm youth, the "backbone of a nation." The Motto is as follows:

LEARNING TO DO  
DOING TO LEARN  
EARNING TO LIVE  
LIVING TO SERVE

### How the F. F. A. Operates

The FFA is composed of chartered State Associations which, in turn, are made up of local chapters situated in high schools having departments of vocational agriculture. The boys enrolled in such courses constitute its active membership but provision is also made for associate and honorary memberships. Membership is entirely voluntary.

**DEGREES OF MEMBERSHIP:** There are four grades or degrees of active membership—"Green Hand," "Chapter Farmer," "State Farmer," and "American Farmer." These grades of membership are contingent on definite accomplishments in connection with the vocational agriculture program of the school. Local chapters determine the individual's advancement in the first two grades of membership; the state determines the third degree, and the national organization awards the fourth degree. Specific levels of attainment with respect to farming, earnings, investments, leadership, and scholarship ability are set up for each degree.

**OFFICERS AND ADVISERS:** Boy officers for each unit of the FFA—local, state, and national—are elected annually. Each of these units meet at specified times. There are approved forms for conducting meetings and for passing members to the various degrees. Teachers of vocational agriculture serve as local chapter advisers and State Supervisors of Agricultural Education as State Advisers.

In addition to the youthful national officers, constituting the National Board of Trustees, there is an adult National Advisory Council composed of the four Regional Agents for Agricultural Education, four State Supervisors of Vocational Agriculture (one from each of the four administrative regions) and the chief of



the Agricultural Education Service, of the Federal Office of Education, who, as National Adviser, is chairman of the Council. This advisory Council cooperates with and serves in an advisory capacity to the National Adviser in the administrative direction and guidance of the organization.

**ACTIVITIES:** Programs of work participated in by all members are set up annually by every chapter, state association, and the national organization. These programs are built on the needs of the individual and the community. The items included are guideposts pointing the way. A program indicates the direction and course to follow in order to reach definite goals and there is a relationship among local, state, and national programs. All FFA activities are boy-initiated and boy-directed. Results attained, therefore, are due to farmer-training objectives set up and carried out by the boys themselves. Cooperation, group thinking and purposeful action are displayed in all programs of work.

The FFA was and is designed to supplement training opportunities for boys who are progressing toward the goal of establishment in a farming business. Through FFA activities the cooperative spirit is fostered and individual talent is discovered and developed. Here is a school of experience in the art of working together for a common good. Members have a splendid opportunity to learn how to deal effectively with themselves as well as with others. The organization embodies the fundamentals of a true democracy. Each member has a voice in setting up policies and making rules and regulations by which he is governed. Each member also has individual responsibility resting on his shoulders, but teamwork is essential to lasting accomplishment.

Future Farmers not only work well together, but they know how to provide organized recreation for themselves and others in the community. Here again this organization of, by, and for farm boys provides ample opportunity for games, sports, and other recreational activities appealing to the farm boy. State FFA bands and various chapter musical organizations are common in all parts of the country. Many state associations own and operate state-wide camps which combine recreation with leadership training activities that reach into every chapter in the state.

**FINANCES:** The FFA is self-supporting. Operating nationally on 10 cents a year member dues, it has been in good financial shape from the very beginning. Bills are paid promptly and the treasury maintains a safety balance at all times. Many chapters operate thrift banks where systematic and regular member saving is encouraged. Chapter income is often supplemented

by various well chosen fund-raising activities. This means business training and experience.

### How Boys May Become Members

Active chapters of Future Farmers of America may be established in schools where systematic instruction in vocational agriculture is given under the provisions of the National Vocational Education Acts. If the students are interested in forming a chapter, the local teacher of vocational agriculture should get in touch with the State Supervisor of Agricultural Education who is also State Adviser of the FFA. Full information may be secured through his office.

Any male student of vocational agriculture enrolled in an all-day or day-unit vocational agriculture class is entitled to membership, and a member may retain his active membership throughout his high school career and for three years thereafter providing he maintains active member status as provided for in the national constitution of the organization.

### What Becomes of F. F. A. Members

Study the product of an organization to determine its effectiveness. Is the FFA actually training for rural and agricultural leadership? To answer this question one has only to observe and review the records of outstanding members and other members who are making good as young farmer-leaders in their home communities. Thousands also have passed on into the ranks of the Grange, Farm Bureau, Farmers Union, as well as other agricultural and civic organizations, there to accept and to fill creditably places of trust and responsibility while still in their youth. Go into local communities where FFA chapters are located. Observe the interest and achievement of FFA members in improving the communities in which they reside.

The FFA is developing a trained leadership and a farm citizenry which serves and exerts an influence for good wherever found.

### In Conclusion

The Future Farmers of America is a non-profit, non-political, farm youth organization of voluntary membership, designed to take its place along with other agencies striving for the development of leadership, the building of a more permanent agriculture, and the improvement of country life. It constitutes one of the most efficient agricultural teaching devices that has been discovered up to the present time. The FFA is 100% American in its ideals and outlook and has no outside affiliations. There is no secrecy in connection with any of its activities.

The rapid but healthy expansion of the organization, the keen interest of its members, and the whole-hearted support accorded it



has been gratifying to all who are concerned with the welfare of farm boys and young men throughout the length and breadth of the land.

The Future Farmers of America exists today because of a cooperative spirit and a desire on the part of farm boys, 14 to about 21 years of age, preparing for farming through vocational agriculture, to have a national organization of their own in which they could secure practical business experience, act as their own instructors, and enjoy the fellowship of one another. It is organized vocational education in agriculture on a youth level. Improved agriculture, better local communities, a more satisfying farm home life, and more efficient farmer citizens are developing as a result of the boys' experiences.

### National F. F. A. Leaders

All national leaders (page 15) have been in agricultural education work for the full fifteen years of the life of FFA Organization, and each has made a definite contribution to the advancement of this farm boy organization. Dr. Lane addressed the FFA Motto to the national FFA Organization in 1929. Henry Groseclose is often referred to as the "Founder" of the Future Farmers of America, and has made valuable contributions in the ritualistic field and degree classification. W. A. "Art" Ross has probably met and known more active FFA members than any other individual connected with the organization. Kansas FFA members feel well acquainted with "Art" through his greeting, "Howdy Folks," used for the past 13 years in opening the monthly NBC Farm and Home Hour FFA broadcast. "A Future Farmer Is Always A Gentleman," is a slogan contributed by J. A. Linke, and has influenced the conduct of hundreds of thousands of Future Farmer members "from the state of Washington to Puerto Rico and from the state of Maine to Hawaii." J. H. Pearson has definitely been responsible for raising the standards of the American Farmer Degree. National Adviser W. T. Spanton and National Treasurer, Dowell J. Howard are doing a bang-up job in guiding the FFA ship through one of the biggest crises ever faced by the organization.

Three state associations, Utah, Missouri, and Texas furnished official FFA bands at the 10th convention celebration, totaling 265 instruments.

—FFA—

6,000 copies of Washington's "General Orders" were printed on parchment and distributed to state FFA advisers in 1937, who in turn furnished a copy to each active local chapter.

### National F. F. A. Leaders



*Top:* Dr. W. T. Spanton, National Adviser; Dr. C. H. Lane, National Adviser 1928-1934; Dr. J. A. Linke, National Adviser 1934-1941.

*Bottom:* Henry C. Groseclose, Virginia, National Executive Secretary and Treasurer, 1928-1930; National Treasurer, 1930-1940; W. A. Ross, National Executive Secretary 1930-1943; Dowell J. Howard, National Treasurer; J. H. Pearson, Regional Adviser.

## State Associations

In the order in which they were chartered:

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Virginia        | 26. Pennsylvania  |
| 2. Arkansas        | 27. Tennessee     |
| 3. New Jersey      | 28. Missouri      |
| 4. California      | 29. Michigan      |
| 5. South Carolina  | 30. North Dakota  |
| 6. Nebraska        | 31. Florida       |
| 7. Oklahoma        | 32. South Dakota  |
| 8. Wyoming         | 33. Arizona       |
| 9. Maryland        | 34. Texas         |
| 10. Georgia        | 35. Oregon        |
| 11. Nevada         | 36. Alabama       |
| 12. West Virginia  | 37. Delaware      |
| 13. Hawaii         | 38. Montana       |
| 14. Ohio           | 39. Kentucky      |
| 15. Colorado       | 40. Connecticut   |
| 16. Kansas         | 41. Maine         |
| 17. Idaho          | 42. Minnesota     |
| 18. North Carolina | 43. Washington    |
| 19. Indiana        | 44. Louisiana     |
| 20. Utah           | 45. Vermont       |
| 21. Illinois       | 46. New Hampshire |
| 22. Iowa           | 47. Massachusetts |
| 23. Wisconsin      | 48. Puerto Rico   |
| 24. New York       | 49. Mississippi   |
| 25. New Mexico     |                   |

## Growth of the National Organization of Future Farmers of America

The Future Farmers of America is a national organization of boys studying vocational agriculture in public secondary schools under the provisions of the National Vocational Education Acts. Launched at Kansas City in November of 1928, the organization has continued to develop rapidly. On June 30, 1942, the active membership totaled 245,822 in 7,542 local chapters in 47 states, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. The following table lists the number of local chapters and the number of active FFA memberships by years from 1929 to 1942.

Date	Chapters	Membership
June 30, 1929.....	1,500 (approx.).....	30,000 (approx.).....
" 1930.....	2,086.....	40,064.....
" 1931.....	2,500.....	55,818.....
" 1932.....	3,099.....	62,637.....
" 1933.....	3,255.....	66,948.....
" 1934.....	3,490.....	81,981.....
" 1935.....	3,977.....	100,399.....
" 1936.....	4,341.....	116,986.....
" 1937.....	4,896.....	143,702.....
" 1938.....	5,648.....	171,394.....
" 1939.....	6,301.....	205,346.....
" 1940.....	6,953.....	231,694.....
" 1941.....	7,340.....	240,972.....
" 1942.....	7,542.....	245,830.....

## Kansas F. F. A. Leaders



*Top Row:* C. M. Miller, Topeka, Director Vocational Education; L. B. Pollom, Topeka, Supervisor Vocational Agriculture and State Adviser; L. E. Call, Dean, School of Agriculture, K. S. C.; Dr. W. E. Grimes, Head Department Economics and Sociology, K. S. C.

*Bottom Row:* Dr. C. V. Williams, Professor Vocational Education, K. S. C.; A. P. Davidson, Professor Vocational Education, K. S. C. and State Executive Adviser; L. F. Hall, Associate Professor Vocational Education, K. S. C. and State Executive Secretary; H. H. Brown, Instructor Vocational Education, K. S. C.

This group has been associated with agricultural education in Kansas for a period of time antedating the history of the FFA. Their vision, courage and intelligent leadership is reflected in the soundness of the FFA program in Kansas.



## Early History of the Kansas Association of F.F.A.

The Kansas Association of Future Farmers of America was organized in April 1929, and a national charter was granted the State Association, September 3, 1929. The charter was signed by Leslie Applegate, President, and by Henry C. Groseclose, Executive-Secretary. Kansas was the sixteenth state chartered.

Friday afternoon, April 12, 1929, 42 delegates from 21 schools—apparently in connection with the State High School Agricultural Judging Contests—met in Education Hall, Kansas State College, for the purpose of effecting a state organization of Future Farmers of America. The records show that the new organization was to be the "Future Farmers of Kansas."

A nominating committee composed of the Board of Directors of the KVAA offered nominations for president, vice president, secretary-treasurer, and adviser.

The following were elected to serve as the first set of state FFA officers:

Boyd Waite, president, Winfield  
Elwyn Ruefner, vice president, Abilene  
Leo Kaff, secretary-treasurer, Carbondale  
W. E. Grimes, adviser, Kansas State College

According to an article found in Volume I, Number I of the Kansas Future Farmers of America News Bulletin, issued September 27, 1929, entitled, "A Message From The President," Boyd Waite states that, "Mr. Robert Paige of Manhattan, has been appointed reporter for the state organization." No explanation was offered as to whom made the appointment.

The first publication concerning the Kansas Association of Future Farmers of America was issued in May 1929 under the title of "Future Farmers of Kansas." This issue carried a copy of the Creed, told of the meeting to effect an FFA Association, listed the first group of boys in the United States to be elected to the American Farmer degree, gave directions for local departments to petition for charters, set up the first state program of work, carried the constitution and by-laws of the state association, stressed the importance of a local chapter program of work, and a statement to the effect that "The duties of the executive secretary for the time being will be assumed by this office." This referred to Supervisor L. B. Pollom's office.

In the September issue of the "Future Farmers of Kansas" newsletter, designated as Volume I, No. I, the story captioned, "The FFK Boys in Hutchinson," gives us much valuable information. Monday, September 16, was set aside "for the first Fair day program in Kansas under the supervision of the Future Farmers of Kansas." The schedule included a farm machinery tour, a judging demonstration, "attendance in mass at the afternoon performance

before the grandstand" at 2:30, and back to the grandstand for the evening performance at 7:30 p. m. Time was taken out for dinner and at 6:00 p. m. a meeting was scheduled to be held "at Liberty Junior High School for State Farmer degree initiation services."

The records do not reveal, but memory has it, that the Liberty Junior High School was not located and the first group of State Farmers were elected in front of the grandstand immediately following the afternoon performance.\* This newsletter listed the State Farmers elected, as follows:

Phillip Ljungdahl, Manhattan; Robert Paige, Manhattan; Boyd Waite, Winfield; Donald Curfman, Winfield; Leo Kaff, Carbondale; Irvin Hansen, Carbondale; Gilbert Finlay, Carbondale; Edward Cooper, Carbondale; Elwyn Ruefner, Abilene; Calvin Dornberger, Abilene; Everett Linvingood, Abilene.

The records do not state how Boyd Waite was selected to be the first American Farmer candidate from Kansas, but memory reveals that following the meeting in front of the grandstand when the State Farmers were elected, it was agreed that Boyd Waite should be the American Farmer candidate.

During the first fifteen years of the Kansas Association of FFA, 186 chapters were chartered. No coercion was ever used by state leaders in vocational education to bring about the chartering of local FFA chapters. The first state FFA Program of Work, 1929-30 called for "a chapter of Future Farmers of Kansas in each department of vocational agriculture in Kansas by the end of the school year." The goal of 100 per cent of vocational agriculture departments having chartered FFA chapters has never been reached in Kansas. The largest number of chartered chapters active in Kansas in a given year was 170 in 1940-41. There were 173 vocational agricultural departments in the state during the 1940-41 school year.

In the September 27, 1929, issue of the "Future Farmers of America News Bulletin," (Vol. I, No. I, of the Kansas FFA newsletter) in a letter from President Boyd Waite the following information concerning organization is of interest: "Up to August 1, only thirteen local chapters of the Future Farmers had applied for their state charters."

The records of the state office show that twelve local departments were chartered as of August 7, 1929. These twelve chapters, with chapter president and instructor follow:

\*Checked with Dr. W. E. Grimes, Adviser L. B. Pollom, Fred Allison, Ira Plank, and Boyd Waite.



