

The

Florida Future Farmer

JULY, 1947

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Future Farmers of America*

Editorial by
Superintendent
Colin English

Ditch Dynamiting
Is Described

Veterans Programs
Are Underway

Records Made
In Fat Stock Shows

STATE
CONVENTION
NUMBER

Vol. VIII No. 2



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By Way of Editorial Comment:

'He That Tilleth His Land...'

by COLIN ENGLISH
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

ONE of the first acts of man, as a part of a civilized society, was the tilling of the soil, the planting of the seed, and the reaping of the harvest.

The profession of farming dates back to the emerging of man from his shell of savagery into the realm of civilization. It represents one of man's first steps in community experience. More than any other single force, farming acted as the drive which brought men together, welded them into a cohesive society and taught them how to live and work for themselves and for each other.



Through the pages of history, from the dawn of life until today, farming has played an important and indispensable part in the life of our people.

Farming has always been a keystone industry, virtually the backbone of life itself. For without farming how would man have survived? Without farming, how would man live?

The farmer, practising a profession upon which all others depend, can boast with pardonable pride of the importance of his toil, the record of his antecedents, and the far-reaching effects of his labors.

And, to a greater degree than most men, the farmer creates.

With the aid of the sun and the earth and the heavens the farmer builds a tiny seedling into the life of man. With his hands and his heart the farmer transforms the sweat of his labors into the food of mankind. Closer to God is no man.

"For we are labourers together with God . . ." (1 Corinthians 3:9)

Although the United States is known as an industrial nation, farming, actually an industry, is the profession upon which all the others lean, the industry around which all others rotate, the industry upon which the very economy of our nation depends.

We in Florida are located in what is essentially a farming state. The greatest industry in our state is that of farming the greater numbers of our people are engaged in agricultural or allied pursuits. Our State of Florida today offers to the farmer a full, wholesome, and profitable life. No other group of people enjoy the opportunities for the future now available to Florida's farmers.

The young man of Florida, then, who enters into a career of farming, of work close to the earth and the heart, chooses for himself a career of significance. He selects a career which guarantees for himself, his family, and his community, a healthful and purposeful life. He elects to follow a way of life which has long been the basis of man's very existence. He chooses correctly.

As Future Farmers, young men who will one day soon take unto yourselves the responsibilities and duties of your fathers, you have a great debt, though an encouraging and exciting future.

Unlike many who came before, the farmer of tomorrow, yes, even the farmer of today, must be more than merely a "man who makes things grow." For farming today is a science, a complicated and interesting art.

The farmer of today and tomorrow needs more than the "wish to farm" to succeed. He needs the use of modern tools, techniques, practices, and ideas.

As members of the Florida Association of the Future Farmers of America, you are being trained and equipped for successful activities in an ever-changing world in an atomic age.

I am glad to be able to report, as State Superintendent of Public Instruction, that the people of Florida are proud of the Future Farmers and their donations to the welfare of our State.

(Continued on page 14)

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Planted Pines Pay a Profit, Future Farmers At Tate School Learn Following Three-Day Cutting and Thinning Demonstration

PLANTED PINES pay a profit!

The Tate Future Farmer chapter is convinced of this by the check for \$176.80 they received from the Florida Pulp and Paper company for 16 cords of pulpwood they cut off their one-acre plot recently, in a three-day pulpwood thinning demonstration.

At the end of the third day they had cut 329 diseased, crooked, crowded, badly burned and forked trees off the one-acre plot and sawed them into pulpwood length. The 87 members of the vocational agriculture classes of Tate school at Gonzalez, did the work under supervision of O. R. Farish, vocational agriculture teacher.

The story begins in 1929 when T. L. Barrineau, then vocational agriculture teacher at Tate, arranged for his boys to use an acre of land owned by Tom Bradley about 13 miles north of Pensacola on the Palafox road. Although the land was later sold to Jimmy Pace the same privileges were extended.

During the 17 years the only care given the land by the boys was to keep fire off it.

At the close of the thinning demonstration, which was supervised by George Williams, naval stores agent of the forest service, a barbecue held by the chapter drew some 200 people.

R. U. Titus, chief of applied forestry for the forest service, had assisted Williams in marking diseased, crooked, crowded and forked trees for removal, in order to make room for the healthy trees to receive more sunlight and make faster growth.

Scenes at the Tate chapter pulpwood cutting and thinning demonstration include (center) Homer Diamond, Olive, at right, starts in on a tree with President Ralph Travis, Gonzalez, with George Williams, of the Florida Forest Service, and Jack Lawton of the Florida Pulp and Paper company in the background. Top panel shows Williams explaining that diseased, crooked, forked, crowded, and burned trees keep healthy trees from growing properly and should be culled out. Bottom panel shows the boys starting to stack the wood cut during the three day demonstration, led by O. R. Farish, Tate vocational agriculture teacher. (Florida Forest Service photos).

With crosscut saws and axes the members of the chapter cut 329 marked trees into 5½ foot lengths, stacked them on the roadside for hauling to the pulp mill. Lamar, Jim and Ralph Estes did the hauling free of charge.

At the barbecue J. H. Allen, president of the Florida Pulp and Paper company, told his listeners that "prospects for forestry in Florida never looked better than they do today," and stressed the value of growing trees in Florida.

"My recommendation for anyone having money to invest is that they invest it in planted forest land."

Pointing to the Tate chapter project, Allen said in 17 years the one-acre plot had grown 35 cords of wood, of which 16 cords were thinned for pulpwood, leaving 19 cords standing and growing. The land had produced better than \$3.50

per year during the 17 years for pulpwood alone, and including the standing timber, it had produced better than \$7 per year.

"On this acre alone there has been grown the 35 cords of wood which would make 18.8 tons of paper or 37,600 pounds, which in fibre weight is equivalent to 73 bales of cotton or an average of 4.3 bales of cotton per year per acre in fibre weight."

Titus spoke on the importance of growing wood and emphasized the value of keeping wildfires out of it.

Other speakers include Escambia county agent Ed Finlayson, who stressed farm forestry, Barrineau, who discussed activities of the Tate chapter, and Farish, who told of future plans by the group. Earlier in the day the vocational agriculture classes visited the Florida Pulp and Paper company plant.

Hilson Ward Started Agriculture With Corn, a Hog, and a Bed of Plants

HILSON WARD entered vocational agriculture in 1943 in the Allentown chapter, and "got started" with an acre of corn, a hog for breeding, and a bed of plants. He was successful with the latter project and encouraged the purchase of better livestock for the farm.

With his father he added a Hereford bull and a Duroc-Jersey boar, and his mother changed over to Rhode Island Red chickens. Fences were built, feed

crops and a home garden were instituted, and a system of farm records put in use, Ward says.

"In 1944-45 I took corn, hogs for meat, and plants", Ward continues, "and I got father to rotate his crops." Farm machinery and equipment was kept in good state of repair and feed troughs and pipe were installed to save labor. Ward served as finance committee chairman of his chapter.

President of Walnut Hill FFA Chapter Is Active in Vocational Agriculture

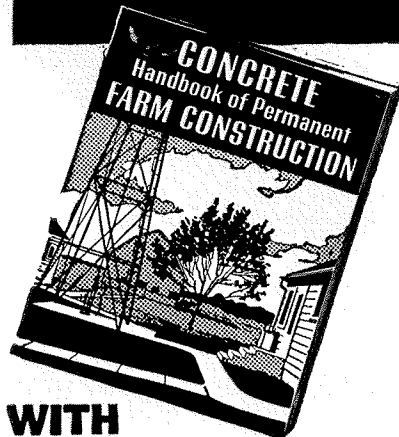
RICHARD COLEMAN, president of the Ernest Ward high school chapter, Walnut Hill, began in vocational agriculture at Bratt Junior high in 1943. Corn, hogs for meat and peanuts yielded labor income of \$136.74.

Transferring to Ernest Ward in 1945-46, he enrolled again in vocational agriculture, earned a labor income of \$54.07 on hogs for meat, a beef animal, and 100 fryers.

Pushing himself to work in the afternoon to help support his mother, brother and three sisters, Coleman nevertheless found time for other enterprises not included in his project program which yielded \$360 in the 1945-46 year.

"This year I have completed three projects, making \$326.84 in labor income," Coleman states. "This was from 100 chicks for fryers, three meat hogs and three beef animals."

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Lewis Strom, Quincy, is shown above with his champion Aberdeen-Angus heifer who topped the 1947 Quincy fat stock show at \$110 per cwt. Thomas Lumber and Manufacturing company, Quincy, purchased the animal for \$1,122.



The Williston beef cattle judging team won the blue ribbon and \$20 in prize money at the Southeastern Fat Stock show and sale held in Ocala February 26, by turning in the best score of any of the teams represented in the cattle judging contest. The team, shown above, (from left) includes Frankie Bullock, Bobby Pryor, Joe Mixson, and Advisor G. W. Pryor. Each of these boys helped to feed, condition and care for a steer entered in the show and sale, and each has plans to feed out a good calf for the coming year.

FFA Makes Showing at Ocala, Quincy

FUTURE FARMERS made outstanding records at Florida's two largest Fat Stock shows—with Lewis Strom of the Quincy chapter showing the grand champion there and Eugene Badger of Hastings chapter, now a University of Florida student, showing the second place junior steer at Ocala's Southeastern show.