Chapter	President	Instructor
Abilene.....	Carl Buhler.....	Fred D. Allison
Alma.....	Roy Watkins.....	W. F. Hearst
Beloit.....	Morris C. Humes.....	R. W. McBurney
Carbondale.....	Leo Kaff.....	E. I. Chilcott
Chanute.....	Richard Hablitz.....	W. R. Harder
Garden City.....	Elvin Murphy.....	J. D. Adams
Kingman.....	Lawrence Bloesser.....	Wm. H. Teas
Mankato.....	Belmont Dykes.....	L. R. Alt
Mound City.....	Paul Schmidt.....	Fred Rees
Parsons.....	Glen Wright.....	L. N. Jewett
Washington.....	Jack Evans.....	H. H. Brown
Winfield.....	Garland Johnson.....	John Lowe and Ira Plank

Chartering the Kansas F. F. A. Chapters

The first FFA Program of Work published in the May 1929, issue of the "Future Farmers of Kansas" included the goal of "a chapter of Future Farmers of Kansas in each department of vocational agriculture in Kansas by the end of the school year." The goal of 100 per cent of the vocational agriculture departments in Kansas having active chapters of the Future Farmers of America has constituted a part of each of the yearly state FFA Programs of Work since that date. Because one vocational agriculture department has not seen fit to petition for an FFA charter, this goal has never been achieved.

Directions for petitioning for an FFA chapter were carried in the May 1929 issue of the "Future Farmers of Kansas." While President Boyd Waite stated in the September 27, 1929, issue of the Kansas Future Farmer Newsletter that thirteen vocational agricultural departments had petitioned for a charter as of August 1, the records of the state office show that only twelve chapters were chartered as of August 7, 1929. There is no record of order of petitioning among the first twelve chapters chartered. Manhattan was the thirteenth chapter chartered, the date being September 1, 1929.

In numbering the chartered chapters in Kansas the twelve departments chartered simultaneously on August 7, 1929, have been designated as number "1-12." The records of the state office are none too clear concerning the exact sequence of chartering during the first few years. During these years a slight confusion existed as between the date of applying for a charter and the date of issuing the charter. However, the record is substantially correct.

The Kansas Association of Future Farmers of America during its first fifteen years has issued 186 charters to local departments of vocational agriculture. In 1941-42 all the departments of vocational agriculture, except one, had chartered chapters of Future Farmers of America. The last two years of history of the Kansas Association show a gradual decline in number of active FFA chapters. This condition was a result of the fact that 52 vocational

agricultural teachers joined the armed services of the United States during that time.

The following is a complete list of the chapters chartered by the Kansas Association of Future Farmers of America, together with the year chartered and number of the charter as recorded in the state office:

Year Chartered	No. of Charter	Name of Chapter	Year Chartered	No. of Charter	Name of Chapter
1929	1-12*	Abilene	1930	47	Lebanon
1929	1-12*	Alma	1930	48	Medicine Lodge
1929	1-12*	Beloit	1930	49	Ramona
1929	1-12*	Carbondale	1930	50	Linn
1929	1-12*	Chanute	1931	51	St. George
1929	1-12*	Garden City	1931	52	Cottonwood Falls
1929	1-12*	Kingman	1931	53	Solomon
1929	1-12*	Mankato	1931	54	Alton
1929	1-12*	Mound City	1931	55	Waterville
1929	1-12*	Parsons	1931	56	Clay Center
1929	1-12*	Washington	1931	57	Burlington
1929	1-12*	Winfield	1931	58	Blue Rapids
1929	13	Manhattan	1931	59	Protection
1929	14	Greensburg	1931	60	Norcatour
1929	15	Atwood	1931	61	Macksville
1929	16	Marysville	1931	62	Washburn, Topeka
1929	17	Mullinville	1931	63	Howard
1929	18	Shawnee Mission	1931	64	Goodland
1929	19	Wellsville	1931	65	Jayhawk, Lawrence
1929	20	Auburn	1931	66	Wakeeney
1929	21	Coldwater	1931	67	Ford
1929	22	Ottawa	1931	68	Tonganoxie
1930	23	Wamego	1931	69	Williamsburg
1930	24	Frankfort	1931	70	Seaman, N. Topeka
1930	25	Augusta	1931	71	Powhattan
1930	26	Bird City	1931	72	Oberlin
1930	27	Holcomb	1931	73	Ellis
1930	28	Westmoreland	1932	74	Rolla
1930	29	Bonner Springs	1932	75	Pleasanton
1930	30	Chapman	1932	76	Meridan
1930	31	Berryton	1932	77	Scott City
1930	32	Concordia	1932	78	Bazine
1930	33	Harper	1932	79	Mulvane
1930	34	Hoyt	1932	80	Paxico
1930	35	Fairview	1932	81	Kiowa
1930	36	Miltonvale	1932	82	Stafford
1930	37	Pratt	1932	83	Delphos
1930	38	Reading	1932	84	Saffordville
1930	39	Arkansas City	1932	85	Glasco
1930	40	McDonald	1932	86	Americus
1930	41	St. Francis	1932	87	Lincoln
1930	42	Colby	1932	88	Havensville
1930	43	Attica	1932	89	Spearville
1930	44	Hill City	1932	90	Haddam
1930	45	Morrowville	1932	91	Smith Center
1930	46	Norton	1933	92	Quinter

\* 1-12 chapters chartered on same date.



1933	93	Silver Lake	1938	140	Kensington
1933	94	South Haven	1938	141	Buhler
1933	95	Argonia	1938	142	Hanover
1934	96	Wakefield	1938	143	Emporia
1934	97	Coates	1938	144	Oxford
1934	98	Altamont	1938	145	Barnes
1934	99	Effingham	1938	146	Little River
1934	100	Oskaloosa	1938	147	Overbrook
1935	101	Newton	1938	148	Onaga
1935	102	Parker	1938	149	Alta Vista
1935	103	Columbus	1938	150	Benedict
1935	104	Tampa	1938	151	Paola
1935	105	Beverly	1939	152	Trousdale
1935	106	Vinland	1939	153	Stockton
1935	107	Moundridge	1939	154	Randolph
1935	108	Brewster	1939	155	Cherryvale
1935	109	Fredonia	1939	156	Clifton
1935	110	Hope	1939	157	Leon
1936	111	Downs	1939	158	McPherson
1936	112	Osborne	1939	159	Soldier
1936	113	Highland Park (Topeka)	1940	160	Haven
1936	114	Sabetha	1940	161	Horton
1936	115	Belleville	1940	162	Woodston
1936	116	Olathe	1940	163	Great Bend
1936	117	Webster	1940	164	Phillipsburg
1936	118	Mayetta	1940	165	Longford
1936	119	Neodesha	1940	166	Kincaid
1936	120	Council Grove	1940	167	Scandia
1936	121	Grinnell	1940	168	Syracuse
1936	122	Simpson	1940	169	Dighton
1936	123	LeRoy	1940	170	Hays
1936	124	LaCygne	1940	171	Burns
1936	125	Norwich	1940	172	Sedan
1936	126	Byers	1940	173	Hiawatha
1936	127	Harveyville	1940	174	Minneapolis
1937	128	Iola	1941	175	Junction City
1937	129	Holton	1941	176	Spivey
1937	130	Valley Falls	1941	177	Lyndon
1937	131	Gardner	1941	178	Independence
1937	132	ElDorado	1941	179	Halstead
1937	133	Hoxie	1941	180	Ashland
1937	134	LaCrosse	1941	181	Chetopa
1938	135	Inman	1941	182	Girard
1938	136	McCune	1941	183	Kismet
1938	137	LaHarpe	1941	184	Centralia
1938	138	Melvern	1941	185	Kinsley
1938	139	Seneca	1942	186	Jewell

"Paul Kelley, past state FFA president, was awarded the Sears-Roebuck Foundation scholarship of \$200 for being the most outstanding student among the 15 Sears Roebuck scholarship students at Kansas State College."—From the Annual Report of the Kansas Association, April 1941.

"Robert Randle and Bob Singleton, past officers of the Kansas Association of FFA, were recently listed in "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges."—From the Annual Report of the Kansas Association, April 1941.

## National F. F. A. Officers From Kansas



Boyd Waite  
Winfield

Leo Paulsen  
Concordia

Albert Coates, Jr.  
Shawnee Mission

George Stelter  
Abilene

The Kansas Association of Future Farmers of America during its first 15 years, had the distinction of furnishing four national officers, all of whom served with credit to both the National Organization and the Kansas Association.

Boyd Waite, Winfield, was the first FFA member from Kansas to be elected to a national office. Boyd was elected to the office of Fourth Vice President, representing the North Central Region, at the second annual convention, November 1929, and served during 1929-30.

Leo Paulsen, Concordia, was elected to the office of Student Secretary in November 1932, and served in that capacity during 1932-33.

Albert Coates, Jr., Shawnee Mission, was elected to the office of Third Vice President, representing the North Central Region, in October 1938, and served during 1938-39.

George Stelter, Abilene, was appointed during the spring of 1943 to the office of Third Vice President, representing the North Central Region, taking the place of Willard Visek, of Nebraska, who resigned to enter the armed services of the United States.

The Kansas State Department of Vocational Education completed an 800 foot technicolor talkie movie of vocational agriculture in Kansas, as depicted through FFA activities. The picture, called "Future Farmers at Work," is a work of art and very interesting and informative. The picture had its premier showing at the agricultural section of the AVA meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in December 1939.



## Growth of the Kansas Association of F. F. A. From 1929 to 1943

The Kansas Association of FFA petitioned for a national charter in April 1929, and was granted a charter September 3, 1929, being the 16th state chartered by the National Organization of Future Farmers of America. The development of the FFA in Kansas has been purely voluntary on the part of local departments of vocational agriculture, and the steady increase in the number of chartered chapters, as well as in membership throughout the fifteen year life of the State Association, is highly gratifying. The following table gives the number of chartered chapters and the total active FFA membership by years.

Year	Membership	No. of Chapters
1929.....	239 .....	13
1930.....	455 .....	40
1931.....	1076 .....	64
1932.....	1410 .....	85
1933.....	1341 .....	88
1934.....	1693 .....	95
1935.....	2191 .....	102
1936.....	2164 .....	112
1937.....	2665 .....	123
1938.....	3526 .....	134
1939.....	4332 .....	145
1940.....	4972 .....	158
1941.....	5235 .....	170
1942.....	5321 .....	167
1943.....	4065*	153*

\* The decrease in the number of chapters and in membership was the result of many chapters being placed on an inactive status because of the inability to secure qualified teachers to replace the 52 advisers who entered the armed forces.

"The All-Night Vigils at farrowing time will be our sentry duty; the tractors we guide along contour rows will be our tanks; the seeds we plant will be our inland ocean mines; farm machinery we repair will convert our farm shops into our own ground crew work; agricultural information we use will be our own intelligence work; our neighbors will be our Allies in a common cause. We will regard every dead pig, every missing hill of corn, every smutted wheat head, every scrub animal, every cull hen, and every bit of wasted material and effort as being of aid and comfort to our enemies."—Taken from a speech delivered by Albert VanWalleghan, Shawnee Mission Chapter, in the Kansas FFA Public Speaking Contest, 1942. VanWalleghan placed second in the contest.

## Officers of the Kansas Association of F. F. A.



THIS GROUP OF OFFICERS GUIDED THE KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF FFA THROUGH THE YEAR, 1942-'43

*1st Row:* Robert Barnes, Goodland, Reporter; Wayne Brant, Chanute, President; Irwin Thalmann, Haven, Vice President; Garnet Price, Lebanon, Secretary.

*2nd Row:* L. B. Pollom, Adviser; L. F. Hall, Executive Secretary; A. P. Davidson, Executive Adviser; Harold Minter, Clay Center, Treasurer.

The privilege of serving the Kansas Association of Future Farmers of America as an officer has come to 73 active members during the first fifteen years of its history.

Leadership is one of the cornerstones upon which the FFA is built. A good leader has the welfare of people in general at heart, is unselfish and just in his dealings, and spends his energies in trying to see that right prevails. Intelligent, thinking people follow good leaders. The 73 active FFA members who have furnished the leadership throughout the first fifteen years of the Kansas Association's history have demonstrated "those qualities of leadership which a Future Farmer should possess."

In 1929 only three state FFA officers were officially elected. The office of state reporter was filled by appointment. During 1929 and 1930, the duties of the secretary and of the treasurer were combined in one office. Dr. W. E. Grimes was the first FFA State Adviser in Kansas. He served for two years, 1929-30 and



1930-31. Professor A. P. Davidson was elected to the office of FFA state executive adviser at the close of the 1929-30 year and has served continuously in that capacity to date. Supervisor L. B. Pollom served as executive secretary in 1929-30 and was elected FFA adviser at the close of the second year, 1930-31, and has served continuously since that time. In 1941 Professor L. F. Hall was elected to the office of state executive secretary.

During the first two years the state officers were nominated from the floor of the House of Delegates in convention. Beginning in 1932 the outgoing group of state FFA officers served as a nominating committee. The State Farmer application records, for all members eligible to be considered as State FFA officer material, are available to the nominating committee for study. After evaluating the Scholarship, Leadership and Farming Program records of the potential candidates for state FFA offices, the nominating committee then conducts a personal interview with the members whose records have been studied. Following this procedure a nominating ballot is prepared and presented to the House of Delegates. Nominations from the floor of the House of Delegates are in order. This plan of choosing state FFA officers has worked exceptionally well.

The following is a list of officers of the Kansas Association of FFA from 1929 to 1943.

1929\*

Boyd Waite, Pres., Winfield  
Elwyn Ruefner, V. Pres., Abilene  
Leo Kaff, Sec.-Treas., Carbondale  
Robert Paige, Rep., Manhattan  
1930\*\*  
Lewis Evans, Pres., Washington  
Byron Brownell, V. Pres., Concordia  
Maurice Humes, Sec.-Treas., Beloit  
Frank Sawyer, Rep., Atwood  
1931  
Leo Paulsen, Pres., Concordia  
Francis Grillott, V. Pres., Parsons  
Kenneth Waite, Sec., Winfield  
Wm. Wishart, Treas., Manhattan  
John H. Peters, Rep., Washington  
1932  
Waldo Cox, Pres., Mound City  
Everett Miller, V. Pres., Ottawa  
Frank Sawyer, Sec., Atwood  
Allen Nottorf, Treas., Abilene  
Vincent Fuller, Rep., Miltonvale

1933

Wayne D. Trail, Pres., Colby  
Delbert Richardson, V. Pres., Lawrence  
Max Shoemaker, Sec., Ottawa  
Alfred Taylor, Treas., Winfield  
Mabry Wheeler, Rep., Mound City  
1934  
Paul Leck, Pres., Washington  
Ellwood Baker, V. Pres., Abilene  
Donald Baughman, Sec., Howard  
Leonard Brown, Treas., Smith Center  
Arthur Leonhard, Rep., Lawrence  
1935  
J. W. England III, Pres., Shawnee Mission  
Richard Fisher, V. Pres., Lebanon  
Donald Chandler, Sec., Arkansas City  
Wilburt Duitsman, Treas., Linn  
Arthur Jones, Rep., Reading  
1936  
John Dean, Pres., Ottawa  
Arnold Lohmeyer, V. Pres., Linn

\* In 1929, W. E. Grimes, Manhattan, was elected as State Adviser and L. B. Pollom, Topeka, was elected Executive Secretary.