Those were the records in open competition. Within the FFA classes, Gadsden county exhibitors dominated the Quincy show, while the prize money at Ocala was pretty well distributed among Future Farmers from all parts of Florida.

Badger, of course, showed his 1090 pound Hereford to grand champion FFA steer as well as first in the FFA heavy-weight class. R. M. Chapman of Brooksville placed his 930 pound Angus to second place in the heavy class to receive the reserve championship.

Raymond Maltby of Hastings and Tom Beach of St. Augustine placed first and second respectively in the middleweight class at Ocala, while Jackie Alvarez of Mayo and David Knabb of Hawthorne were first and second in the lightweight section.

At Quincy Herbert Holland of Greensboro placed his steer second in the heavy-weight class after Strom's 1020 pound heifer, with Hal Davis of Quincy and Pat Bryant of Greensboro topping the middle-weight class and Pat Butler of Havana and Pat Thomas of Quincy leading the lightweights.

Top price paid for an FFA steer was the \$1.10 per pound paid by the Thomas Lumber company of Quincy for Strom's grand champion. Gross to the exhibitor was \$1122.00.

Badger, whose steer was bought by Swift and company of Ocala for 51 cents; received the second highest price paid an FFA member, grossing \$560.00.

Other gross amounts received by FFA exhibitors of top animals were: Chapman, \$356; Maltby, \$328; Beach, \$292; Alvarez, \$204; Knabb, \$178; Holland, \$313; Davis, \$272; Bryant, \$225; Butler, \$278; Thomas, \$205.

Buyers of prize-winning FFA steers were as follows:

Ocala — National Packing company, Tampa; Piggly-Wiggly, Palatka; Lykes Brothers, Tampa; Citizens National Bank,

Orlando; John Emerson, Brooksville; Piggly-Wiggly, St. Augustine; Markham Grocery, Gainesville; R. S. Smith, Bunnell; S. A. Snyder, St. Augustine; McCrory Five and Ten, Ocala;

Quincy—Lovetts of Quincy; Quincy Livestock; Inman and Johnson, Quincy; Suber and Johnson, Quincy; Sheller and Elinor, Havana; Budd Cigar company, Quincy; J. S. Shaw company, Quincy; Herman Sausage, Tampa; Suber Grocery, Quincy; Quincy Telephone company; P. H. Spears, Quincy; Bowen Hatchery, Quincy; Citizens Bank, Quincy; Firestone Store, Quincy; Barrineau and McCall, Quincy; Weddles Tobacco company, Quincy; Albritton and Williams, Quincy; McCall Cleaners, Quincy; Freeman Cafe, Quincy; May Drug Company, Quincy; Woodward Tobacco company, Quincy; Commercial Bank and Trust company, Ocala; Table Supply, Quincy; Planters Exchange, Havana; Lovetts, Thomasville; Court House Officials, Quincy; A. L. Wilson company, Quincy; Coca Cola Bottling Works, Quincy; Fletcher and company, Greensboro.

Winners, in order by classes, at the two shows were as follows:

Quincy Heavyweights

Strom; Holland; Leon Rowan, Greensboro; Alvin Holland, Greensboro; Herman Rowan, Greensboro; Maxwell Goza, Greensboro;

Quincy Middleweights

Davis; Bryant; Joe Cantey, Jr., Havana; Paul Bryant, Greensboro; Don Porter, Quincy; Bobbie Woodward, Quincy;

Quincy Lightweights

Butler; Thomas; John Porter, Quincy; Wright Crosby, Greensboro; Billy Flemming, Blountstown; S. A. Coxwell, Blountstown;

Ocala Heavyweights

Badger; Chapman; Alvin Futch, Plant City; Wendell Wright, Anthony; Gerald Wright, Anthony; Robert Wells, St. Augustine;

Ocala Middleweights

Maltby; Beach; Lewis Strom, Quincy; Gene Norris, Hastings; Andrew Oravec, Brooksville; David Knabb, Hawthorne;

Ocala Lightweights

Alvarez; Knabb; Bobby McCort, Hastings; Joe O'Neil, Lakeland; Billy O'Neil, Lakeland; Billy Stripling, Brandon;

Quincy Heavyweight Pens

Rowan; Goza; Auburn Wells, Quincy;

Quincy Lightweight Pens

Strom; Edsel Clark;

Ocala Pens

Charles Lawson, Starke.



Eugene Badger, Hastings FFA member, is shown above with his champion FFA steer at the Southeastern Fat Stock show in Ocala.

Hal Davis, Quincy, Wins 1947 Mayo Fat Stock Show Scholarship

HAL DAVIS, 16-year-old member of the Quincy chapter, is 1947 winner of the Mayo Scholarship of \$100, it is announced by Superintendent Colin English. The



Hal Davis, Quincy, is winner of the Mayo Scholarship for outstanding work in vocational agriculture. Shown above, Hal stands with his Quincy Fat Stock show entry.

scholarship, at the University of Florida, is awarded annually to the Future Farmer who had the best "all around" livestock program and participated in the annual Quincy livestock show.

At Quincy this year Davis placed first in the showmanship contest and won first prize in the medium-weight steer competition. President of his chapter, Davis is a past secretary, and is now in his fourth year of vocational agriculture training.

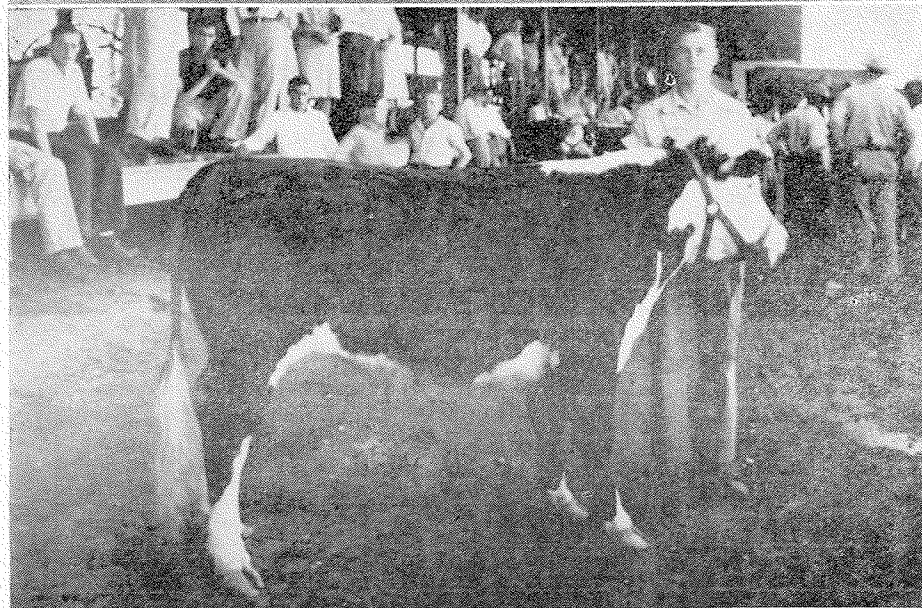
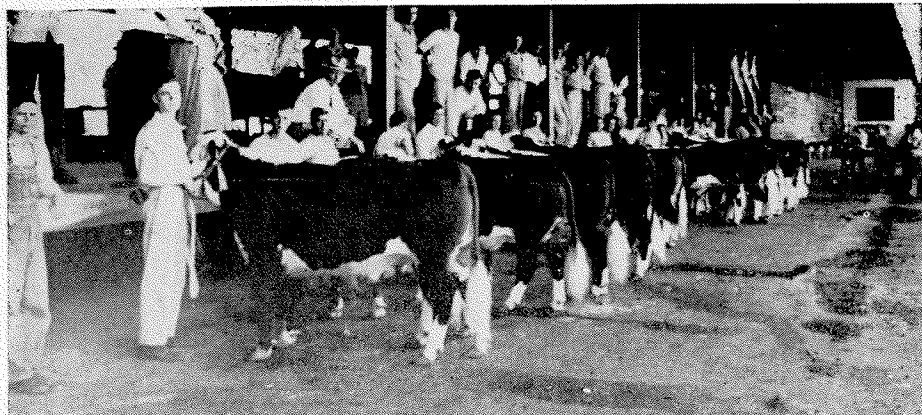
"In September of 1943 I enrolled in a day unit class of vocational agriculture," Davis relates in his project narrative report. "I became very interested in beef cattle and a neighbor went with me to Montgomery where I purchased a registered Aberdeen-Angus heifer.

"In addition my program included an acre of shade tobacco, and three hogs for meat."

Labor income was \$754.53 the first year.

"My project for 1944-45 consisted of my heifer, four show steers, five acres of corn and 50 acres of oats." Labor income was \$1549.69, and Davis and his brother bought a second-hand combine for \$500 to gather the oat crop.

At the beginning of the next school year, Davis sold the old combine, bought a new one, a tractor, a fertilizer distribu-



The Jackson county FFA steer show saw 18 steers lined up (top picture) and Eddie Register (lower) win grand championship with his well-groomed Hereford.

tor, and a wagon. "My farming program included 20 acres of corn, three show steers, 5 acres of oats and 4 acres of sweet potatoes." Labor income soared to \$1854.35.

Davis has been active in FFA work, showed reserve champion steer at Quincy in 1945, won the showmanship contest and was a member of the winning judging team. At Ocala he placed second high in individual judging scores in 1946 and won the 1946 showmanship contest.