\*\* In 1930, L. B. Pollom, Topeka, was elected State Adviser, and A. P. Davidson, Manhattan, was elected Executive Adviser. Both Mr. Pollom and Mr. Davidson have served as state adviser and state executive adviser, respectively, continuously since that time.

1936 (continued)

Arnold Sawyer, Sec., South Haven  
Thomas Whitaker, Treas., Reading  
Robert Finch, Rep., Lebanon  
1937  
Albert Coates, Pres., Shawnee Mission

Harmon Baer, V. Pres., Abilene  
Leonard Deets, Sec., South Haven  
Gene Birdzell, Treas., Winfield  
Emil Heck, Rep., Lawrence  
1938

Walter Porter, Pres., Council Grove  
Eldon Stien, V. Pres., Smith Center  
Howard Wagner, Sec., St. Francis  
Robert Singleton, Treas., Shawnee Mission

Robert Randle, Rep., Wakefield

1939  
Paul Kelley, Pres., Solomon  
Jim Cunningham, V. Pres., Eldorado  
Bill Pfrehm, Sec., Howard  
Jr. Wilson, Treas., Mulvane  
John McCall, Rep., Lebanon

1940

Raymond Kaup, Pres., Smith Center  
Grant Poole, V. Pres., Manhattan  
John Lawrence, Sec., Winfield  
Burton DeBaun, Treas., Washburn  
Phillip Cooper, Rep., Chanute

1941\*\*\*

George Stelter, Pres., Abilene  
Leonard Sharp, V. Pres., Great Bend  
Merwin Gilmore, Sec., Osborne  
Lavern Oltmer, Treas., Olathe  
Keith Loyd, Rep., St. Francis

1942

Wayne Brant, Pres., Chanute  
Erwin Thalmann, V. Pres., Haven  
Garnet Price, Sec., Lebanon  
Harold Minter, Treas., Clay Center  
Robert Barnes, Rep., Goodland

1943

Irwin Alefs, Pres., Great Bend  
Lynn Lukert, V. Pres., Sabetha  
Robert Sawatzky, Sec., Buhler  
Calvin Jarrett, Treas., Columbus  
Bob Overbaugh, Rep., Tonganoxie

\*\*\* In 1941, L. F. Hall, Manhattan, was elected State Executive Secretary and has continued to serve in that capacity up-to-date.

## Kansas Delegates to National F. F. A. Convention

The annual convention of the National Organization of Future Farmers has been held at Kansas City, Missouri, throughout the entire life of the organization. To serve as an official delegate to this national convention, actively representing a state FFA association as a member of the National FFA House of Delegates, whose principal function is to formulate policies and to transact business essential to the general welfare of the organization, is a privilege and a responsibility that comes to but few active FFA members. From 1929 to 1939 the Kansas Association of Future Farmers of America followed the policy of sending as delegates to the national convention the newly elected state FFA president and state vice president. Beginning in 1940, a policy was established whereby the newly elected state FFA president would automatically serve as a delegate to the national convention, the second delegate to be selected from the group of American Farmer degree candidates.

The following is a list of the official delegates from the Kansas Association to the national conventions from 1929 to 1943.

1929—Boyd Waite, Winfield

Elwyn Ruefner, Abilene

1930—Lewis Evans, Washington

Byron Brownell, Concordia

1931—Leo Paulsen, Concordia

Francis Grillott, Parsons



- 1932—Waldo Cox, Mound City  
Everett Miller, Ottawa  
1933—Vincent Fuller, Miltonvale  
Delbert Richardson, Lawrence  
Elmer Dawdy, Washington  
1934—Paul Leck, Washington  
Ellwood Baker, Abilene  
1935—Richard Fisher, Lebanon  
J. W. Enlgand III, Shawnee Mission  
1936—John Dean, Ottawa  
Arnold Lohmeyer, Linn  
1937—Albert Coates, Shawnee Mission  
Arnold Sawyer, South Haven  
1938—Albert Coates, Shawnee Mission  
Walter Porter, Council Grove  
1939—Paul Kelley, Solomon  
Robert Randle, Wakefield  
1940—Raymond Kaup, Smith Center  
James Cunningham, El Dorado  
1941—George Stelter, Abilene  
Raymond Kaup, Smith Center  
1942—George Stelter, Abilene  
Erwin Thalmann, Haven  
1943—Irwin Alefs, Great Bend  
Lynn Lukert, Sabetha

### State Farmer Degree

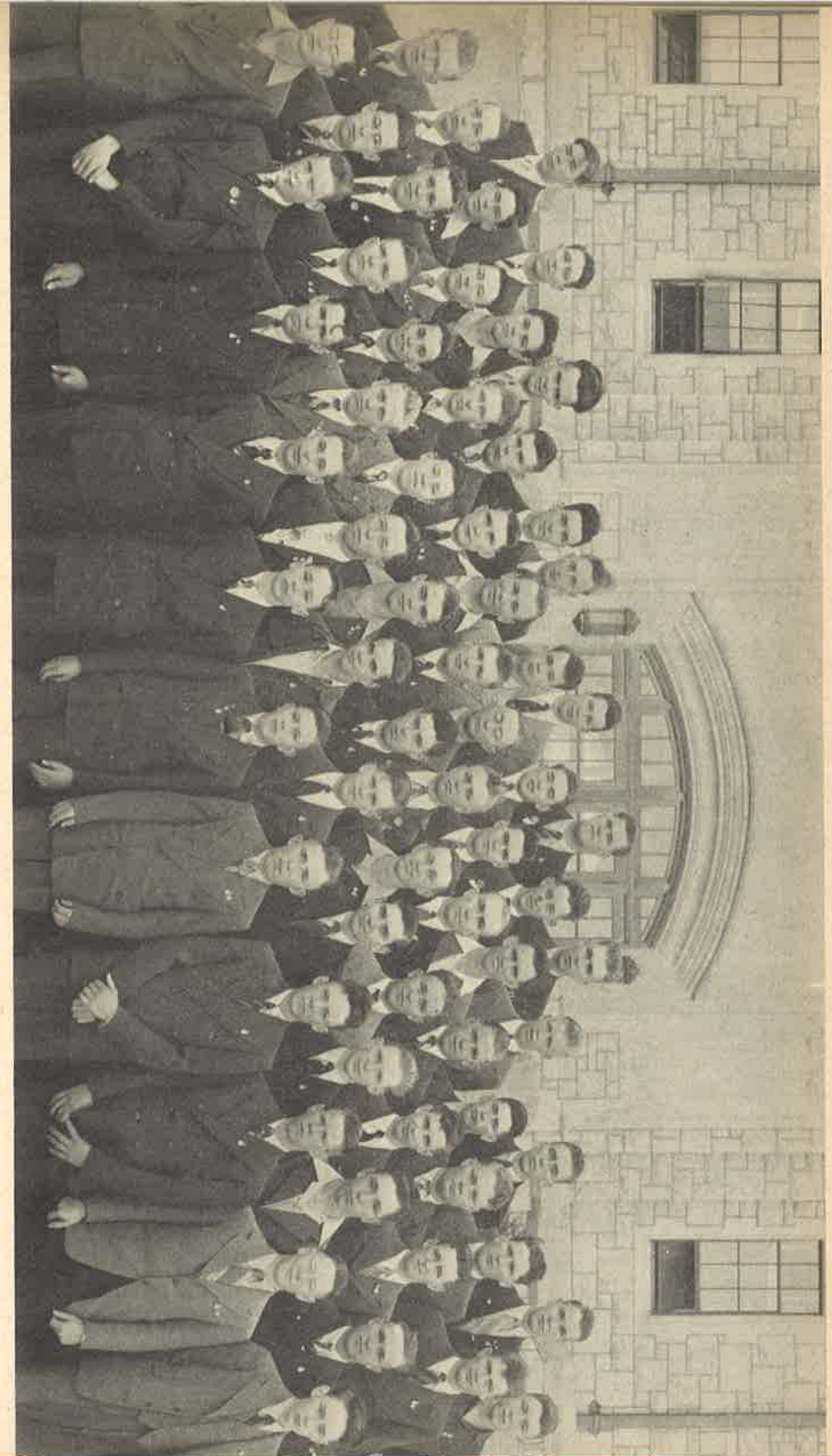
"A golden charm is waiting for those who strive for it—that of a State Farmer . . . . May the permanence of the rare and golden qualities of this emblem be a constant reminder to you of the soundness of your training, the worthiness of your achievement, and the loftiness of FFA ideals."—FFA State Farmer Degree Ritual.

During the first fifteen years of the life of the Kansas Association of Future Farmers of America a total of 633 State Farmer degrees were awarded. These successful candidates have come from 122 FFA chapters. The smallest group of candidates to receive the State Farmer degree in Kansas was 5 in 1930, while the largest class to receive this degree was 100 in 1941.

The State Farmer degree is limited to two per cent of the total active membership. A successful candidate for this degree must rank in the upper 40 per cent of his high school class in scholarship, must have demonstrated his leadership ability, and have in operation an outstanding program of supervised farming.

In studying the State Farmer degree awards by chapters it must be kept in mind that all chapters were not organized in the same year. While some of the chapters have been chartered for 15 years, others were chartered as late as 1941-42.

A TYPICAL STATE FARMER CLASS—KANSAS 1942





The following is a list of the 633 State Farmer degree awards by chapters and by years:

**ABILENE**

'28-'29: Calvin Dornberger, Everett Livingood, Elwyn Reufner  
'31-'32: Allen Nottorf\*\*  
'33-'34: Ellwood Baker\*  
'36-'37: Harmon Baer  
'37-'38: Norman Whitehair, Lloyd Sexton  
'38-'39: John Easter  
'39-'40: Lyle Engle, Voiland Engle  
'40-'41: George Stelter\*\*, Carl Woods  
'41-'42: Kenneth Engle

**ALMA**

'41-'42: Keen Umbehr  
'42-'43: Arthur Gehrt

**ALTON**

'37-'38: Oid Lee Wineland\*  
'38-'39: Harold Hackeratt\*, Doyle Hadley  
'39-'40: Milo Conrad, Lyle Wonderlich, John Grady  
'40-'41: Harold Carsell, Lowell Norris

**ARGONIA**

'36-'37: Emmitt Whitesell, Paul Davis  
'38-'39: Buddy Muhlenbruch

**ARKANSAS CITY**

'33-'34: Hampton Barton  
'34-'35: Donald Chandler  
'36-'37: John Weir\*\*  
'37-'38: Wendell Beeks  
'39-'40: Verne Gottlob, Ray Stalnaker

'42-'43: Melvin Haselett

**ATWOOD**

'31-'32: Frank M. Sawyer  
'33-'34: Alfred Pancake  
'42-'43: Dale Nelson

**AUBURN**

'32-'33: Robert Mason  
'38-'39: Floyd Moran  
'40-'41: Coy Mitchell  
'42-'43: Dale Carlat, Jeffrey Moore

**BARNES**

'41-'42: Jean Herrmann

**BAZINE**

'39-'40: Walter Wolfe  
'42-'43: Lyle Schaben

**BELLEVILLE**

'36-'37: Merrill Abrahams  
'39-'40: Stanley Baxa  
'40-'41: Hal Ramsbottom

**BELOIT**

'42-'43: Vernon Thiessen

**BEVERLY**

'36-'37: Lowell Webb  
'38-'39: Edward Jilka, Jr.  
'41-'42: Larry Greene

**BIRD CITY**

'35-'36: Marion Wood, Pardee Wood  
'36-'37: Norvan Harris  
'38-'39: Lowell Query  
'39-'40: Wayne Deeds  
'42-'43: Dorrance Combs

**BLUE RAPIDS**

'32-'33: Elmer Musil  
'41-'42: Everett Kovanda

**BUHLER**

'40-'41: Leo Ediger  
'41-'42: Homer Nikkel  
'42-'43: Robert Sawatzky

**BURLINGTON**

'37-'38: Roy McReynolds, Jr.  
'38-'39: Richard Keith  
'42-'43: Thomas Keith

**BYERS**

'37-'38: Glen McAhren

**CARBONDALE**

'28-'29: Edward Cooper, Gilbert Finlay, Irvin Hansen, Leo Kaff

**CHANUTE**

'30-'31: Edgar Heilman  
'31-'32: Harold Heilman  
'38-'39: Merle Tennis  
'39-'40: Phillip Cooper  
'40-'41: Robert Heaton, Marion Johnson  
'41-'42: Wayne Brant  
'42-'43: Leo Grennell, Neal Heilman

**CHAPMAN**

'40-'41: Lyle Rohrer

**CLAY CENTER**

'37-'38: Roy Fowles, Dorsey Gibbs  
'38-'39: Wilbur Dean Blake  
'39-'40: Douglas Faulconer, Donald Hammerli, Robert Sanneman  
'40-'41: Vernet Gibbs, Dale Steward  
'41-'42: Harold Minter

**CLIFTON**

'39-'40: James Wood

**COLBY**

'30-'31: John Robinson  
'32-'33: Wayne D. Trail  
'41-'42: Morris Hemstrom

**COLDWATER**

'30-'31: Ansel Dickinson, William Griffith  
'32-'33: Clifford Blount, Fred Lohrding  
'33-'34: Vernon Huck  
'36-'37: Clair Parcel  
'38-'39: Frank Tarr  
'39-'40: Harold McKinney\*  
'40-'41: Walter Crowe, Edward Young  
'42-'43: Richard DeYoe

**COLUMBUS**

'40-'41: Cloyd Bower  
'41-'42: Herbert Jarrett  
'42-'43: Norman Bramlette, Richard Brown, Jr., Gilford Gasten, Calvin Jarrett

**CONCORDIA**

'30-'31: Leo Paulsen\*\*  
'32-'33: Harold Jones  
'37-'38: Lee Doyen, Kenneth Harrington  
'38-'39: Densal Laclef  
'39-'40: Arvid Detrixhe, George Dutton

'40-'41: Ray Doyen

'41-'42: Robert Winteroth

'42-'43: Ross Doyen

'42-'43: Ross Doyen

'42-'43: Ross Doyen

'42-'43: Ross Doyen

**COTTONWOOD FALLS**

'37-'38: James Scott  
'38-'39: Robert Archer, Billy Cooper  
'39-'40: Riley Cahoon  
'40-'41: Glendon Barrett

**COUNCIL GROVE**

'37-'38: Donald Bross, Walter Porter  
'38-'39: Ralph Scott  
'39-'40: Robert Buchman

**DOWNS**

'38-'39: Alvin Otte  
'39-'40: Everett Frost  
'42-'43: Duane Huiting

**EFFINGHAM**

'39-'40: Charles Repstine  
'40-'41: Winston Wheeler, George Adams, Junior Armstrong  
'41-'42: Duane Allen, Glenn Hargrove, Wm. Armstrong, Leslie Nottingham  
'42-'43: Jerome J. Banks, Glen Hefty, Francis Sprang

**ELDORADO**

'38-'39: Jim Cunningham\*\*  
'41-'42: Bruce Cunningham

**ELLIS**

'40-'41: Harold Deutscher, Arthur King

**EMPORIA**

'40-'41: Ernest Kettner, Trevor Rees

**FAIRVIEW**

'32-'33: Charles Bredahl  
'33-'34: Emerson Cyphers, Neal Sawyer  
'34-'35: Dale Schaible  
'38-'39: Leland Kleopfer  
'39-'40: Donald Irwin, Melvin Scoby  
'40-'41: Clarence Minton  
'41-'42: Kenneth Chase  
'42-'43: Raymond Meyer