"My project for 1946-47 includes 20 acres of corn, two show steers, 50 acres of oats and five acres of watermelons." Showmanship contest at Quincy and the Mayo scholarship came his way.

Davis is glad to give credit for his advancement to his Advisor, R. R. Denson, Jr., and to his father. The Quincy chapter named him as delegate to the state convention for the second year.

During his period in vocational agriculture, Davis shows a labor income of \$4381.87.

Walnut Hill Shines at Pensacola Show

WALNUT HILL CHAPTER led the FFA teams at the Gulf Coast Fat Stock show judging contest and received their award from Judge Paul R. Aycock, of T.C.I.R.R. Co., at a banquet held after the show.

Members of the winning team were Preston Solomon, Royce Ward and Lawrence Grimes, the latter being the high scoring individual. Ward placed third among individuals.

Frank McIntosh, Paxton, Walton county, placed first in showmanship, with other awards going to George Whittington, Jr., Billy Bryant, Paxton; Harold Nobles, Paxton; and Calvin Perkins.

Other judging teams, in order of their placing, include the following: Walnut Hill (Preston Solomon, Royce Ward, Lawrence Grimes); Laurel Hill (James Strickland, Bill Price, Haywood Edenfield); Chumuckla (Billy Horton, Billy Cook, Winston Campbell); Tate (Homer Diamond, Jr., Cecil Jernigan, Ralph Travis); Allentown (Hilson Ward, Rex McLaughlin, Mike Long); Bratt (Everette O'Farrell, Ellis O'Farrell, Burton Wiggins).

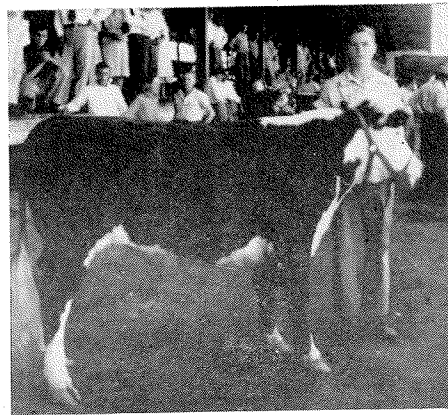
PLAN TO ATTEND the state FFA convention at Daytona Beach. Headquarters will be in the Welch Convalescent Hospital grounds and dates are June 16 to 20.

Prizes Awarded at Marianna

Prizes in the amount of \$397.45 were awarded in addition to sale price of steers in the Jackson county FFA steer show and sale held April 8, 1947. In the judging contest, Herbert Clipson, Marianna, and Wallace Mooneyham, Greenwood, tied for first place to receive prizes of \$12.50 each. Judges were Dr. R. S. Glasscock, Florida experiment station, Gainesville, and F. S. Baker, Jr., West Florida experiment station, Quincy. Results are as follows:

Name of Boy	Chapter	Weight of Steers, Lb.	Price Per Lb.	Total
Eddie Register	Grand Ridge*	1,050	.40	420.00
Eugene Alford	Grand Ridge*	1,050	.40	420.00
Billy Stephens	Graceville	830	.39	323.70
Glenn Register	Graceville	1,010	.32	323.20
Rudolph Terry	Graceville	985	.31	305.35
Green Jordan	Malone	1,040	.32	332.80
Brantley Ditty	Malone	905	.28	253.40
Hinton Bradley	Grand Ridge	850	.28	238.00
Travis Bradley	Grand Ridge	930	.27	251.10
Charles Thomas	Marianna	1,120	.28	313.60
Morris Ditty	Malone	860	.27	232.20
Hugh McPherson	Cottondale	985	.35	344.75
Foxx Ward	Malone	895	.24	214.80
Milton Blair	Marianna	960	.23½	225.60
Hiram Bennett	Greenwood	920	.23½	216.20
Lemuel Mercer	Sneads	975	.26	253.50
William Wester	Grand Ridge	775	.24	186.00
Raymond Jordan	Malone	635	.24	152.40
Totals		16,770	Av. .316	\$ 5,308.00

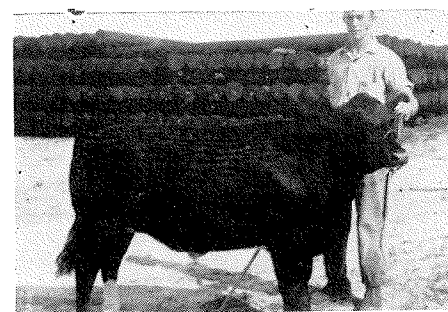
*Grand Champion. *Reserve Champion.



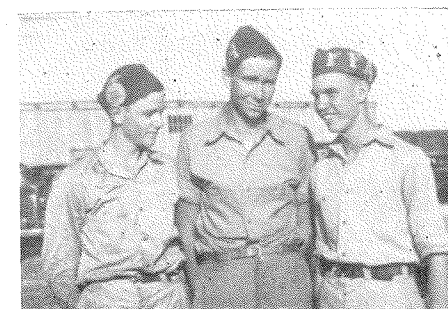
Eddie Register, above, and Eugene Alford, below, with their grand and reserve champions at the Marianna show.



Frank McIntosh, Paxton, below, was best FFA showman at Pensacola's Gulf Coast Fat Stock show.



Top FFA judging team at Pensacola, below, consists of Royce Ward, Preston Solomon, and Lawrence Grimes, of the Walnut Hill chapter. Grimes was top individual judging scorer.



18 FFA Steers Compete at Marianna

EDDIE REGISTER of Graceville grossed \$783.75 on his 1045-pound Hereford champion, in the FFA fat stock show held April 8 in the West Florida Live-stock market in Marianna. The reserve championship, going to Eugene Alford, Grand Ridge, brought \$40 per cwt. for a gross price of \$420.

Greenwood Products company purchased the champion, and Lovett's of Marianna purchased the reserve.

Alford won a \$25 award for showing the steer making the most economical gain in weight. Total weight of the animals shown was 15,730, total price was \$5030.55, average weight was 925 pounds and average per-head price was \$296.

Judges were Dr. R. S. Glasscock, animal husbandman at the Florida experiment station, Gainesville, F. S. Baker, Jr., assistant animal husbandman at the North Florida experiment station, Quincy, and Gifford N. Rhodes, assistant marketing specialist with the state marketing bureau in Jacksonville.

Other exhibitors, in order of their placing, include Billy Stephens, Graceville; Glenn Register, Graceville; Rudolph Terry, Graceville; Brandlev Ditty, Malone; Hinton Bradley, Grand Ridge; Travis Bradley, Grand Ridge; Charles Thomas, Marianna; Morris W. Ditty, Malone; Hugh McPherson, Cottondale; Foxx Ward, Malone; Milton Blair, Marianna; Hiram Bennett, Greenwood; Lemuel Mercer, Sneads; William E. Wester, Grand Ridge; and Raymond Jordan, Malone.

In the judging contest held in connection with the annual FFA fat stock show in Marianna, Wallace Mooneyham, Greenwood, and Herbert Clipson, Marianna, tied for first place. Clyde Mooneyham, Grand Ridge, and Milk Pelt, Marianna, tied for third.

Clipson to Clear \$1000?

HERBERT CLIPSON hopes to clear \$1000 in his third year of vocational agriculture under the direction of his instructor, W. E. Bishop, which if added to \$517.83, returns for his two previous years, make a total of \$1500.

"I started training in vocational agriculture in 1944 under the direction of Rex F. Toole," he states. His first year's project was one beef steer, two mares and one heifer. A profit of \$289.50 was reported.

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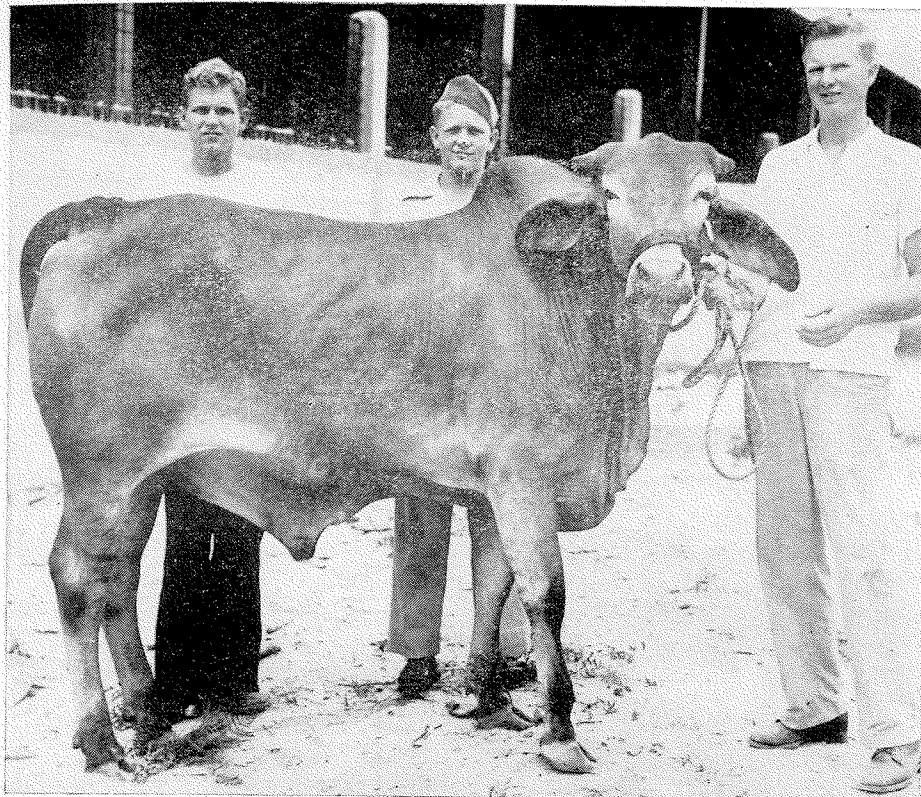
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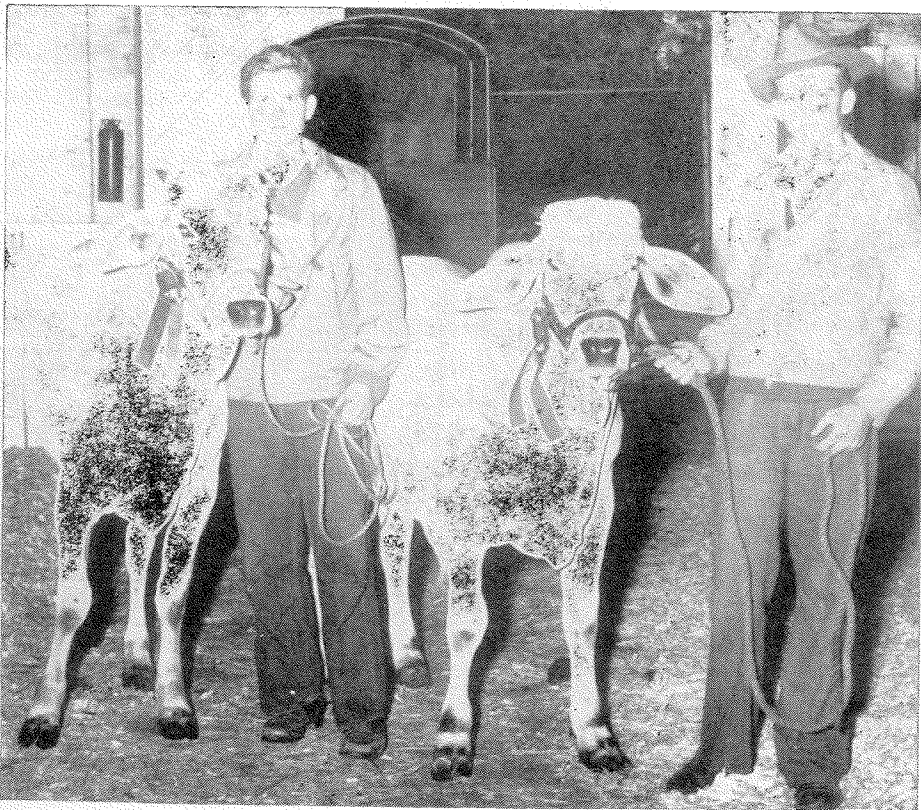
FARM PULPWOOD



**IS
ANOTHER
CASH CROP!**



The Brahman steer above, shown by the Sarasota FFA chapter, brought top price of \$50 per cwt. at the first steer show held by the Southeastern Brahman Breeders' association in Ocala recently. Caring for the animal were Elmer Taylor, Barry Coleman and Malcolm Guess, members of the chapter. In the picture below, Taylor (left) is shown with Annie Jr., and Max Hendry holds DR Compact Prince 584th, champion female and bull, respectively in the junior Brahman classes of the Florida State Fair cattle show, held in Tampa in mid-winter. Although the Sarasota chapter is the only one in the state reportedly owning a registered Brahman in its own right, individual Future Farmers in many parts of the state are active in the raising of purebred Zebus. In all, some 15 registered Brahmans are owned by members of the Florida association, FFA. (Florida Cattleman photos).



15 Brahmans Owned by FFAs

INTEREST IN PUREBRED Brahmans is rapidly increasing among Florida Future Farmers, with the result that no less than 15 registered animals are now owned by FFA members in Manatee, Polk and Sarasota counties.

The Sarasota chapter is the only one in Florida which owns a registered Brahman in its own right. The heifer, named *Elsie*, is now past the calf stage and has recently been bred.

Individual members of the Sarasota chapter own eight other purebreds, several of which were shown at the Southeastern Brahman show in Ocala last January and at the Florida State Fair Brahman show in Tampa in February.

Purchase of registered calves by six Polk county Future Farmers last March put the Bartow chapter very much in the forefront of Brahman activity. The animals, which were provided by Polk county breeders W. H. and J.K. Stuart, Buck Mann, and L. S. Harris of Bartow, and by Lamar Beauchamp of the Polk Brahman Farms in Winter Haven, will be fitted for showing at the two junior Brahman shows next winter.

Polk county FFA members who own purebred calves are Eugene Bass and Jack Phillips of Bartow; Claude Wilson of Homeland; Floyd Woods of Highland City; and George Douglas of Alturas.

Only one Manatee county Future Farmer owns a purebred Brahman to date, but others are considering purchasing.

Joe Benefiel, who lives at Tallevast and belongs to the Bradenton chapter, purchased a heifer from the BR Ranch at Sarasota. The calf is growing fast, and has achieved a good size in only seven and one-half months.

Lewis Strom Shows Angus to Grand Championship at Quincy

LOUIS STROM, Quincy Future Farmer, exhibited a 1020-pound purebred Aberdeen-Angus heifer to the Future Farmer grand championship of the third annual Quincy Fat Cattle show April 7-9. The animal was purchased by Thomas Lumber and Manufacturing company at \$110 per cwt. for a gross of \$1,122.

Strom exhibited the Number Three individual in the 1946 show, his 660-pound black steer going at \$49.

State FFA Contests are Scheduled

WINNERS from each of six districts in Florida will compete at Daytona Beach for the state championships following the district contests for which results were announced early in June.

Contests will be held during the state convention which is scheduled for the Welch Convalescent Hospital grounds, Daytona Beach, from June 16 to 20.

In the horseshoe-pitching contest, teams from Jay, Sneads, Starke, Bushnell, Dade City and Belle Glade.

The public speaking contest will find keen competition in the following: Foye Brunson, Paxton; Champ Traylor, Blountstown; G. W. Polhill, Mason; Gwen McCormick, Summerfield; Gene Coleman, Sarasota; and William Moore, Pompano.

Parliamentary procedure teams in the finals include Paxton, Marianna, Palatka, Weirsdale, Largo and Stuart.

In the string band competition, Paxton, Crawfordville, Bell, Groveland, Bradenton and Fort Myers will contest for the state title.

Foursomes from Baker, Blountstown, Palatka, Hawthorne, Sarasota and Pompano will compete for the vocal quartet championship.

And harmonica players from Chipley, Marianna, Trenton, Ocoee, Sarasota and Pahokee will vie for state honors.

Representing District Three in parliamentary procedure on the Palatka team are Billy Baker, William Burt, Robert Ryals, Benny Godfrey, Joe Chappell and Anderson Brown. The district string band title went to Marvin, Glen, Junior and Harold Sanders, representing the Bell chapter. The District Three vocal quartet included Palatka's Grover Frederick, Sonny Mathews, James Joyner and Benny Godfrey. District contests were held at Lake City May 10.

From District Four, the winning (Williston) diamond ball team consists of C. P. Landrum, Tommy Haves, L. E. Young, J. E. White, Dan Whitehurst, Pobby Prvor, Danny Priest, Earnest Sheppard, and Jimmie Simmons. Weirsdale's parliamentary procedure team led the district and members include Billy Hall, Carl Guthery, Keith Baxley, Ario Reitz, George Albright and Tolliver Armstrong. The top string band from

(Continued on page 16)

FRIDAY, AUG. 15TH AT 2 P.M., IS THE CORRECTED DATE FOR THE FIRST ANNUAL MIDSUMMER SOUTH FLORIDA BRAHMA SALE

HELD WITH ASSISTANCE OF THE SOUTHEASTERN BRAHMAN
BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION IN THE STATE LIVESTOCK MARKET IN

ARCADIA, FLA

Fifty animals, majority females, very few calves, several top herd bulls, several show prospects. Not all halter broke, nothing wild, a number of mature breeding animals, gentle but not halter broke, not possible to offer previously.

The Brahman breeders joining in this sale are untiring in their efforts to make this the best Brahman sale yet. Every animal without fault or blemish, honest, profitable cattle.

We will attempt to offer some high bred, high quality Brahman steers, prospects for the 1948 Brahman Steer Show.

Cattlemen everywhere are invited to attend this sale to supplement their herds with good Brahman cattle. Plan while here to visit the many good Brahman herds in South Florida.

Catalog ready about July 20.

For same and any other information, write

Milt Thomas

Sarasota, Fla.

Florida Future Farmer

announces new advertising rates effective with the October number, based on transient page rate of \$90.00 with frequency discount of 5 percent to advertisers scheduling for 4 issues yearly. Circulated to a highly responsive audience of 5000-plus high school vocational agriculture students and 3000-plus veteran agriculture trainees, The Future Farmer is an exceptional advertising "buy". For rate card and other information, write direct to

Cody Publications, Inc.

Kissimmee, Florida

Sincere good fellowship prevails whenever Future Farmers of Florida get together. The picture at right recalls the 1947 Florida State Fair in Tampa.