**FRANKFORT**

'32-'33: Keith Lindsay  
'38-'39: Harry Stauffer\*  
'41-'42: Robert Johnston  
'42-'43: Donald Jones

**FREDONIA**

'36-'37: Loren McDonald, Allen Honymoon  
'37-'38: Max Timmons  
'38-'39: Paul Maxwell  
'41-'42: Kenneth Smith  
'42-'43: Garold Beard

**GARDEN CITY**

'35-'36: Harry Lightner  
'38-'39: Cecil Allen Brinley  
'39-'40: Henry Gillan, Eugene Quakenbush  
'40-'41: Forrest Burgett, Neil Haflich  
'42-'43: Dale Gillan

**GARDNER**

'40-'41: Wyman Blakeman

**GLASCO**

'39-'40: Richard Mitchell  
'40-'41: Richard Olson

**GOODLAND**

'34-'35: Carroll Moggee  
'40-'41: Keith Adams, Wendell Curry, Elmer Gafford  
'41-'42: Robert Barnes, Wm. Laughlin  
'42-'43: Dale Harding

**GREAT BEND**

'40-'41: Leonard Sharp\*, Lee Stevens  
'41-'42: LaVerne Case, Francis Schenider  
'42-'43: Irwin Alefs

**HANOVER**

'39-'40: Charles Bruna

**HARPER**

'29-'30: Wayne Jacobs  
'34-'35: Clifford Beyler, Glover Laird  
'35-'36: Walter Olivier  
'37-'38: Arthur Drouhard, Wilbur Mathes  
'38-'39: Francis Davis  
'42-'43: Ted Olivier

\*Indicates American Farmer

\*\*Indicates Star Farmer of Kansas

\*\*\*Indicates Star Farmer of America

## HARVEYVILLE

'39-'40: James Milbradt, George Spangler  
'42-'43: Harold D. Coleman

## HAVEN

'40-'41: George Schlickau\*  
'41-'42: Erwin Thalmann

## HAVENSVILLE

'38-'39: Warren G. Harris  
'39-'40: Harry Brenner

## HIAWATHA

'42-'43: Ward King, Richard Thuma

## HIGHLAND PARK (Topeka)

'37-'38: Melvin Quinn, John Tillman, Dale Rake  
'38-'39: Warren Iwig  
'39-'40: Theron Kent  
'40-'41: Robert Rake, Wesley Wulfkuhle

'41-'42: Armin Samuelson

'42-'43: Donald Baker, Garth Lukert

## HILL CITY

'37-'38: Ivan Stephen  
'39-'40: Robert Engleman  
'40-'41: Duane Nichol, Eugene Worcester

## HOLCOMB

'36-'37: Herbert Herman, Frank Barlow  
'42-'43: Norvan Meyer

## HOLTON

'38-'39: Edward Buss  
'39-'40: Harold Riley  
'40-'41: Charles Glenn  
'41-'42: Dean Mumaw, Andrew Riederer, Clarence Schulz  
'42-'43: Warren Moore

## HOPE

'37-'38: Verdon Long  
'38-'39: Delmar Reufner

## HOWARD

'33-'34: Donald Baughman  
'35-'36: Ralph Perkins  
'37-'38: Elvin Perkins, Robert Webster  
'38-'39: Billy Pfrehm  
'42-'43: Eugene Coble

## HOXIE

'39-'40: Jake Mosier  
'41-'42: Phillip Corke

## INDEPENDENCE

'42-'43: Harry Pittman, Jr., Donald Van Dyne

## INMAN

'39-'40: Harry Voth  
'40-'41: Abe Neufeld, Arnold Wittorg

## IOLA

'40-'41: Charles Austin  
'41-'42: Lewis R. Howland

## KENSINGTON

'39-'40: Glenn McCormick, Leonard Werner

## KINGMAN

'40-'41: Arthur Beat, Francis Dodge  
'41-'42: Hobart Campbell, Paul Conrardy, Charles Mercer

## KIOWA

'40-'41: Robert Hildebrand, William Houlton

## LACROSSE

'38-'39: Marvin Maresch, Frank West, Franklin Miller

## LAHARPE

'39-'40: John Aiken  
'40-'41: Phil Nicholas

## LAWRENCE

'32-'33: Almarin Nottingham, Delbert Richardson  
'33-'34: Arthur Leonhard, Walter Love, Doyle Reed  
'34-'35: Louis Beurman, Robert Gorrill, Walter Houk, Kenneth Johnson

'35-'36: Gilbert Gilges  
'36-'37: Dick Wise, Ralph Houk, Emil Heck

'37-'38: Herbert Hornberger, Harold Johanning, Danny Brune  
'38-'39: Dale Babbitt  
'41-'42: Edwin Longanecker  
'42-'43: Billy Daggett, Earl Mitchell

## LEBANON

'32-'33: Hilbert Thaete  
'33-'34: Kenneth Basford  
'34-'35: Richard Fisher, Paul Smith, Harold Thaete, John Woods  
'35-'36: Robert Finch  
'36-'37: Gerald Carper, Jean Woods  
'37-'38: Merrill Thompson  
'38-'39: John McCall\*, Clair Weems  
'40-'41: George Bell, Jack Cullen, Clyde Herndon, Randall Maydew  
'41-'42: Warren Flood, Garnet Price  
'42-'43: Bill Brown, Norval Herndon, Duane Ream, Bill Regan

## LEROY

'37-'38: Wm. H. Parmely

## LINN

'30-'31: Orval W. Bishop  
'33-'34: Wilbert Duitsman\*\*  
'34-'35: Norman Lohmeyer  
'35-'36: Arnold Lohmeyer, Thello Dodd\*, Loren Van Petten

'36-'37: Raymond Lange, Lowell Wallace

'37-'38: Ervin Duitsman

'38-'39: Lowell Hatesohl

'39-'40: Lawrence Oestreich

'40-'41: Waldemar Meier, Herbert Meyerhoff

'42-'43: Melvin Hatesohl

## LITTLE RIVER

'39-'40: Clifford Williams

'40-'41: Glen Smith, Wayne Smith

## MANHATTAN

'28-'29: Philip Ljungdahl, Robert Paige

'30-'31: Harold Missimer, William Wishart

'33-'34: Harvey Dix

'36-'37: George Wreath, John Poole

'37-'38: Roy Currie

'38-'39: Dale Knight, Amos Wilson

'39-'40: Grant Poole\*\*, Adelbert Wilson

'40-'41: Kenneth Parker

'41-'42: Earl Dockins

'42-'43: Robert Burt, Harris Ramsour

## MARYSVILLE

'30-'31: Francis Hammett

'38-'39: James M. Nielson

'39-'40: Robert Mayer

## MAYETTA

'36-'37: Ivan Salts

## MCDONALD

'35-'36: Wayne Harper

'36-'37: Leonard Vyzourek

'37-'38: Laddie Kacirek\*

'39-'40: Leonard Wilkinson

'40-'41: William Burk

## McPHERSON

'41-'42: Victor Kaufman

'42-'43: George W. Moors, Conrow Spiller

## MEDICINE LODGE

'37-'38: George Fritz, Glenn Shriver, Pat Harbaugh

'38-'39: Roman Abt, Glenn Thomas

'39-'40: James Wright

'40-'41: Roy Kincaid, Milton Thomas

'41-'42: Albert Harbaugh, Howard Thomas

## MILTONVALE

'31-'32: Vincent Fuller\*\*

'33-'34: Paul Crane

'34-'35: Jettie Fuller, Harvey Lovelair

'35-'36: James Thomas Neill

'36-'37: Wayne Hauch, Edmond Herbert

'38-'39: Francis Lyne, Junior Stout  
'39-'40: Bruce Neill, Rex Shannon

## MORROWVILLE

'30-'31: Leo Griffing, Cecil Leidig

'34-'35: Earl Moore

'36-'37: Guy Jennings, Wayne McNish, Lute Richardson

'37-'38: Lawrence Dodd, Jack Nutter, Charles Schwab

'38-'39: Gerald Fencil, Marvin Odgers, Paul Prellwitz

'39-'40: Ralph Dodd, Oliver Steele, Max Wells

'40-'41: Lester Miller

'42-'43: Melvin Odgers, William Prellwitz

## MOUND CITY

'31-'32: Waldo Cox

'32-'33: Mabry Wheeler

'33-'34: Lorimer Cox, Clayton Osborne

'34-'35: Robert Green

'36-'37: Maurice Cox, Merle Cox

'37-'38: Marvin Adams

'39-'40: Raymond Green, Walton Cox

## MOUNDRIDGE

'37-'38: Frank Hetzke Jr.

'42-'43: Olin V. Goering

## MULVANE

'38-'39: Junior Wilson

'39-'40: Carroll Kerley, DeVerne Schwyhart

'40-'41: Raymond Schwyhart

'41-'42: Eugene Walton, Dale Watson

'42-'43: William C. Parker

## NEODESHA

'37-'38: Keith Fish

'39-'40: Carl Buerskens\*, Wayne Coltrain

'40-'41: Robert Taubeneck  
'41-'42: Joe H. Allen

## NEWTON

'35-'36: John Dart\*, Max Zook

'36-'37: Olin Eby, Albert Martin

'37-'38: Edwin Tangeman\*

## NORTON

'31-'32: Gene Hager

'42-'43: Allen Holeman

## NORWICH

'38-'39: Everett Fieser

'40-'41: Dale Stephens

'42-'43: Eldon D. Schrag

## OBERLIN

'40-'41: Walter May

(Continued on page 36)





Paul Chilen and his Solomon F. F. A. Dinner Orchestra Entertain Banquet Guests at the National Convention of Future Farmers of America

The Solomon, Kansas, FFA dinner orchestra under the direction of their vocational agricultural instructor, Paul Chilen, appeared on the Tenth Convention Celebration program of the Future Farmers of America held at Kansas City, Missouri, October, 1937. The orchestra played during the FFA banquet held the evening of October 20, and was one of the high lights of the entire celebration. Twelve hundred persons from 47 states, Hawaii and Puerto Rico attended the banquet. When Bill McCallum began singing "Carry On Future Farmers," and the eight foot American flag was unfurled back of the stage, the audience rose to its feet as a man and drowned the orchestra music with cheering and hand clapping. Return engagements were made by Paul and his boys in 1938 and 1939.

The Solomon FFA dinner orchestra made its first appearance before the annual banquet of the Kansas Association in 1936. Return engagements were made in 1937, 1938 and 1939.

A trip to Cleveland, Ohio, in 1939, to play at The World Poultry Congress climaxed an eventful career of this unique FFA orchestra.

The following item concerning the Solomon FFA orchestra from the May, 1937, Kansas Future Farmer Newsletter, will be of interest:

"In the April issue of the Kansas Future Farmer we announced that the Solomon FFA chapter dinner orchestra would be present and play for us. They were with us, 24 of them, plus their vocational agricultural teacher and leader, Paul Chilen. What a delight they were. A full hour program staged by a group of highly finished performers. Perhaps a word or two about this group of FFA boys would be in order. Membership is on a competitive basis, and

is open to any active member . . . nine of the group are past or present officers, seven are Green Hands . . . rehearsals are held twice each week from 7:30 to 9:30 in the evening . . . they carry their own loud speaker, lighting system, stage and stage setting . . . the stage with its three elevations on which the orchestra was seated was painted dark blue and trimmed with silver . . . the blue and white columns forming the background were of corrugated cardboard, and at the base of each column was a colored flood light . . . the chairs were painted blue and silver to match the stage . . . the music racks, piano and drums were painted ivory . . . sparkle was added by putting gilt on the large letters, 'FFA', and on the straw hats which were used on the brass stands . . . the stage was lighted with five large spot and flood lights from the sides, a large flood light from the back of the room, and the theater's foot and ceiling lights . . . the stage, the back-ground, and the music racks were constructed by the boys in their shop . . . the orchestra members wore blue overalls and yellow shirts, while their leader and the vocalist were dressed in white linen."

It will be of interest to note that Earl Herman and Paul Kelley, members of the orchestra from 1936 to 1939, were awarded the State Farmer degree, and Kelley served as president of the Kansas Association of FFA during 1939-40. Raymond Wolfe, another member of the orchestra, won the State FFA Public Speaking Contest in 1938.

Paul Chilen is entering his fourteenth year as vocational agricultural teacher and local FFA adviser in the Solomon High School; is married, has two children, and the several years spent in developing the Solomon FFA dinner orchestra will ever remain a part of his most cherished memories.



## STATE FARMER DEGREE AWARDS by Chapters (Cont. from page 33)

## OLATHE

'36-'37: Glenn Ewing, Milton Powell  
'37-'38: Paul Busch, Marvin Stempel, Junior Tippin  
'39-'40: John Freedlun, Arthur Tunison  
'40-'41: Henry Schlagel, Lavern Oltmer, John Walters  
'41-'42: Richard Sackman  
'42-'43: Donald Hoff

## ONAGA

'40-'41: Delbert Clark, Donald Tessendorf  
'41-'42: Vernon Kolterman  
OSBORNE  
'37-'38: Morton DeMoss, Neil McDonald  
'40-'41: Roy Chatham, Harold Corbett, Merwin Gilmore  
'41-'42: Fred Conn, Dean Grammon  
'42-'43: Max Ernst, Arnold Hageman

## OTTAWA

'31-'32: Everett Miller\*, Harry Smith  
'32-'33: Max Shoemaker  
'33-'34: Keith Harrison  
'34-'35: Philip Mosher, Maynard Reinecke  
'35-'36: Frances Kemmerer, John Dean, Newell Melcher  
'36-'37: Max Floyd, Kenneth Jameson  
'37-'38: Curtis Mathias, Donald Rappard  
'40-'41: Eldon Finch  
'42-'43: Wayne Pearce

## PAOLA

'39-'40: Joseph Butel  
'40-'41: Wilbur Menefee, Marvin Wendte  
'41-'42: Ralph Kettler, Charles Pursell, Byron Manchester  
'42-'43: Dale Kettler, Harold C. Peckman

## PARSONS

'30-'31: Max Dickerson, Francis Grillott\*  
'32-'33: Arthur Grillott  
'42-'43: Junior Carnahan

## PAXICO

'40-'41: Edwin Stambaugh

## PHILLIPSBURG

'41-'42: Frank Johnson, Emmett Scott

## PLEASANTON

39-'40: Archie Holmes

## PRATT

'35-'36: Oscar W. Norby  
'39-'40: Corlis Goyen  
'40-'41: Floyd Rolf  
'41-'42: Lester Goyen  
'42-'43: Gene Mott

## RAMONA

'39-'40: Wilber Hanschu  
'40-'41: Lauren Brunner

## RANDOLPH

'39-'40: Clinton Wendland, Leonard Anderson  
'40-'41: Glen Bergsten  
'42-'43: Glenn Stockwell, Lowell Wendland

## READING

'34-'35: Arthur Jones  
'35-'36: Thomas Whitaker  
'39-'40: Clinton Davies

## SABETHA

'39-'40: Willard Bahr  
'40-'41: Leonard Strahm  
'41-'42: Edwin Montgomery  
'42-'43: Daryl Becktelheimer, Galen Kellenberger, Lynn Lukert

## SAFFORDVILLE

'39-'40: Darwin Reyer  
'40-'41: James Stone

## SCANDIA

'42-'43: Everett Johnson

## SCOTT CITY

'33-'34: Louis Brooks

## SEAMAN (No. Topeka)

'36-'37: George Cochran  
'40-'41: Warren Kimbal  
'41-'42: Howard Andrews, Clyde Cochran  
'42-'43: Gene Allen, Keith Bailey, Kenneth Sheetz

## SHAWNEE MISSION

'30-'31: William Trager  
'32-'33: Donald Cover, Fred Vanschoelandt  
'34-'35: J. W. England III\*  
'35-'36: Marvin Prinds  
'36-'37: Albert Coates\*  
'37-'38: Robert Singleton, Floyd Smith, Charles Roy  
'38-'39: Walter Smith, Maurice Nieuwenhuyse  
'40-'41: George Smith, Albert VanWalleghan  
'41-'42: Lawrence Zillhart  
'42-'43: Kenneth Garrett, Tommy James

## SILVER LAKE

'35-'36: Clayton David  
'40-'41: Maynard David  
'41-'42: Cecil Simonton

## SIMPSON

'37-'38: Harold Prochaska  
'38-'39: Corwin Freeman  
'42-'43: George W. Berneking

## SMITH CENTER

'33-'34: Leonard Brown  
'37-'38: Forrest Bloomer, Eldon Stein  
'38-'39: Randall Libby  
'39-'40: Bud Bolton, Raymond Kaup\*, Linton Lull  
'40-'41: Carrol Mankhey, Raymond Yenne

## SOLDIER

'41-'42: Ronald Barnes, Donald Swartz

## SOLOMON

'38-'39: Paul Kelley  
'39-'40: Earl Herman, Eugene Close  
'40-'41: Edward Aylward, Robert Aylward

## SOUTH HAVEN

'35-'36: Arnold Sawyer\*\*  
'36-'37: Leonard Deets\*  
'37-'38: Howard Bacon  
'39-'40: Dale Milligan  
'40-'41: Herbert Austin, Dale Hamilton

## ST. FRANCIS

'37-'38: Howard Wagner  
'38-'39: Wayne Andrist  
'39-'40: Ned Hogate, Buster Wickwar

'40-'41: Keith Loyd

## ST. GEORGE

'41-'42: John Bock

## STOCKTON

'39-'40: Russell Bouchey  
'40-'41: Donald Riffel, Duane Riffel

## TONGANOXIE

'38-'39: Fred Lemkuhler, Junior McGraw  
'40-'41: Morris Black Jr.\*  
'42-'43: Bob Overbaugh

## WAKEENEY

'33-'34: John Stradal

## WAKEFIELD

'36-'37: Clarence Shandy  
'37-'38: Robert Randle\*\*  
'39-'40: Harold Fehlman, Dale Luthi, Ernest Sharp  
'40-'41: Duane Braden

'41-'42: Dale Newell, Alan Sparrowhawk, Roy Thrush

## WAMEGO

'38-'39: Howard Johnstone  
'39-'40: Rufus W. Davis  
'40-'41: Robert Burgess  
'41-'42: Colman Farrell  
'42-'43: Harry Lee Arand

## WASHBURN (Topeka)

'36-'37: Marion Miller  
'37-'38: Ferrol Oberhelman  
'38-'39: Rudolph Smerchek  
'39-'40: Burton DeBaun  
'41-'42: Byron K. Cazier

## WASHINGTON

'29-'30: Lewis Evans\*\* John Flanigan  
'30-'31: John H. Peter Wilbur Westing  
'31-'32: Elmer Dawdy\*  
'32-'33: Ernest Finlayson  
'33-'34: Max Dawdy, Paul Leck\*\*\*  
'34-'35: Verlin Rosenkranz  
'35-'36: Lloyd Stamm, Ernest Pannbacker

'36-'37: Junior Graham

## WATERVILLE

'33-'34: Winzer Petr  
'34-'35: William Nielson  
'41-'42: Glen Peterson

## WELLSVILLE

'29-'30: Wayne Scott  
'30-'31: William Murphy  
'37-'38: Gene Barnett  
'40-'41: Marion McConnell, Marvin Showmaker

## WESTMORELAND

'30-'31: Donald Cornelius

## WILLIAMSBURG

'37-'38: Eugene Hart  
'38-'39: Junior Miskimon

## WINFIELD

'28-'29: Donald Curfman, Boyd Waite\*  
'29-'30: Kenneth Waite\*  
'30-'31: Delos Shore  
'31-'32: Earl Parsons  
'32-'33: Fred Muret, Alfred Taylor\*  
'33-'34: Ronald Berry, John Snook  
'34-'35: Edward Berrie  
'36-'37: Gene Birdzell, Dalton Marten  
'38-'39: Harold Snyder  
'39-'40: John Lawrence, Harvey Whitehill  
'41-'42: Stanley Abel, Paul Lawrence  
'42-'43: Cecil Thomson



### Honorary State Farmer Degree

The Kansas Association of Future Farmers of America has awarded Honorary State Farmer Degrees to the following:

Adviser, L. B. Pollom, Topeka  
 Dean L. E. Call, Manhattan  
 Director C. M. Miller, Topeka  
 Professor W. E. Grimes  
 Professor C. V. Williams  
 Professor F. W. Bell  
 Professor A. P. Davidson  
 Professor L. F. Hall  
 Professor H. H. Brown, K. S. C., Manhattan  
 Professor Howard T. Hill, K. S. C., Manhattan  
 Mr. Tom McClung, Manhattan, Kansas.

### The American Farmer Degree

"This (the golden charm of the State Farmer) has now been replaced by the golden key of an American Farmer. . . . The fact that the emblem of the Future Farmers of America is surmounted by an American Eagle is highly significant. . . . As the eagle soars high, so let your vision soar and lead you to greater heights of achievement."—FFA American Farmer Degree Ritual.

The American Farmer degree is the most coveted of all FFA awards. A state FFA association may recommend one candidate for the American Farmer degree for each 1000 active members. Scholarship, Leadership, and an expanded Supervised Farming Program are the areas evaluated when candidates are selected from the State Farmer active FFA membership to be recommended for the American Farmer degree. A total of 38 FFA members from Kansas received the American Farmer degree award during the first fifteen years of the life of the Kansas Association of FFA. These 38 American Farmers came from 25 local FFA chapters. Boyd Waite of the Winfield chapter was the first FFA member in Kansas to receive the American Farmer degree.

The following is a list of FFA members in Kansas who received the American Farmer degree award from 1929 to 1943.

Year	Name	Town
1929	Boyd Waite*	Winfield
1930	Lewis Evans*	Washington
1931	Kenneth Waite*	Winfield
	Francis Grillott*	Parsons
1932	Everett Miller*	Ottawa
	Leo Paulsen*	Concordia
1933	Vincent Fuller*	Miltonvale
	Elmer Dawdy	Washington
1934	Albert Taylor	Winfield
	Allan Nottorf*	Abilene

### BOYD WAITE

Winfield Chapter

The First American  
Farmer From Kansas

Elected in 1929



1935	Ellwood Baker	Abilene
	Paul Leck**	Washington
1936	Wilburt Duitsman*	Linn
	J. W. England III	Shawnee Mission
1937	Arnold Sawyer*	South Haven
	Thello Dodd	Linn
	John Dart	Newton
1938	Albert Coates	Shawnee Mission
	Leonard Deets	South Haven
	John Weir*	Arkansas City
1939	Laddie Kacirek	McDonald
	Robert Randle*	Wakefield
	Edwin Tangeman	Newton
	Oid Lee Wineland	Alton
1940	James Cunningham*	ElDorado
	Harold Hackeratt	Alton
	Harry Stauffer	Frankfort
	John McCall	Lebanon
	Randall Libby	Smith Center



## The American Farmer Degree (continued)

1941.....	Carl Beurskens .....	Neodesha
	Raymond Kaup .....	Smith Center
	Harold McKinney .....	Coldwater
	Grant Poole* .....	Manhattan
1942.....	Maurice Black Jr. ....	Tonganoxie
	Leonard Sharp .....	Great Bend
	George Schlickau .....	Haven
	George Stelter* .....	Abilene
1943.....	Robert Johnston* .....	Frankfort

\*Star Farmer of Kansas

\*\*Star Farmer of America



Boyd Waite (left) and Kenneth Waite, Winfield Chapter, first and third American Farmers from Kansas, present a pair of Hereford beauties selected from their purebred Hereford breeding herd of 200 head in 1943. These boys started with Hereford cattle and upon leaving high school entered into a partnership with their father. The father withdrew from the partnership in 1942, and Boyd and Kenneth are now partners in operating the home farm of 1280 acres. Both boys are married. Boyd has three children and Kenneth two.

## Honorary American Farmer Degree

The following Kansans have received the degree of Honorary American Farmer:

Senator Arthur Capper, Topeka

F. H. Servatius, formerly Secretary American Royal Livestock Show, Kansas City, Kansas

A. M. Patterson, Secretary American Royal Livestock Show, Kansas City, Kansas

H. D. Garver, Adviser Shawnee Mission chapter, Merriam, Kansas.

## Star Farmer Awards

In 1929 The Weekly Kansas City Star inaugurated a program of cash awards to certain outstanding members of the American Farmer degree class, and with certain minor changes has continued these awards to date. In addition to selecting the Star Farmer of America, Star Farmers were selected from each of the states in the Kansas City trade territory. Later Star Farmer awards for each of the four national administrative regions were added.

The Star Farmer of America award from 1929 to 1932 carried a cash value each year of \$1,000. In 1933 the Star Farmer of America award was reduced to \$500 and has remained at this figure since that date.

Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Nebraska have received one or more State Star Farmer awards since the inauguration of this program. In 1929 and 1930 the Star Farmer of Kansas received a cash award of \$200. In 1931 and 1932 two Star Farmer awards were made for Kansas, one for \$200, and a runner-up award of \$100. From 1932 to 1942 Kansas received one Star Farmer award each year of \$100.

In 1936 a Star Farmer award was made in each of the four administrative regions in the United States. The Star Farmer of America automatically became the Star Farmer of the region from which he came; also, he automatically became Star Farmer of his state if he came from a state included in the Star Farmer award program. The Regional Star Farmer award from 1936 to 1938 carried a cash value of \$100; from 1939 to 1941 a cash value of \$150; and in 1942 this award carried a cash value of \$100. From 1929 to 1942 The Weekly Kansas City Star has awarded \$18,100 to outstanding American Farmer members. All cash awards had to be spent for betterment of agriculture, with the approval and under the supervision of an adult committee.



## Star Farmers of Kansas

From 1929 to 1943 seventeen American Farmer degree members from 14 local FFA chapters in Kansas received State Star Farmer recognition. In 1931 and 1932 two Star Farmers of Kansas were designated, the first received a cash award of \$200 and the runner-up received a cash award of \$100. Kenneth Waite, Winfield chapter, received the \$200 award in 1931, and Francis Grillott, Parsons chapter, was the runner-up; and in 1932 Leo Paulsen, Concordia chapter, received the \$200 award and Everett Miller, Ottawa chapter, was runner-up. The following is a list of the Star Farmers of Kansas from 1929 to 1943 by years with chapter designation:

Year	Name	Town
1929	Boyd Waite	Winfield
1930	Lewis Evans	Washington
1931	Kenneth Waite	Winfield
	Francis Grillott	Parsons
1932	Leo Paulsen	Concordia
	Everett Miller	Ottawa
1933	Vincent Fuller	Miltonvale
1934	Allan Nottorf	Abilene
1935	Paul Leek*	Washington
1936	Wilburt Duitsman	Linn
1937	Arnold Sawyer	South Haven
1938	John Weir	Arkansas City
1939	Robert Randle	Wakefield
1940	James Cunningham	Eldorado
1941	Grant Poole	Manhattan
1942	George Stelter	Abilene
1943	Robert Johnston**	Frankfort

\*Star Farmer of America, automatically designated as Star Farmer of Kansas

\*\*Mr. Johnston was awarded this recognition too late to be included in the picture of the Star Farmers of Kansas. (page 43)

"Two former presidents of the Kansas Association of FFA, Albert Coates, of the Shawnee Mission Chapter, and Paul Kelley of the Solomon Chapter, graduating this year from Kansas State College, have made enviable records for themselves during their four years of college. We list their achievements:

"Albert Coates: Harwood award in Anatomy; president Junior Chapter of the American Medical Association; Who's Who Among College Students; Phi Kappa Phi; Dynamis, Gamma Sigma Delta; President Sigma Nu fraternity; 1st Lt. U. S. Veterinary Reserve Corps.

"Paul Kelley: Freshman Sears scholarship; Sophomore Sears scholarship; Freshman Phi Kappa Phi recognition; elected to Phi Kappa Phi; Alpha Zeta; Gamma Sigma Delta; Jr. Livestock Judging team; editorial staff Kansas Agricultural Student; American Bankers scholarship junior year; graduate assistant in agricultural economics 1943; member of Navy Reserve; Phi Kappa fraternity."

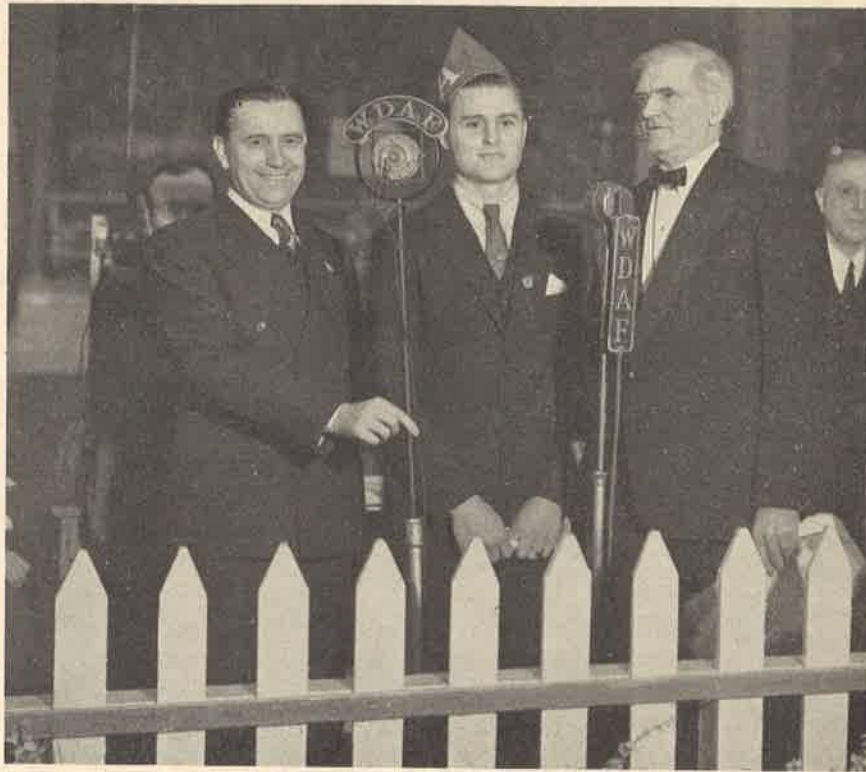
—Kansas Future Farmer, April 15, 1943.