Daytona Beach Beckons for Nineteenth Annual State Future Farmer Convention

Convention Program

Nineteenth Annual State Convention of the Florida Association Future Farmers of America.
HONOR GUEST—WILLIAM H. MORGAN, JR., 2nd National Vice President, F.F.A.

MONDAY—June 16

10:00 A.M.-10:00 P.M.—Registration and assignment to quarters
Meeting of State Executive Officers—(Reviewing and approving State Farmer Applications)
12:00-1:30 P.M.—Dinner
4:00—Recreation
6:00—Supper
7:30—General assembly in convention hall
Rules and instructions
Announcements
Entertainment
10:30—Taps

TUESDAY—June 17

9:00 A.M.—Special music. F.F.A. March and Recordings
Opening ceremony
Invocation—Local Pastor
Roll call of chapters and seating of delegates—Lynn Ward—State Secretary F.F.A.
Address of Welcome
State President's message—Doyle Conner, State President F.F.A.
Minutes of 18th Annual Convention—Forrest Davis—1st Vice President F.F.A.
Music—Louis Muraro, Groveland F.F.A. Chapter
Treasurer's report—Burton Raley—3rd Vice President F.F.A.
State Adviser's report—H. E. Wood
Address—Mr. Colin English—State Superintendent of Public Instruction
Appointment of committees — Doyle Conner, State President
Closing ceremony
2:00 P.M.—Opening Ceremony
Official business meeting of Florida Association F.F.A.
4:00—Recreation
Horseshoe Pitching Contest
6:00—Supper
8:00-10:00—Public Speaking and Quartet Contests
Doyle Conner, State President, Master of Ceremonies

WEDNESDAY—June 18

9:00 A.M.—Opening ceremony
Invocation—Local Pastor
Official meeting of State Association, Future Farmers of America

Accomplishments of the Florida Association F.F.A. 1946-47. By: Floyd Philmon — 4th Vice President F.F.A.
Election and initiation of candidates for State Farmer Degree—State Officers
Future Farmers' Relationship to State Bankers Association (by Mr. F. M. Call, Secretary State Bankers Association)
Special music—state champion quartet
Agricultural Opportunities in Florida — Dr. H. H. Hume, Dean, College of Agriculture, Gainesville, Florida
Closing ceremony
1:30 P.M.—Official meeting of State Association F.F.A.
Opening ceremony
Committee Work
3:30—Preliminary Eliminations in Diamond Ball (2 games)
8:00-10:00—Parliamentary Procedure Contest, String Band and Harmonica Contests. Doyle Conner, Master of Ceremonies

THURSDAY—June 19

9:00 A.M.—Opening Ceremony
Invocation—Local Pastor
Official meeting Florida Association F.F.A.
Committee Reports
Presentation of F.F.A. Foundation Awards — W. T. Loftin, District F.F.A. Adviser
Greetings by William H. Morgan, Jr.—2nd National Vice President F.F.A.
1:30 P.M.—Diamond Ball semi-finals
8:00-10:00 P.M.—Banquet—Doyle Conner, Toastmaster

FRIDAY—June 20

9:00 A.M.—Opening ceremony
Invocation—Local Pastor
Official Meeting Florida Association F.F.A.
Election and installation of officers
Reports of retiring officers
What it takes to make a Gold Emblem Chapter—H. L. Fagan, Honorary American Farmer and Adviser Deland Chapter
Unfinished Business
New Business
Adjournment
1:30 P.M.—Diamond Ball—Final game
3:00 P.M.—Meeting of State F.F.A. Officers



President Conner and Supt. Colin English

President Conner Extends Invitation

To the Future Farmers of Florida:

As President of the Florida Association, I cordially invite each of you to the Nineteenth Annual Convention of the Florida Association of Future Farmers to be held June 16 to 20, 1947 at Daytona, Welch Hospital Facilities.

I sincerely hope that every Chapter in good standing will have two delegates present to aid in the transaction of business. The orders of the day will include: the election of State Farmers, the Star Farmer of Florida and Honorary State Farmers; the announcement of winners and awarding of prizes in the State Chapter Contest; the State Parliamentary Procedure Contest, State Leadership Contest, (sponsored by Chilean Nitrate Educational Bureau); Musical Contests, the Diamond Ball Contest, and the several other contests sponsored by the State Association; the election of State Officers; and the transaction of the other business of the Florida Association. The State Public Speaking Contest and the annual banquet of the Florida Association will be highlights at this time.

The State Officers have also secured some special features which we hope you will enjoy.

So, come on, Future Farmers, let's make this Nineteenth Annual Convention the most successful ever held.

Doyle Conner, President
Florida Association F.F.A.

Daily Routine

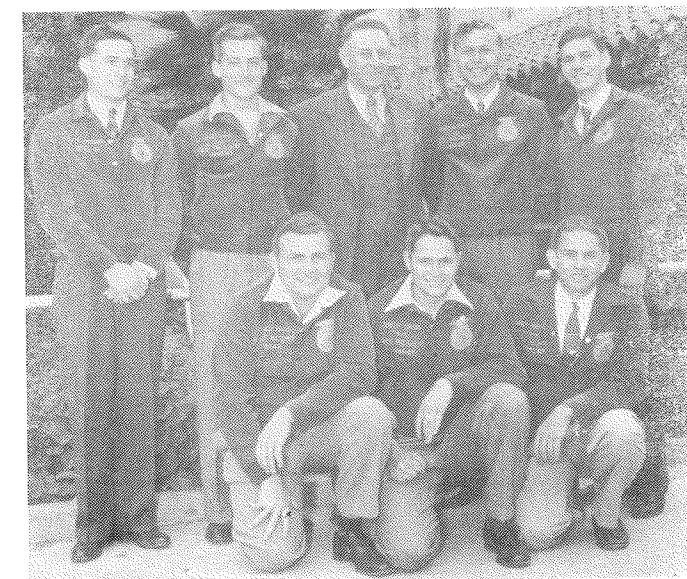
A.M.

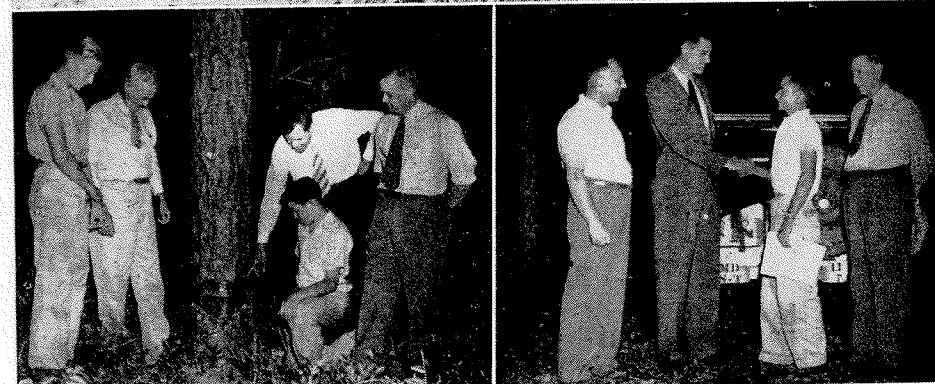
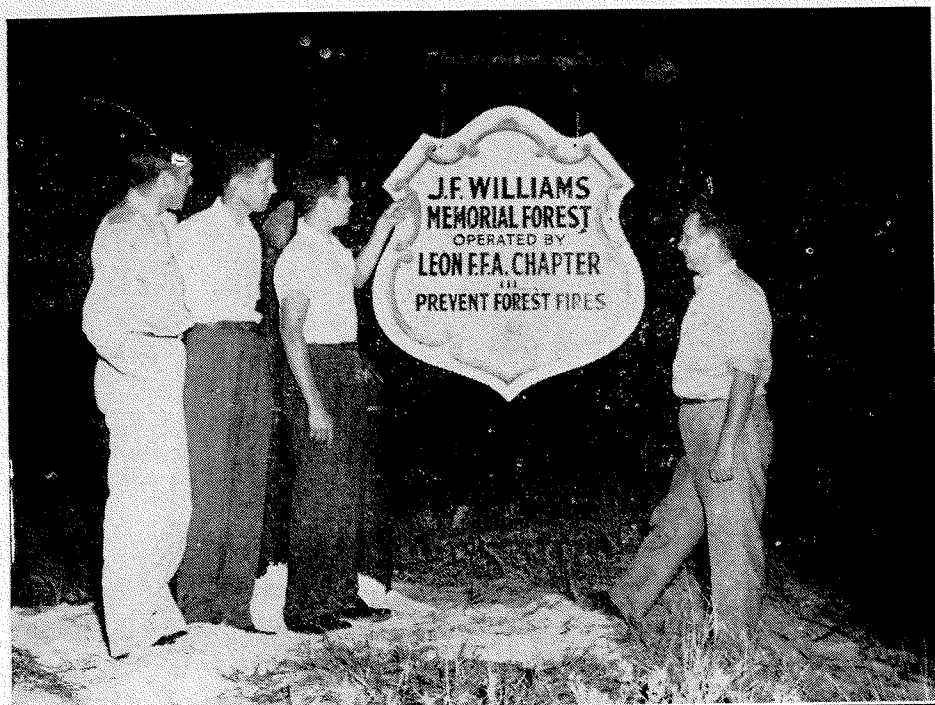
7:30- 8:30—Breakfast
8.30- 9:00—Cleaning quarters—policing grounds
9:00-11:30—Official meetings
12:00- 1:00—Lunch

P.M.