STAR FARMERS OF KANSAS—Row one: Boyd Waite, Lewis Evans, Kenneth Waite, Francis Grillott. Row two: Everett Miller, Leo Paulsen, Vincent Fuller, Allan Nottorf. Row three: Paul Leek, Wilburt Duitsman, Arnold Sawyer, John Weir. Row four: Robert Randle, James Cunningham, Grant Poole, George Stelter



## 1935 Star Farmer of America



### ANNOUNCING THE 1935 STAR FARMER OF AMERICA

*Left to right:* Oscar L. Chapman, Assistant Secretary Department of Interior; Paul Leck, Star Farmer of America, Washington, Kansas; W. A. Cochel, Editor, Weekly Star, Kansas City, Missouri.

Paul Leck, Washington chapter, Kansas, was declared the Star Farmer of America in 1935. In addition to the honor which his designation carried, Paul received a five hundred dollar check from the Weekly Kansas City Star.

Paul Leck was seventeen years old when he received the Star Farmer of America award. Four years of vocational agriculture and active FFA participation under the direction of H. H. Brown, vocational agricultural instructor, was the basis upon which the award was made. Purebred Duroc swine, Shorthorn cattle, and poultry encompassed Paul's livestock experience. He farmed in partnership with his father on a 160 acre farm. His total labor

income was \$1685, and his investment in farming at the time he received the award was a little over \$2000. Paul built a farm shop from lumber sawed from trees that grew on the farm. His program in building farm equipment and the repair of farm machinery was especially strong. Improved farm practices were followed in both the livestock and plant production program.

Paul was president of his senior class in high school, president of his local FFA chapter, president of the Kansas Association of Future Farmers of America, and ranked second in scholarship in a class of 33.

Paul is now farming in partnership with his father. The size of the farm has been increased from 160 acres to 330 acres. Paul is married and has two children.

## State Association Awards

There are 49 chartered associations of FFA including Hawaii and Puerto Rico. These associations submit annually to the national office reports on accomplishments for the year ending June 30. The National Board of Trustees, acting as a committee, study these reports and score them. The four main items upon which the scoring is based are: (1) organization; (2) growth and advancement; (3) activities and accomplishments, and (4) savings and investments.

The National Organization of FFA presented each year, until 1940, a bronze plaque to the winning association. The Groseclose Challenge Trophy was also presented to the winning association and remained in the custody of the winner for one year. In 1940, the method of classifying awards in the State Association contest was changed to an achievement classification which included: Gold Emblem classification; Silver Emblem classification; Bronze Emblem classification, and Honorable Mention. Awards to association winners under this plan as recorded in the national convention proceedings do not include the Groseclose Challenge Trophy. The National Grange in 1935 furnished cash prizes to winning associations of \$40, \$30, \$20 and \$10. This cash award was raised in 1938 to \$60, \$50, \$40, \$30, and \$20. The plan of classifying State association awards which began in 1940, does not include any cash awards.

The Kansas Association of Future Farmers of America received Honorable Mention in 1932, and in 1940 was classified in the Bronze Emblem group.

The revised words for "Hail The F. F. A.," copyrighted in 1929, were written by National Executive Secretary, W. A. Ross.



## National Better Chapter Contest



SELECTING THE KANSAS 1940 NATIONAL CHAPTER CONTEST ENTRY

*Standing:* A. P. Davidson, Executive Adviser; L. B. Pollom, Adviser; *Seated:* Raymond Kaup, Smith Center, '40; National President Ivan Kindschi, '39-'40; Albert Coates, Shawnee Mission, '37; Walter Porter, Council Grove, '38; John Dean, Ottawa, '36; Paul Kelley, Solomon, '39.

President Raymond Kaup, Smith Center, had the assistance of four past state FFA presidents and the president of the national organization of FFA, in addition to the adult leaders, in selecting the 1940 Kansas entry in the National Chapter contest. Highland Park chapter represented Kansas in this contest and received the Silver Emblem award.

The National Better Chapter Contest was sponsored by the Farm Journal during 1929 and 1930, and cash awards were available to the winners. The National Organization of FFA assumed the responsibility of supporting the Better Chapter Contest in 1931. Cash awards were discontinued under the plan set up by the National Organization of FFA and plaques were awarded the winners. From 1929 until 1939 a plan was followed whereby a winner for each of the four administrative regions was chosen, and from this group one chapter was declared to be the "Best Chapter" in the National Organization of FFA. Chapters were des-

ignated as runner-up winners in each of the four administrative regions. In 1940 the National Organization of FFA changed the plan of designating chapter winners. Four levels of achievement were recognized as follows: Gold Emblem chapters; Silver Emblem Chapters; Bronze Emblem Chapters and Honorable Mention Chapters. This plan of ranking chapters is still in operation.

The following is a listing of the recognition given Kansas FFA chapters in the National Better Chapter Contest:

1933—Winfield chapter placed second in the North Central Region.

1934—Ottawa chapter received Honorable Mention in the North Central Region.

1935—Shawnee Mission chapter was declared the Best Chapter in the National Chapter Contest.

1935—The Jayhawk chapter, Lawrence received Honorable Mention in the North Central Region.

1940—Highland Park chapter received the Silver Emblem award.

1941—Shawnee Mission chapter was given Honorable Mention.

~~1942—Lebanon chapter was given Honorable Mention.~~

~~1943—Lebanon chapter was given Honorable Mention.~~

### 1935 National Chapter Contest Winner



Representatives of Shawnee Mission chapter—Left to right: H. D. Garver, adviser; James Nutt, chapter president; J. W. England III, president Kansas Association of FFA.



The 1935 National FFA Chapter Contest was won by Shawnee Mission, Merriam, Kansas. Three hundred and five chapters were entered in the event and thirty-five states were represented in the competition. The \$300 cash award was used by the Shawnee Mission chapter in three ways: part went to the chapter loan fund; part of the award was used for the purchase of chapter equipment, and some of the money was used to aid in financing an educational trip to Florida during the Christmas holidays. The Homestead, Florida chapter, a fourth place winner in the 1933 National Chapter Contest, kindly invited the Shawnee Mission members to be their guests and some 42 members accepted.

The winning chapter had an active membership of 72. Seventy-six goals were distributed among the eight divisions of the chapter program of work, and each goal was successfully completed. Leadership and Cooperation with 15 carefully selected goals each, and Supervised Farming with 14 goals, led in degree of emphasis. Community service ranked fourth with 11 goals planned and successfully accomplished.

A five acre fruit and truck project, planned and carried out by the chapter, tested the real cooperative spirit. The work was done voluntarily by members working in squads. The weather turned hot and dry and it took considerable leadership ability on the part of the officers to keep up the interest of the members. However, the project was carried to successful completion.

Other cooperative activities in which the chapter engaged included: operation of electric incubators and one of the first electric hot beds in the region; organization of a cow testing association, egg laying contests, battery brooding contests, and the publication of a chapter magazine. Of the 15 cooperative activities attempted none showed a financial loss.

The chapter programs are built through committee assignments, striving for 100 per cent participation on the part of members in both building and carrying to completion the activity program. The members had 100 per cent management control of their Farming Program, and 88.2 per cent of the boys had full financial participation. The scholarship record equalled the grade average for the high school. Meetings were held once each week throughout the year and in addition there were twelve evening meetings. An average attendance of 95 per cent at the weekly meetings was reported.

In 1937 a plaque commemorating the organization of the FFA, 10 years previously in the Baltimore Hotel was unveiled at Kansas City, Missouri. The plaque bore the following inscription: "Commemorating the Founding of the Future Farmers of America Organization, Baltimore Hotel, Kansas City, Missouri, November 20, 1928. This plaque was placed October 17, 1937."

## Kansas F.F.A. Association Chapter Contest



STATE FFA OFFICERS RANK CHAPTER ENTRIES

*Left to right:* Grant Poole, Vice President, Manhattan; A. P. Davidson, Executive Adviser; Burton DeBaun, Treasurer, Washburn; Raymond Kaup, President, Smith Center; L. B. Pollom, Adviser; John Lawrence, Secretary, Winfield.

In 1932 the Kansas Association inaugurated a Chapter Contest. This contest was designed to create and increase member interest, stimulate cooperative effort, and crystallize chapter programs of work into more worth while undertaking. The selection of the winners is based on the scope and quality of the chapter's program of work, and upon the actual accomplishment of the chapter as set forth in the final achievement report. Emphasis is given to activities organized and carried through by the chapter as a group. Participation is limited to active members of local chapters.

The Kansas Association adopted a rule in 1932 requiring all local chapters to file a program of work with the State Office by November 1, in order to be eligible for state or national FFA compe-



tition. Approximately 100 per cent of the local FFA chapters have filed programs of work annually during the twelve years this rule has been in effect. Only those chapters desiring to compete in the State Chapter Contest are required to file Achievement Reports.

Below is a copy of the score card, with the perfect score allowed on each of the items, as well as total scores on program of work and accomplishment respectively:

	<i>Program of Work Submitted Nov. 1</i>	<i>Report on Achievement</i>
I. Supervised Practice .....	50	150
II. Cooperation .....	40	120
III. Community Service .....	40	120
IV. Leadership .....	30	90
V. Earnings and Savings .....	30	90
VI. Conduct of Meetings .....	20	60
VII. Scholarship .....	20	60
VIII. Recreation .....	20	60
Total .....	250	750

From 1932 to 1938 Kansas FFA chapters planning and executing programs of work which were of such scope and quality as to merit recognition were designated as "Outstanding." During the first three years of the Chapter Contest five chapters were ranked as "Outstanding" each year. However, in 1933 the Ottawa chapter and Winfield chapter tied for first place and a total of six chapters were listed. From 1936 to 1938 ten chapters were designated as "Outstanding" each year. Beginning in 1939, and continuing through 1943, ten chapters were designated as "Outstanding," and 15 additional chapters were listed as deserving "Honorable Mention" each year. Certificates are awarded each year to the chapters winning Outstanding and Honorable Mention classification.

The following is a list of chapter winners in the Kansas Association Chapter Contest from 1932 to 1943:

- 1932—Outstanding  
Chanute, Lebanon, Washington, Winfield, Abilene
- 1933—Outstanding  
Ottawa, Winfield, Washington, Linn, Morrowville, Lebanon
- 1934—Outstanding  
Winfield, Shawnee Mission, Washington, Mound City, Lawrence
- 1935—Outstanding  
Lawrence, Shawnee Mission, Winfield, Linn, Washington, Mound City, Morrowville, Ottawa, Lebanon, Howard
- 1936—Outstanding  
Lawrence, Lebanon, Linn, Mound City, Ottawa, Parker, Reading, Shawnee Mission, South Haven, Washington
- 1937—Outstanding  
South Haven, Neodesha, Morrowville, Parker, Wakefield, Ottawa, Highland Park, Shawnee Mission, Winfield, Lawrence
- 1938—Outstanding  
ElDorado, Highland Park, Inman, Lawrence, Morrowville, Medicine Lodge, Ottawa, Shawnee Mission, Wakefield, Winfield

- 1939—Outstanding  
Chanute, Highland Park, Lawrence, Lebanon, Manhattan, Medicine Lodge, Olathe, Ottawa, Shawnee Mission, Winfield  
Honorable Mention  
Auburn, ElDorado, Fairview, Fredonia, Howard, Inman, Linn, Morrowville, Mulvane, Osborne, Parker, Seaman, Smith Center, Valley Falls, Wakefield
- 1940—Outstanding  
Chanute, Clay Center, Highland Park, Lawrence, Lebanon, Linn, Manhattan, Shawnee Mission, Smith Center, Winfield  
Honorable Mention  
Effingham, Fairview, Olathe, Ottawa, Mound City, Holton, Cherryvale, Mulvane, Osborne, Burlington, Buhler, Howard, Downs, Morrowville, Alton
- 1941—Outstanding  
Chanute, Great Bend, Highland Park, Holton, Lebanon, Manhattan, Olathe, Shawnee Mission, Smith Center, Winfield  
Honorable Mention  
Alton, Buhler, Cherryvale, Coldwater, Emporia, Haven, Lawrence, Little River, Mound City, Onaga, Osborne, Ottawa, Seaman, Solomon, Tongonoxie
- 1942—Outstanding  
Haven, Great Bend, Winfield, Lebanon, Mound City, Shawnee Mission, Sedan, Cherryvale, Manhattan, Highland Park  
Honorable Mention  
Effingham, Buhler, Chanute, Coldwater, Hiawatha, Holton, Iola, ElDorado, Lawrence, Linn, Little River, Mulvane, Olathe, Seaman, Stockton
- 1943—Outstanding  
Winfield, Lebanon, Manhattan, Highland Park, Great Bend, Buhler, Sedan, Columbus, Chanute, Cherryvale  
Honorable Mention  
Clay Center, Coldwater, Fairview, Hiawatha, Junction City, Lawrence, Morrowville, Mulvane, Seaman, Washburn

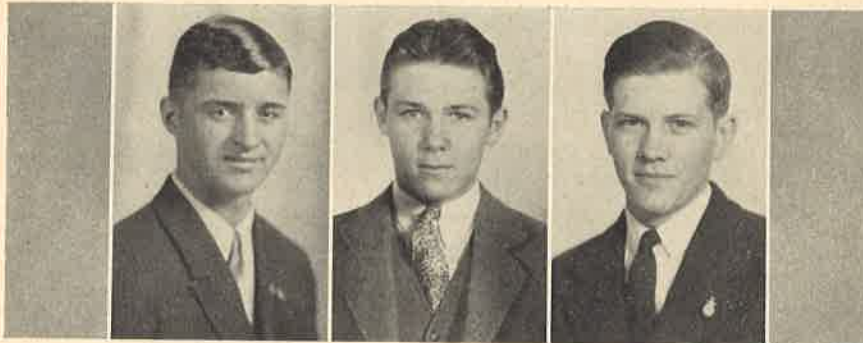
## F.F.A. Public Speaking Contest

The FFA public speaking feature was made a part of the educational program of Future Farmer members on the assumption that it is important for farm boys to be able to discuss intelligently, matters pertaining to agriculture.

The first National FFA Public Speaking contest was held in 1930 in connection with the third National FFA convention. Edwin Drace, Kettesville, Missouri, was declared the winner. Senator Arthur Capper, Kansas, sponsored the contest and furnished a total of \$1,000 in prize money, divided as follows: \$400, \$300, \$200, \$100. For the first two years Senator Capper sponsored the event and furnished the cash prizes. Beginning in 1932 at the Fifth National Convention, the National Organization of Future Farmers of America sponsored the FFA Public Speaking contest for the first time and furnished \$1,000 in cash prizes. The National Organization of FFA has continued to sponsor this event each year.



## KANSAS WINNERS NATIONAL FFA PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTESTS



Earl Parsons, Winfield chapter, second place in 1931; J. W. England III, Shawnee Mission chapter, fourth place in 1934; Kenneth Engle, Abilene, first place in 1942.

In 1933 the total cash prize awards were reduced from \$1,000 to \$750, and in 1934, the total cash award was set at \$700 to be divided \$250, \$200, \$150, \$100. Hawaii had a contestant in the FFA Public Speaking Contest for the first time in 1937, winning third place.