1:00- 1:30—Rest period
2:00- 4:00—Official meetings
4:00- 6:00—Recreation and contests
6:00- 7:00—Supper
8:00-10:00—Official meetings
10:30 —Taps

Officers of the Florida association, Future Farmers of America, are pictured below, left to right: (standing) Doyle Conner, president; Lynn Ward, second vice president; H. E. Wood, state adviser; Burton Raley, third vice president; Floyd Philmon, fourth vice president; (kneeling) Forrest Davis, Jr., first vice president; Doyle Crews, sixth vice president; and James Thompson, fifth vice president.





Forestry takes the interest of the Leon chapter. Top picture shows B. C. Leynes, Tallahassee, district forester, T. L. Barrineau, supervisor of vocational agriculture, Vice President Morgan Laffitte of the Leon chapter, and John Butz, Tallahassee, farm forester, examining the marker designating J. F. Williams memorial forest. Lower panel at right shows Guy Gard, Leon High vocational agriculture teacher, with State Forester C. H. Coulter, President Robert Bell of the Leon chapter, and Harry Wood, state vocational agriculture head. At left two Leon FFA members show what they do on the forest project. Joe Wright, (left) and Sam McDowell, (kneeling) are shown with C. J. Boynton, Tallahassee naval stores buyer, George Williams, naval stores agent, and M. E. Coleman, education director of the American Turpentine Farmers' association. (Florida Forest service photos).

Leon High Boys Try Latest Methods On Model Turpentine Tract

FLORIDA TURPENTINE operators are watching results of the gum production practices now in effect on an 80-acre tract of timberland owned by the Leon high school chapter, seven miles south of Tallahassee.

Guy T. Gard, vocational agriculture instructor, reports the boys sold their first barrel of crude gum recently for \$50.83 and expect an annual income from gum alone of \$450 to \$600.

Improved methods are an important

factor in the program.

Bark scraping hacks are used instead of the old style pullers which leave a permanent scar, and the use of sulphuric acid, blown on a freshly pulled streak, peps up production. These two new techniques eliminate the need for a new gum running streak every week—every two weeks being sufficient.

The Leon high school class is the first in Florida to put the new methods into effect and it is regarded as the only chap-

ter in the state to own timberlands for turpentine and reforestation projects. 60 acres of standing timber, unusually thick, will be supplemented by new planted forest at the rate of 3000 seedlings per year.

The tract was acquired from the state Internal Improvement board, State Superintendent Colin English having presented a deed to Secretary-Treasurer David Albritton. The deed provides that if the land goes untended for as much as two years it reverts to the state forest service. The tract, known as the Leon FFA Forest plant, was dedicated to the memory of Franklin Williams, late state department vocational education director.

Foye Brunson Hopes to Become Supervisor

FOYE BRUNSON of the Paxton chapter hopes eventually to complete a college course leading to a career as an agriculture supervisor, and his vocational agriculture training is leading him in that direction.

Beginning in the eighth grade, Brunson carried on a series of project programs which yielded \$7 the first year, \$60.06 the second, and \$175.70 the third. "My present program consists of two acres of corn, one cow and one hog," he states.

"In addition to the productive enterprises, my program includes growing feed crops, growing a home garden, breed improvement of livestock and poultry, planting farm woodlots, protecting forest land from fire, reforestation, stumping and improving land, and introducing new cash crops."

During the four years of vocational agriculture, Brunson has planted three acres of slash pine trees, and received \$18 from the government for planting.

"I attended the Florida State Fair, have served as a member of a livestock judging team, and am a member of the winning parliamentary procedure team at Chatahoochee." He is also winner of his sub-district public speaking contest.

'He That Tilleth

(Continued from page 3)

You have shown, through your concern, interest, endeavor, and industry, that the future is in good hands.

Florida is looking toward you, Future Farmers, for guidance, direction, and future leadership. You will not fail!

"For whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap . . ." (Galatians 6:7)

W. F. Jibb (left) was principal speaker at the annual father and son banquet of the Havana chapter April 4. Others pictured are Pat Butler, Havana chapter president, his father, Aubrey Butler, and his brother, Don. (Photo by Jack Dudley, Havana Herald.)

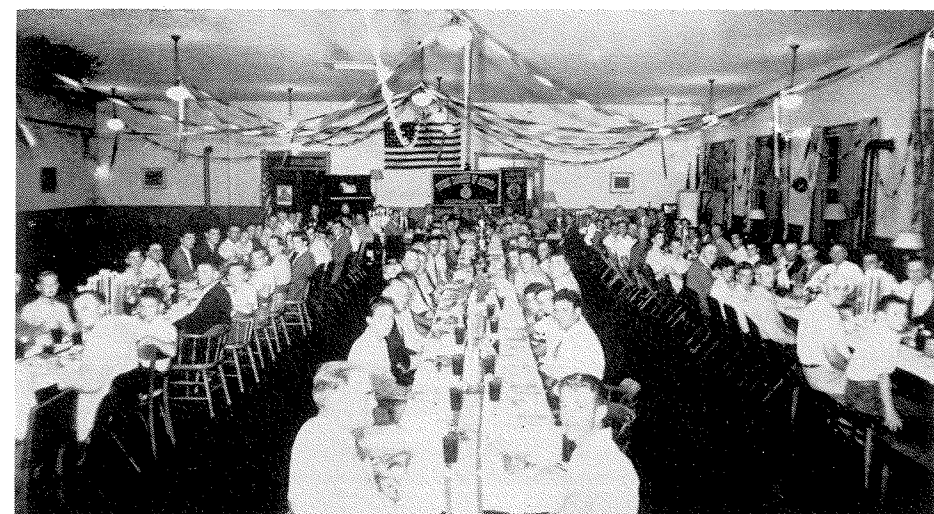
Havana FFA Holds Father-Son Banquet

FATHERS AND SONS gathered at the City Hall in Havana April 4 for the annual Father-Son banquet of the Havana chapter. About sixty FFA members and their fathers and fifteen guests were on hand to hear Mr. W. F. Jibb, chief of public relations for the Florida Forest service, discuss "Trees for Tomorrow."

Dickie Fischer gave the invocation and Vice President Fred Joiner welcomed the guests. Mr. Duncan Lester gave a response in behalf of the fathers, after which Carl Driver introduced guests.

Treasurer David Burns reviewed accomplishments of the chapter and Secretary Foster Lashley discussed the project program. Joe Cantey told of the chapter's participation in fat cattle shows. President Pat Butler served as toastmaster.

Mr. Jibb sketched briefly the part that "our only natural renewable resources" have played in the advance of civilization, stating that "mankind has been associated with wood from the days of Genghis Khan." The speaker discussed the Forestry Training camp where Future Farmers are given fundamentals of gum farming, tree identification and other subjects during a two-week period.



More than 150 persons attended the annual Father and Son banquet held by the Leesburg chapter. Karl Lehmann, secretary of the Lake County chamber of commerce, was principal speaker.



Leesburg Chapter Hears Lehmann Speak at Annual FFA Banquet

CHICKENS RAISED by the chapter on the school campus were featured at the annual Father and Son banquet of Leesburg Future Farmers, at which Karl Lehmann, secretary of the Lake County chamber of commerce, was guest speaker.

Food for the repast was prepared and served by the home economics girls under

the direction of Mrs. Brenda Kuykendall.

After an invocation by the Rev. S. L. Hunter, chapter officers went through their opening ceremony and President Edward Seyler welcomed the visitors and guests. Mr. H. A. Hill gave a response in behalf of the fathers present, and M. R. Avery introduced the guests.

Frank Collins recited the FFA creed and Louie Muraro furnished accordion music, after which Joe Prevedel described his supervised farm program.

Mr. W. T. Loftin, district supervisor, reviewed contests open to vocational agriculture students, and George Ware, Leesburg banker, presented the guest speaker.

Out of town guests include School Superintendents F. J. Banning (Lake county), Judson Walker (Orange county) and G. B. Tomkins (Sumter county); Vocational Agriculture Instructors Griffin Bishop (Groveland), F. B. Ward (Webster), M. Simmons (Bushnell); County Agent R. E. Norris, and J. E. Bevis, Tavares.

UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS continue to represent the safest investment known to modern mankind.

State Contests

(Continued from page 11)

Groveland lists Louis Muraro, Bennie Frazier and Lindbergh Howard, and the vocal quartet from Hawthorne includes Bobby Merritt, Oscar Beckham, Aubrey Stegall, and Keith Burton. The Bushnell horseshoe pitching team of Kenneth Farror and Billy Jackson topped the district. District Four contests were run off at Ocala May 17.

In District Five, the winning quartet from Sarasota includes Charles Fare, Donald Betts, Louis Alderman, and Jack Cribb, and the top string band, from Bradenton, consists of Joel Benefield, Donald Barth and Clarence Taylor. Dade City's horseshoe pitching team, Billy Wilson and Edward Strickland, took top honors, and the diamond ball title went to Plant City's Robert Baker, Julian Cunningham. Thurmond Casselberry, Henry Hegan, Gove Howell, Ray Hutto, Jimmy Reed, Bobby Wood and David Hicks. The district winners were selected May 10 at Plant City.