Rules governing the FFA Public Speaking contest have been few and pertain primarily to eligibility, length of speeches, and a definition of areas to be discussed. All speeches must be on topics having agricultural significance.

The Kansas Association held its first FFA Public Speaking Contest in 1930. Kenneth Waite, Winfield chapter, won first place in the state contest and placed second in the Regional FFA Public Speaking Contest. Kansas has not sponsored official district FFA public speaking elimination contests. It has been the policy of the state association to encourage members who have an interest in this type of activity to compete in chapter and district contests when possible, and where chapter and district contests are not available, to compete in the state contest.

The record of the thirteen Kansas FFA contestants who have participated in the regional elimination contests is an enviable one. There are 12 states in the North Central Region. Kansas contestants have won: 3 first, 3 second and 2 third placings; 2 placed seventh, 2 placed ninth, and one tied for eleventh place. The three regional winners placed 1st, 2nd and 4th in national competition. Winfield chapter has had three state winners, with 1st, 2nd and 3rd placings in the regional contests and 2nd place in the national. Abilene chapter has had two state winners, with 1st and 2nd placings in the regional and a 1st place in the national contest. Shawnee Mission won the state and regional contest once and placed 4th in the national.

The following is a complete list of first place winners in the Kansas FFA Public Speaking contests, together with chapter identification, and their placings in the regional and national FFA public speaking contests. Second and third place winners in the state FFA public speaking contests are also listed.

## CONTEST WINNERS WITH TITLE OF WINNING SPEECH

- 1930—Kenneth Waite, Winfield: State, first; Regional, second. "Taxation and the Farmer."
- 1931—Earl Parsons, Winfield: State, first; Regional, first; National, second. "The Future of the American Farmer."
- 1932—Fred Muret, Winfield: State, first; Regional, third. Ray Hauk, Miltonvale: State, second. Frank Cramen, St. Francis: State, third. "The Challenge of Adversity and the American Farmer."
- 1933—Mabry Wheeler, Mound City: State first; Regional, seventh. Delbert Richardson, Lawrence: State, second. Raymond Muret, Winfield: State, third. "The Future of the American Farmer."
- 1934—J. W. England III, Shawnee Mission: State, first; Regional, first; National, fourth. Clarence Mason, Winfield: State, second. Irwin Miller, Oberlin: State, third. "The Challenge of Rural Leadership."
- 1935—Frederick Renick, Newton: State, first; Regional, second. Richard Fisher, Lebanon: State, second. Lee Allan Burress, Mulvane: State third. "Under All—The Land."
- 1936—Paul Smith, Lebanon: State, first; Regional, ninth. Homer Jury, Abilene: State, second. Ernest Cowles, Lawrence: State, third. "The Farmer and the Farm Problem."
- 1937—Harmon Baer, Abilene: State, first; Regional, second. George Cochran, Seaman: State, second. Robert Finch, Lebanon: State, third. "R. E. A. Power for American Farms."
- 1938—Raymond Wolf, Solomon: State, first; Regional, eleventh. Lloyd Sexton, Abilene: State, second. Wm. Glenn, Hill City: State, third. Dale Relihan, Lebanon: State, third (tie). "Living on a Farm."
- 1939—Billy D. Weigand, LaCrosse: State, first; Regional, third. Walter Smith, Shawnee Mission: State, second. Guy D. Coy, Newton: State, third. "Why Be a Farmer."
- 1940—Russell Barrett, McPherson: State, first; Regional, ninth. John Walters, Olathe: State, second. John McCall, Lebanon: State, third. "Why I Want to be a Farmer."
- 1941—Harold Ray, Iola: State, first; Regional, seventh. Carl Woods, Abilene: State, second. Dale Watson, Mulvane: State, third. "Why Education for Life on a Farm."
- 1942—Kenneth Engle, Abilene: State, first; Regional, first; National, first. Albert VanWalleghan, Shawnee Mission: State, second. Leonard Knucklemann, Effingham: State, third. "Food Our Weapon."
- 1943—Dale Sterner, Chapman: State, first; Sub-Regional, third.\* Robert Wasson, Shawnee Mission: State, second. Norman Bramlette, Columbus: State, third. "Why I Plan to Remain on the Farm."

\*In 1943, due to rubber conservation, the North Central Region held its FFA Public Speaking eliminations in three sub-regional contests with final elimination at Kansas City, just prior to the opening of the National FFA Convention.

The Kansas City Municipal Auditorium was used as official headquarters and housing for the FFA National Convention for the first time in 1937.

The first National FFA Day was designated by the National Organization of FFA in 1933.



Official Publication of Kansas Association  
of F.F.A.



The first issue of the Kansas Future Farmer newsletter was published before the Kansas Association of Future Farmers of

America received its charter. Volume I, Number 1 was published May 1929, and the state charter was not received until September 3, 1929. This issue was called the "Future Farmers of America News Bulletin." It carried no mast head. This volume reported on the organization meeting, listed the state officers, the first class of American Farmers, included the FFA Creed, By-Laws, and suggestions for setting up a program of work.

The second issue of the newsletter was published September 27, 1929, and carried the caption of "Future Farmers of Kansas Affiliated with Future Farmers of America." This publication was also labeled as Volume I, Number 1. In this issue was found the story of the first FFA Day at the state fair at Hutchinson, the names of the first State Farmer class, together with the first 13 active FFA chapters in Kansas.

The third issue of the newsletter, published February 13, 1930, was correctly numbered Volume I, Number III.

There were five issues of the newsletter published during the first year of FFA history in Kansas. In addition, a special news bulletin by President Boyd Waite was published. There was no special editor for the newsletter during the first year and the work seemed to have been shared among Supervisor L. B. Pollom, State Adviser W. E. Grimes, and Professor A. P. Davidson, with assistance from Director C. M. Miller, President Boyd Waite, and Professor H. W. Schmitz, who at the time was teaching vocational agriculture at the Manhattan High School, and who was instrumental in publishing the KVAA newsletter.

Beginning with Volume II of the Kansas Future Farmer, Executive Adviser A. P. Davidson assumed the responsibility of editing and publishing the newsletter, and has continued in that capacity since.

Volume I consisted of five numbers; Volume II had four issues, and beginning with Volume III, nine issues were published. Nine issues, plus an occasional special number, have been published each year since that date. The present cover page was adopted September 1933. Volume V carried this cover page, but no backs. Backs were first used on the September 1934 issue. The first two volumes averaged from 6 to 8 pages per issue. Beginning with Volume III the size of the newsletter was increased. At present, each issue carries approximately 20 pages, and from 500 to 600 copies are printed. An attempt has been made to devote approximately half of the space of each issue to chapter notes and half to state and national FFA activities. The Kansas Future Farmer has never carried advertising, and is furnished free to Kansas FFA members and to agricultural education leaders throughout the states and insular possessions.

The Kansas Future Farmer has for fifteen years, chronicled the activities of the Kansas Association of FFA, as well as all major activities of the National Organization of Future Farmers of Amer-



ica. It is estimated that more than 50,000 Kansas FFA members have read this publication. Approximately 2,000 local FFA reporters have had experience in writing chapter notes for the Kansas Future Farmer, "in order that every man, woman and child may know that the Future Farmers of America is a national organization that reaches from the State of Washington to Puerto Rico and from the State of Maine to Hawaii."

### War Time Accomplishments of The Kansas Association 1942-43



#### KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF FFA PURCHASES A \$1,000 WAR BOND

State President George Stelter, Abilene, makes the purchase. President Carl Floersch (deceased), of the Union National Bank, Manhattan, Kansas, delivers the bond to President Stelter, while A. P. Davidson, Executive Adviser, (left) and Evan E. Griffith, State War Finance Manager, watch the transaction.

Immediately following Pearl Harbor the Kansas Association added four goals to its annual program of work, and announced the new goals through the Kansas Future Farmer Newsletter. The new goals placed emphasis on salvage campaign, the purchase of bonds and stamps, increased food production, and the reconditioning of farm machinery and equipment. The FFA chapters through-

out the state accepted the challenge and as a result a "Victory War Program" was under way almost before the rest of the populace realized there was a need for same. The 1942-43 State FFA Program of Work emphasized the same wartime goals, and the following is a summary of the wartime accomplishments of the Kansas Association of FFA in 1942-43.

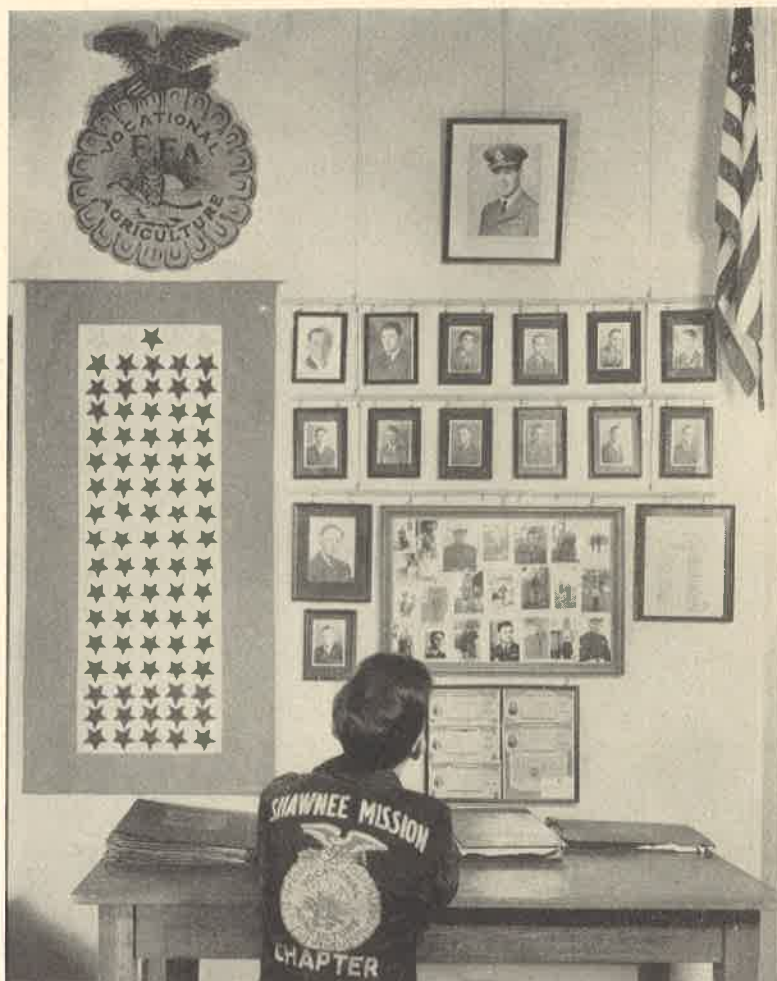
Total face value of war bonds purchased by chapters .....	\$ 5,252.50
Total face value of war bonds and stamps purchased by members .....	90,941.81
Pounds of scrap metal collected by chapters .....	5,497,773
Pounds of paper collected by chapters .....	314,805
Pounds of rags collected by chapters .....	9,786
Pounds of rubber collected by chapters .....	23,940
Number of hurlap bags collected by chapters .....	5,710
Number of Victory gardens grown by members .....	2,129
Total acreage in gardens .....	1,324
Number of farm workers placed on farms through aid of FFA chapters .....	1,420
Number of FFA members who assisted Victory Farm Volunteers to become acquainted with farm life .....	529
Total number of farms serviced by Victory Farm Volunteers .....	720
Number of farm machines repaired by FFA members .....	3,675
Total number of FFA members serving in Armed Forces .....	2,489
Average amount of money per member invested in farming .....	\$ 245.00
Total amount of money invested in farming by FFA members .....	\$980,599.87

"Kansas was represented at the FFA Pilgrimage in June to dedicate a room in the Thomas Jefferson home at Monticello, Va., by Leo Paulsen of the Concordia chapter as National Student Secretary, and J. W. England III of the Shawnee Mission Chapter. J. W. England III was designated as the official representative from Kansas and presented a sample of Hard Red Winter wheat as a typical Kansas product. He was commissioned by the Governor of Kansas and bore the commission to the Pilgrimage as part of his credentials."—FFA Pilgrimage note in April 30, 1934, annual report of the Kansas Association.

"Honor was brought to the Kansas Association during the past year by John Dean, past president of the Kansas Association of FFA, Robert Singleton, past treasurer of the Kansas Association, and Robert Randle, past state reporter. John was named as the outstanding junior in agriculture at Kansas State College and won the Junior Danforth Fellowship and attended the Danforth Camp at Shelby, Michigan, in August. John was also elected to Phi Kappa Phi last year. Robert Singleton was chosen as the freshman in the Division of Agriculture for the Danforth award available for freshmen at Kansas State College. Robert Randle was sent to the Danforth Camp by the Manhattan Rotary Club. Robert was also elected president of the freshman class at Kansas State College."—Taken from the Annual Report of the Kansas Association, 1940.



## Honoring Former F.F.A. Members In The Armed Forces



The above pictures a corner in the Shawnee Mission chapter room honoring former FFA members who are now in the armed forces. The service flag carries 85 stars, four of them gold. The framed picture, top center, is of Robert McAnany, Shawnee, Kansas, a former member of the Shawnee Mission chapter. Robert was with the R. A. F. and was killed in England on October 2, 1941, while on active duty. According to the records of the State Asso-

ciation, Robert McAnany was the first former FFA member from Kansas to be killed in World War II.

The plan used by the Shawnee Mission chapter of honoring former FFA members in the armed forces, is typical of the manner in which local chapters are honoring former members in the armed forces.

The Kansas Association at the close of the fiscal year, 1943, had 2,489 former members serving in the armed forces.

## F. F. A. Items of Interest

The first class of American Farmers was elected in 1929. This class included Leslie Applegate, New Jersey; Elsnier Beall, Arkansas; Ollie Duroy, Oklahoma; Arthur Ketterlin, California; Carroll Baker, Idaho; Lawrence Augenstine, Ohio; Guy Whitstone, South Carolina; Joseph Beard, Virginia; Norman Larson, North Dakota; and Theodore Westerling, Utah.

—FFA—

The first National Officers of the Future Farmers of America for 1928-29 were:

President, Leslie Applegate, Freehold, New Jersey  
First Vice President, Alvin Reimer,\* Beatrice, Nebraska  
Second Vice President, Lawrence Augenstine, Ashly, Ohio  
Third Vice President, Sam Pickering,\* Gentry, Arkansas  
Fourth Vice President, Arthur Ketterlin, Santa Rosa, Calif.  
Student Secretary, Don Dosey,\* Yuma, Colorado.  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Henry Groseclose, State Board of Education, Richmond, Virginia  
Adviser, Dr. C. H. Lane, Federal Board for Vocational Education, Washington, D. C.

\*These members did not hold the American Farmer degree. The decree that national officers had to be elected from members holding the American Farmer degree was not put into effect until the 4th national convention, 1931.

—FFA—

Old Gold and National Blue were adopted as official FFA colors at the 2nd national convention, 1929.

—FFA—

Eighteen states sent delegates to the first National FFA convention in 1928. The national organization of FFA closed its first fiscal year \$118 in debt.

—FFA—

The Marion County, Ohio, FFA band furnished the music for the 3rd National FFA Convention, 1930, and had the honor of being the first official FFA band to play at a national FFA convention. Each year since that date, one or more official FFA bands have furnished music for the national FFA conventions.



The National FFA House of Delegates in their 3rd convention session adopted a ruling that no Future Farmer could be raised to the degree of State Farmer and to the degree of American Farmer in the same school year.

—FFA—

The first edition of the official FFA Manual was printed in April 1930. The price was 15 cents. The Manual was printed and distributed by The Farm Journal of Philadelphia, Pa.

—FFA—

The FFA Creed was officially adopted by delegates to the 3rd National FFA Convention, 1930. In 1935 a framed copy of the Creed was presented to Mr. E. M. Tiffany, of Wisconsin, the author. Kansas FFA members will be interested to learn that Mr. Tiffany is a native Kansan. He was born and grew to manhood in Lyndon, Kansas. Mr. Tiffany graduated from the Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Science in 1915, and at the time he wrote the FFA Creed, was assistant professor of agricultural education at the University of Wisconsin.

—FFA—

The FFA Motto was addressed to the national organization by the first national adviser, Dr. C. H. Lane, Office of Education, Washington, D. C., in his Introduction to the revised FFA Manual published Jan. 1931. Dr. Lane stated that he thought the motto embodied the true vocational spirit of the Future Farmers of America.

—FFA—

The first issue of the FFA Manual, through an error, carried the National Farm Boy Creed instead of the Future Farmer Creed as written by E. M. Tiffany, and adopted at the 3rd national convention of the FFA.

—FFA—

The revised FFA Manual, January 1931, included the music to The Future Farmer March, composed by Capt. W. J. Stannard, and dedicated to the ideals of country life and the Future Farmers of America. Words and music to "Future Farmers of America" was also included in this issue of the Manual. The words to this song were written by Joe Duck, vocational agricultural teacher of Missouri.

—FFA—

E. M. Tiffany, author of the FFA Creed, also wrote the words and air for the "Song of the Future Farmers." This was one of the early FFA songs in the field, being copyrighted in 1929.

—FFA—

Raymond Bryan, singing cowboy yodeler from Ottawa, Kansas, chapter, appeared on the entertainment program at both the 6th and 7th national FFA conventions.

Dr. C. H. Lane, first national adviser of the Future Farmers of America, served in this capacity from 1928 to 1934. Dr. Lane was succeeded by Dr. J. A. Linke, who held this office from 1934 to 1941. Our present national adviser, Dr. W. T. Spanton, assumed this office in 1941.

—FFA—

Henry Groseclose, Virginia, held the combined national FFA office of executive secretary and treasurer from 1928 until 1930. In 1930, W. A. Ross was elected to the office of national executive secretary, and Mr. Groseclose was elected as national treasurer. Dowell J. Howard, Winchester, Virginia, our present national treasurer, succeeded Mr. Groseclose in 1940.

—FFA—

The national FFA chapter contest was sponsored by the Farm Journal in 1929-31, and by the American Farming Magazine in 1930-1931. The National Organization of Future Farmers of America took this contest over in 1931-32 and have sponsored it since that date.

—FFA—

FFA Degree Pins. From 1928 to 1937 the only FFA degree pin or key surmounted by the American Eagle was the American Farmer degree key. The Green Hand Degree pin was of bronze, the Future Farmer degree pin was of gold, and the State Farmer degree emblem was a gold key. At the 9th National Convention of the FFA, 1936, recommendations of the National Board of Trustees concerning degree pin regulations were adopted. At the 10th National Convention the degree pin recommendations were made official. The degree pin regulations adopted, follow: The Green Hand degree pin to be made of bronze; the Future Farmer pin to be made of silver; the gold State Farmer key to be changed to a gold State Farmer charm. Thus all FFA degree insignia for active members carries the complete emblem which consists of the cross section of the ear of corn surmounted by an American Eagle with outspread wings, a shield on its breast, holding an olive branch and sheaf of arrows in its talons.

—FFA—

The official peace time Flag salute in the FFA ceremony was adopted at the 6th National Convention, 1933.

—FFA—

The National FFA monthly radio program over NBC began in 1931. National Adviser C. H. Lane opened this series of broadcasts on April 13 with the topic, "What the FFA Is and Does."

—FFA—

In 1940 the national FFA organization made a change in the system of recognizing national chapter contest and state association contest winners, using gold emblem, silver emblem, bronze emblem and honorable mention as classifications for awards.



The FFA Fundamentals Banner was designed by W. A. Ross and adopted in 1935. The fundamentals set forth on the banner are: Leadership, Cooperation, Character, Scholarship, Sportsmanship, Recreation, Service, Thrift, Patriotism, Citizenship, and Improved Agriculture.

—FFA—

The official FFA Secretary's book became available in 1936, and the official FFA Treasurer's book was made available in 1937.

—FFA—

7,000 copies of the FFA Purposes were printed and distributed by the national organization in 1938.

—FFA—

The State Farmer degree earnings were raised from \$200 to \$250; the scholarship requirement for the American Farmer degree was lowered from "upper third" to "upper forty per cent" of the candidate's class; and all degree emblems to be surmounted by the American Eagle, were important constitutional changes effected at the 10th National Convention, 1937.

—FFA—

From 1928 until 1937 the maximum number of American Farmer degrees that could be granted in any given year was 75. This restriction was removed in 1937 and state associations are now entitled to one American Farmer candidate for each 1,000 active members or major fraction thereof.

—FFA—

The plow donated by John Deere to the National Organization of FFA to be used by the national officers in their official meetings is of solid silver.

—FFA—

The 6'x12' Rising Sun painting by Gillis, valued at \$500 was used for the first time at the 8th National Convention of the National Organization of FFA in 1935.

—FFA—

The J. A. Linke award, a cherry plaque made by past National Adviser Linke, made its first appearance in 1942. This award goes to the local FFA chapter which furnishes the Star Farmer of America.

—FFA—

The 1938 FFA convention went on record favoring a national FFA camp and set aside \$6,000 for this purpose. Accordingly 22 acres of land for a camp site were purchased in 1939, and an additional 6 acres of adjoining land were purchased in 1940. The Camp is located 2½ miles from Mt. Vernon in Virginia, and about 14 miles from Washington, D. C. on Number 1 Highway. Through a special act of the Virginia Legislature in 1940 it was made possible for the National Organization of FFA to lease George Washington's old grist mill which adjoins the camp site, thereby making

the camp more valuable by including an appropriate and interesting shrine. Virginia spent the sum of \$60,000 in restoring the old mill in 1932. The mill was opened to the public June 15, 1941, under the auspices of the National Organization of FFA. An admission charge of 10 cents was made, except to FFA members staying at the national FFA camp that year, and they were admitted free. The mill was kept open during the summer. Both the FFA camp and the old grist mill are closed for the duration. The National Organization of FFA has spent on the national FFA camp from June 9, 1939 to September 15, 1943, for capital outlay—land, buildings, permanent improvements, a total of \$27,728.80.

—FFA—

The FFA State Executive Committee in Kansas has power of approval of all action on the part of the FFA House of Delegates, and is authorized to transact all official FFA business during the interim between meetings of the House of Delegates. This committee consists of persons serving in the following capacities: Dean of the school of agriculture, head of the department of economics and sociology, K. S. A. C., the state adviser, state executive adviser, executive secretary, and president of the Kansas Association of FFA and the president of the Kansas Vocational Agricultural Teachers Association.

—FFA—

The first FFA District Leadership School in Kansas was held by the Shawnee Mission Chapter in 1931.

—FFA—

The annual meeting of the Kansas Association of Future Farmers of America has always been held in the spring in connection with the State High School Vocational Agriculture Judging and Farm Mechanics Contests. This plan made it possible for chapters to enter all judging activities and at the same time participate in the entire FFA program. The 1943 annual meeting of the state association was cancelled because of the necessity for conserving rubber, and the business of the state association was conducted by the state officers and the state executive committee.

—FFA—

The Manhattan Chamber of Commerce has been host to members and officials of the Kansas Association of Future Farmers of America at their annual banquet held each year in connection with the annual meeting of the state association. In the early history of the state association the numbers attending the Chamber of Commerce banquet ranged from 200 to 500. The number increased until in 1942 more than 1200 persons were served. The Chamber of Commerce banquet is always considered one of the highlights of the annual meeting of the state association, and thousands of former Kansas FFA members hold cherished memories of the occasion when they were guests of the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce.



## Our Advisers

"Being older than the rest of you, I am asked to advise you from time to time, as the need arises. I hope that my advice will always be based on true knowledge and ripened with wisdom."—FFA Ritual.

Without the friendly counsel and encouragement of the vocational agriculture teacher, there would be no organization of Future Farmers of America. This group of 1943 Kansas FFA advisers, together with 52 former associates who are in the United States armed forces, is largely responsible for the splendid progress made by the Kansas Association of FFA.

Front Row: Left to Right: (page 65)

Morrison, Braun, Brown, Chilen, Morey, Miller, Cooley, Mathre, Watson, Young, Wildman, Barrick.

2nd Row: Melia, Mantz, Engle, French, Essick, Patton, Schultis, Yoxall, Hastings, Clegg, Bergsma, Taylor, Shea, Kobler, Dewey.

3rd Row: Bonar, Banman, Grover, Faris, Smith, Reece, Chilcott, Karns, Page, Wells, Alwin, Johnson, Jacobson.

4th Row: Schulthess, Lay, Bolar, Barrows, Starosta, Richards, Brent, Loomis, Pollom, Poch, Kugler, Croy, Collins, Davidson.

5th Row: Plank, Greer, Haltom, John Miller, Noyce, Rawson, Latimer, Green, Edelblute, Castle, Carpenter, Jordan, Neill.

6th Row: Frye, Schaper, Gugler, Berry, Russell, Jensen, Bathurst, Stone, Welton, Lowe, Lake, Pike, Wagoner.

7th Row: Stephens, Zimmerman, Wood, Milligan, Bruner, Turner, Raines, Stricklin, Borgelt, Bradley, Crow, Murray, Bird, Schrag, Hall, Stewart.

8th Row: Sherrill, Stockebrand, Mize, Cleland, Beylin, Fish, Brandenburg, Attebery, Wilson, Ottman, King, Harrington, Hall, Freeland, Heinrich, Frank, Fletcher, Cassidy, Calhoon, Peterson, C. M. Miller.

### Former FFA Advisers in the Armed Forces

Ausherman, E. R.	Eshbaugh, Elbert	Russell, R. W.
Bechtold, Clarence	Eustace, C. C.	Sandlin, Olin
Boehner, Ralph	Gilpin, Paul	Schopp, Fred
Bonewitz, Ralph	Heide, Powell	Sigg, Raymond
Brandenburg, Blaine	Hines, Paul	Singer, Lyman
Breeden, William O.	Hughes, Rees	Stearns, Merwin
Brenner, Edward	Kohrs, Milton	Stephenson, Clark
Brenner, Leo	Kruse, Glenn H.	Sweat, Lewis J.
Campbell, O. E.	Longberg, Harry	Thomas, L. I.
Carter, Charles O.	Lukens, Robert	VanPetten, Loren
Clark, Thaine	Mansfield, Manford	Ward, Chester
Cohorst, R. J.	McMasters, Gerald	Webb, Merle
Coleman, Carol	Molzen, Earl	Weddle, John
Colle, Wayne	Moore, W. H.	Whipps, Loren
Cooley, Frank	Moyer, John	Wilson, Paul
Decker, Ernest	Patton, Kent	Wilson, W. John
Dutton, M. W.	Rector, David	Zahn, Edward
Earle, John P.		

The above list of advisers includes those who were in the armed forces at the time this history was written.





## Do You Know . . .

The following questions are designed to aid FFA members in the reading of this Fifteen Year History of the Kansas Association of Future Farmers of America. This list of questions is not complete. Local advisers will be expected to add additional questions as they study the different sections of this history.

1. When and where was the National Organization of Future Farmers of America founded? Who is often referred to as the Founder of the Future Farmers of America?
2. When was the FFA Creed adopted? Who wrote the Creed?
3. When was the FFA Motto given to the national organization? Who is the author of this Motto?
4. When were the national FFA colors adopted?
5. Who was the first national adviser of the Future Farmers of America? List others who have served in the capacity of national FFA advisers.
6. How many states were represented at the first national convention of FFA?
7. In what year was the first class of American Farmers elected? How many were in this class?
8. When was the first official FFA manual printed?
9. When was the Fundamental Banner adopted by the National Organization? Who designed the banner, and what are the fundamentals listed?
10. When did the national FFA monthly radio hour over NBC begin?
11. When was the first FFA Day designated by the National Organization of Future Farmers of America?
12. What was the date of the adoption of the FFA official peace time flag salute?
13. Where is the National FFA Camp located? How much has been spent on this camp?
14. The slogan, "A Future Farmer is Always a Gentleman", was contributed by whom?
15. How many members and former members of the FFA were in the armed forces by 1943?
16. In 1929 the national organization had a membership of 30,000. Can you give the approximate membership in 1943?
17. What is the difference between the national FFA Board of Trustees and the national FFA Advisory Council as to personnel and function?
18. On what date was the Kansas Association of FFA granted a charter from the National Organization?
19. How many chapters have been chartered during the first 15 years of the Kansas Association?
20. Has the goal "100 per cent of vocational agriculture departments have chartered chapters" ever been reached?

21. Where were initiation services held for the first class of State Farmers in Kansas? How many were there in this class?
22. What FFA member had the honor of being the first president of the Kansas Association, the first American Farmer from Kansas, and the first national officer from Kansas?
23. Can you name four Kansas FFA boys who have served as national officers?
24. How many State Farmer degrees have been awarded during the 15 years of the Kansas Association?
25. How many Kansas FFA members have served as official delegates to the National FFA Conventions? How many delegates has your chapter furnished?
26. How many FFA members in Kansas have received the American Farmer degree during the fifteen years of the Kansas Association history?
27. Can you name five of the fourteen Star Farmers of Kansas elected during the past 15 years.
28. What Kansas boy won the Star Farmer of America award?
29. What chapter in Kansas won first place in the national chapter contest in 1935?
30. Name the three Kansas FFA members who have participated in the national FFA public speaking contests, and tell where each placed.
31. What local chapter in Kansas developed an FFA orchestra that played to state and national audiences? Who was the leader and what was his relation to the chapter?
32. What was the date of the first issue of the Kansas Future Farmer and what was the name of the first issue? When was the present cover page adopted?
33. Name the two persons who have served as State FFA Advisers in Kansas?
34. Can you name the State FFA Executive Adviser in Kansas? The State FFA Executive Secretary?
35. What is the personnel of the Kansas FFA Executive Committee and what is the function of this committee?
36. When did your chapter receive its FFA charter? Has your chapter ever received "Outstanding" or "Honorable Mention" designation in the state association Better Chapter Contest? How many American Farmers, State Farmers and delegates to the national convention of FFA has your chapter furnished?
37. Kansas FFA chapters in 1942-43 collected an average of 17 tons of scrap; individual FFA members purchased an average of \$18.75 in war bonds, and had invested in farming an average of \$245. How did your chapter and individual members rank by comparison?
38. How many former Kansas FFA members and how many local FFA advisers were serving in the Armed Forces at the time this history was printed?



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**I** believe that rural America can and will hold true to the best traditions in our national life and that I can exert an influence in my home and community which will stand solid for my part in that inspiring task.—Closing paragraph FFA Creed