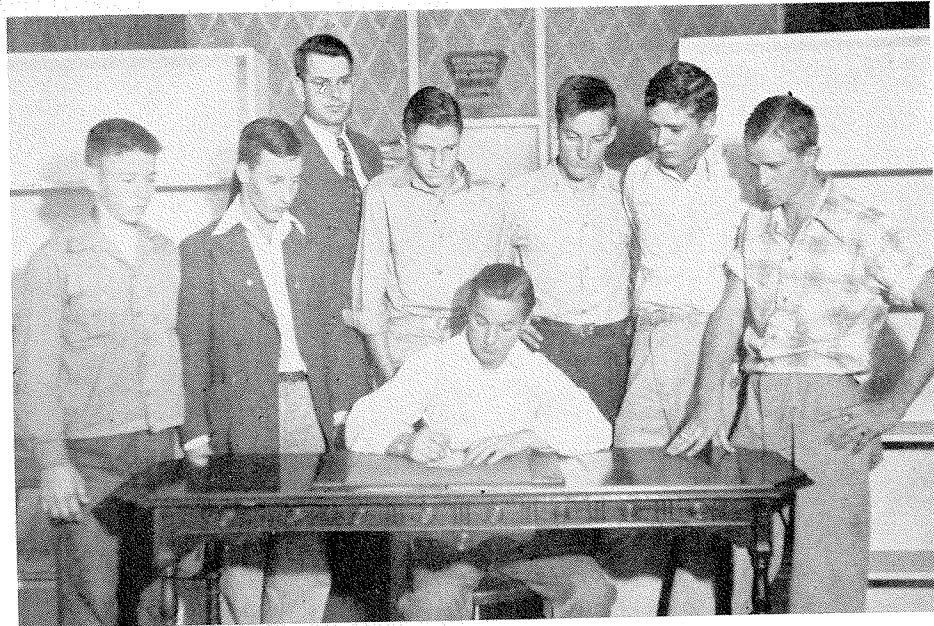
The District Six contest, held in Fort Lauderdale May 10, saw the Stuart parliamentary procedure team, consisting of Robert Green, Stephen Huddle, Donald Terry, Harris Wall and Jesse Quigley, take top honors, along with a string band from Fort Myers composed of Billy Cass, Paul Strickland and J. W. Jeeter. Belle Glade's horseshoe pitchers, J. T. Harrell and Bill Acree, won a title, as did their diamond ball team, including Acree, Richard McLeod, Bill Brown, Ray Kent, Bo Jameson, Willis Warren, Billy Joe Leathers, Roger Cumfron, Billy Bronden, Carroll McDonald, Thomas Williams, Horace Harris, Jim Layfield and Jimmy Cone.

Charles Pippin, Blountstown, is Working for College Education

CHARLES I. PIPPIN of the Blountstown chapter is using his vocational agriculture program to provide funds for his college education.

Watermelons, peanuts and corn, the first year provided a gross income of \$1400, \$600, and \$675, respectively, and net profits of \$050, \$450, and \$395. Pippin reports, "During my school work I learned about the care and operation of machinery and tools, how to judge beef and dairy cattle, how to select hay and grain, and how to select seed for planting."

During his second year, Pippin raised corn, cucumbers, peanuts and potatoes for gross income of \$1050, \$950, \$1425, and \$305, and net profits of \$710, \$595.50, \$895 and \$181.50, respectively.



Members of the Chiefland chapter have established a memorial forest dedicated to the memory of J. F. Williams, Jr., formerly state supervisor of Agricultural Education. Above, James Crews, treasurer of the chapter, writes a check to pay for the project as other officers witness the transaction. Others (from left) include Reggie Horne, sentinel; Conrad Owens, vice president; P. T. Dicks, chapter adviser; Herchel Brookins, secretary; Lynn Ward, second vice president of state association; Kenneth Graham, president, and W. C. Hall, reporter.

Memorial Forest for J. F. Williams is Established by Chiefland FFA Chapter

THE F.F.A. chapter at Chiefland, Florida recently established a memorial forest to J. F. Williams, Jr., formerly State Supervisor of Agricultural Education.

At the State Convention last summer the Florida Association recommended that each local chapter plant a forest in memory of Mr. Williams. The members of the Chiefland chapter followed the recommendation and placed the project in their program of work. A committee was appointed to investigate a number of locations where land was for sale. Upon the recommendation of the committee, the chapter purchased 28 acres of land located on the Manatee Springs road approximately one mile from the high school building. On the tract of land one-half is cleared and the other one-half is in woodland.

Immediately upon purchasing the land the boys adopted a program to reforest it. The program includes setting the cleared land to pine seedlings; all trees, except the pine, to be removed from the woodland; and a constant watch maintained to protect the area from fire.

The boys are already working to remove all undesirable trees from the woodland area. Four thousand pine seedlings were set on part of the cleared land in January. The other part of the cleared area is to be planted in peanuts

this summer and then set in pine seedling in January 1948.

The memorial forest is being financed from local F.F.A. chapter funds. The money was earned by several cooperative projects, and by cashing war bonds owned by the chapter from money earned in previous years.

It is certainly appropriate for the Chiefland chapter to take the lead in the establishment of a memorial forest to Mr. Williams. Before going to Tallahassee as State Supervisor of Agricultural Education, he had served for six years as teacher of vocational agriculture in the Chiefland community. He was known and loved in that school area by every farmer and business man alike.

In securing the land and in preparing a program for reforestation the boys were ably assisted by the Florida Forest Service. Valuable aid was rendered by Mr. J. Edwin Moore, Public Relations assistant, and by Mr. Cooper, local forest rancher.

Williams Has Long Ag Record

HERBERT WILLIAMS began his instruction in agriculture almost from the day he was born in Washington county. But his formal education in that subject started four years ago when he enrolled in vocational agriculture at Chipley high school.

Strickland Started Agriculture at Eighth Grade Level

JAMES E. STRICKLAND started his vocational agriculture training in Laurel Hill high school at the eighth grade level, in 1944. "I realized that through this organization I could help produce more products to help in the war effort, and to help when I start farming as my career after finishing high school."

In his first year he carried an acre of sweet potatoes, producing 6,350 pounds which sold for \$127. Labor income was \$91.50. In addition he helped work a three-horse farm, feed 30 head of hogs, and care for the cows and chickens.

"My second year's productive enterprise consisted of two hogs for meat, an acre of corn (hogged off) and two acres of sweet potatoes. Labor income was \$389.95 and financing was from the profits of the first year.

So far this year, Strickland has closed out his hog project, recording a labor income of \$51.50.

Strickland has served on judging teams, at Biltmore Farms, Quincy fat cattle show, at the State Fair, and at Pensacola.

Cook Reports \$833 Credits in 3 Years

THERON COOK, a member of the Vernon chapter, reports total credits for his three years of supervised farming of \$833, and a labor income of \$642.44.

Starting in the eighth grade under Instructor O. Z. Revell, Cook took for his original project corn for grain, hogs for breeding, peanuts for hog feed and sweet potatoes for food and feed.

In 1942-43 Cook had one acre of corn and one sow. The latter did not prove prolific but the corn was successful.

The following year an acre of peanuts took the place of the corn, with success, and the swine program showed some improvement.

Out of vocational agriculture during the war years of 1944-45, Cook returned with a project in 1945-46, involving two acres of corn, one sow, an acre of peanuts and ½ acre of sweet potatoes. "I applied approved practices learned in my study and made a very successful accomplishment at the end of the year," Cook concludes. In addition he did a total of 12 improvement projects and 11 supplementary farm practices during his study.

A Veterans' Instructor Speaks:

Case for Veterans' Training is Made by Chiefland Instructor

MAINTENANCE and repair of farm equipment is no small part of the task of training veterans in vocational agriculture, and Instructor Ross A. Dice of Williston ranks the farm shop and maintenance program as a "major" in his program of G.I. training.

"In the formation of a veterans' class in vocational agriculture there are many things to be considered," Dice explains. "There are many problems to solve, and many obstacles to overcome. . .

"We are called upon to be advisers in business transactions, assist in procurement and placement of seed and fertilizer, and supply information on soil conservation, forestry, and a host of other subjects.

"Of equal importance—and on a par with any of the major activities of a class—is the farm shop and maintenance program. It is vitally important to the veteran as an economic and morale factor," Dice declares.

"Economically, as far as we are able to show the veteran how to repair and maintain his equipment, horse drawn or power, we are teaching him to make money by saving on expensive repair bills. This alone should stimulate his morale; having tools and equipment which are in proper repair are conducive to maximum production so essential to success, the ultimate goal he seeks to attain.

"The maintenance and repair of farm equipment is such a large subject, and the problems confronted so varied, it is impossible for the instructor to cope with all situations presented unless he has had special training and experience along these lines.

"However, there are many things which the instructor, with no special bend toward shop work, can acquire with study and some practical training.

"Proper use of the acetylene equipment for burning and brazing should be learned. This is vital, for there are many jobs which require the use of the cutting torch, conversely there are many needs for the welding tips in brazing, especially in the uniting of the cast metals, steel and iron, of which the structure of most farm equipment is made.

"The fundamentals and use of the arc weld, too, is important, and much can be saved in repair bills where a few passes in time will stop excessive wear and lessen the tendency to break. This is particularly adaptable to the treatment of plows, turning and cultivating.

"The turning plow point may be treated with the arc weld, even after excessive wear has taken place, and ground to shape, thereby making it a workable tool rather than an item for replacement.

"The sweep may be treated when wear, in the form of a vertical dished out line, appears extending from the point upward. This indentation may be filled with several passes at low heat. The bead will soon scour from the action of the land, and the bead being harder than the original metal will slow down wear at this point.

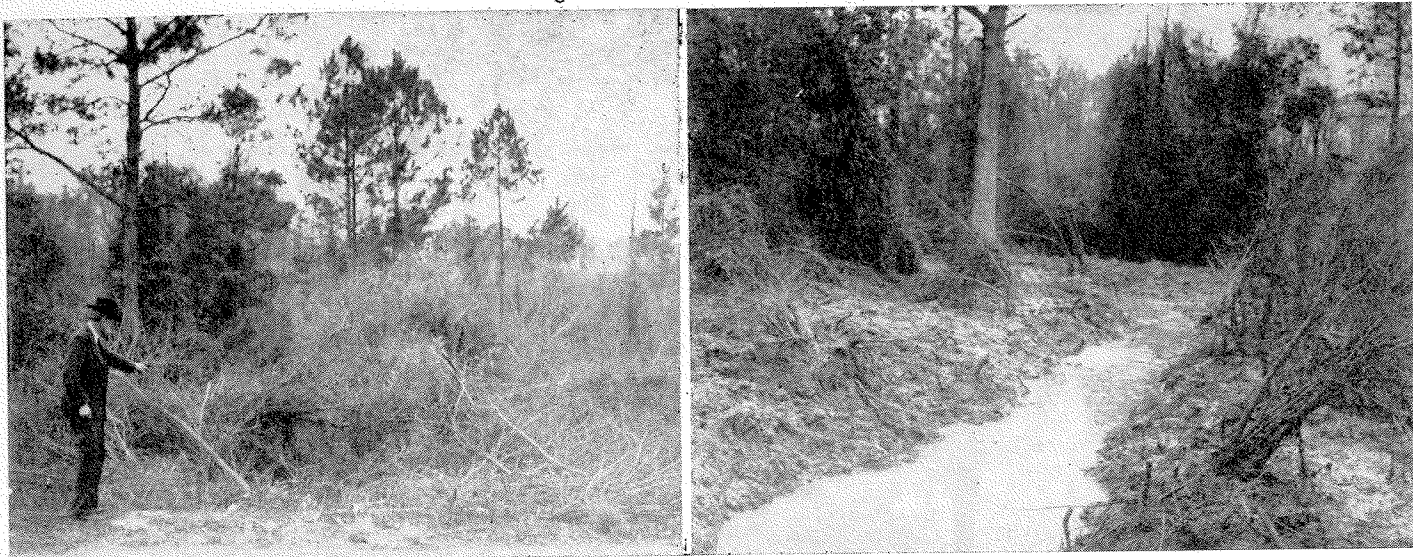
"I have seen new tractor sweeps, not yet bright, discarded as useless when the shanks, made too brittle in heat treating, were snapped off. It is a quick and simple operation to reclaim these sweeps with the arc weld. Were the veteran to have this done at a commercial shop it would not be profitable excepting as an emergency measure, for the cost would be the average price of a new sweep. However, we are equipped to do this work cost free to the veteran. We should be able to give him the benefit of it.

"Moldboards on tractor plows are subjected to great wear, and are items of considerable replacement expense. By treating the points of wear with the arc weld at low heat it is possible to make a large saving for the veteran. Brass should never be used for this purpose as it is too soft.

"In the major repair of farm equipment there is much to be gained by making complete overhauls of tractors. This is particularly true during the winter season while the tractor is not in daily use. Every tractor should be overhauled at the end of a crop season, or at least checked for wear. Unfortunately, breakdowns occur in the middle of a crop season, necessitating emergency overhaul. Much of this can be eliminated if the veteran is encouraged to properly maintain his equipment and overhaul if a check indicates wear, at the end of the season.

"The necessity of changing the oil and filter cartridge in a tractor regularly cannot

(Continued on page 20)



Ditch dynamiting is demonstrated at Graceville for the benefit of veterans in the vocational agriculture training program. The observer in the picture at left points to the dense undergrowth. At right you see the same tree with its limbs trimmed after the blast. Note the heavy root systems uncovered.

Ditch-Dynamiting Demonstrations Convincing to Graceville Veterans

VETERANS in the farm training program in the Graceville area recently profited from a demonstration of ditch-dynamiting, provided by the Soil Conservation service in cooperation with the Hodges Hardware company.

Breaking and planting was being delayed on many farms because of heavy spring rains. Water had been standing on many fields and interest was general in moving surplus water off the land. Many had heard of ditching with nitroglycerine, but still doubted the soundness of the idea.

The Soil Conservationists determined the logical route for the ditch and staked it off. The line went through a heavily wooded area. Mr. Ira Hodge said he would have a ditch there within a day, but it seemed impossible.

It took only half a day for five men to plant the dynamite for the 1320-foot ditch. Placed from 8 to 15 inches apart, depending on the contour of the land, the explosive was heavier on ridges and around trees and stumps.

Because the soil was wet and compact, it was necessary to discharge only one cartridge. The concussion of the first stick was sufficient to propagate the detonation through the wet earth and set off the whole line of charges. Only a few seconds after the fuse was started at one end of the line, the explosion occurred and the ditch was there!

Observers were surprised at the uniformity of the ditch, about 5 feet wide at the top and 3 feet wide at the bottom. All admitted a better job could not have been done by hand.

"Ditching by dynamite proved to that group of young farmers to be cheaper, easier and better," according to Guyton Williams. "It is easier because one man can often do the job without help; under good conditions three men can blast a

ditch a quarter mile long in a single day."

"It is cheaper because dynamite eliminates the need for expensive machinery and labor, and it is better because a blasted ditch spreads the displaced earth far on both sides leaving practically no drainage-hindering soil banks.

"It also cracks the ground from 5 to 20 feet around the ditch, improving the drainage system."

Three Vet Classes in Jay Community

THREE CLASSES for veteran training have been set up in the Jay community, since the initial program was inaugurated in August of 1946, according to H. T. Woodruff, veteran teacher. The original group, of which he is instructor, consists of 21 veterans who do general farming on some 1200 acres, including in their program, corn (127 acres), peanuts (564 acres), cotton (133 acres), sugar cane (8 acres), and truck and miscellaneous crops (65 acres).

"One of the first things this group did in cooperation with the other two groups at Jay was to form a cooperative," Woodruff states. "We meet once each month to transact any business, each member pays one dollar per month dues with which we hope to build our own warehouse, and the organization is now

chartered and ready to do business buying and selling cooperatively."

Fourteen of the veterans farm with tractors, twelve of which are two-row, and about half own their own tractors. Fourteen own their own farms.

Instruction in classes has embraced lecture, visual aid, laboratory work, shop work, and field trips, according to Woodruff.

The third veterans' training class at Jay was organized by Edward H. Buckner, an agricultural engineering graduate of Alabama Polytechnic Institute. Of the 20 veterans enrolled, all are working toward becoming a success at general farming. Farms range from 40 to 160 acres, principal crops are peanuts, corn and cotton, and each veteran has a livestock project.



Some of the Dade county veterans in vocational agriculture are shown at left at the hydroponic plant of Arthur Tyler, a member of the class, during a field trip April 21. Notice the height of the cucumber vines shown growing in the background. In center panel are some of the Sumter county trainees, with a portion of their harvest. At right is James H. Cundiff of the Quincy veterans' chapter shown with one of his five White Hampshire brood sows.

Three Programs for Veterans Are Underway in Sumter County

VETERANS' AGRICULTURE training in Sumter county centers around programs at Bushnell, Webster and Wildwood, and instructors find their charges prove to be hard workers, and very cooperative.

"Farming was nothing new to most of the students enrolled in this class," according to C. W. Perry, Bushnell. "But only a few had attempted it since the war began, and for a few it was a totally new venture.

Initial enthusiasm was high but the veterans had to overcome an unfavorable season with cold damage on early vegetables followed by heavy rains. "In spite of this the veterans have worked hard, have been very cooperative, and are eager to try to do better on vegetables next year."

At Webster the program was organized

October 1 with some 20 trainees on hand. Evening courses are held once a week at the vocational agriculture building, at which the instructor briefs the men on news of agriculture followed by general discussion and a question-and-answer period.

"We believe that in the near future visual aids such as charts, slides filmstrips

Field Trips of Value to Dade Veterans in Training Program

TWO SEPARATE instructional groups are required to handle the veterans' vocational agriculture training program in Dade county, according to Instructor J. C. Childress.

and the like will replace most of our instructional methods of training, and twice a month films are presented to give the veterans first hand information as prepared by the specialists."

All trainees on the program provide vegetables for home consumption, and through the effort of the local supervisor, Fred R. Ward, a cannery has been established at Webster.

The program in Wildwood is under the leadership of John E. Dudley, with students enrolled from Wildwood, (Continued on page 21)

Comparisons of Side Dressing For Corn are Made at Quincy

ACTIVATED March 1, the Quincy chapter of the Veterans Training program in vocational agriculture has followed an established program for its initial year's work.

Under the program, the trainee is taught to select and combine the farm enterprises which will provide maximum economic return. Specifically the program provides sixteen hours per month of class instruction, and eight hours of individual farm instruction.

"Each Quincy trainee has a goal for which he must strive," reports Harry Bassett, instructor. "Among the 17 members the various activities include corn, cane, peanuts, sweet potatoes, Irish pota-

toes, string beans, tobacco, milk and live stock production.

"At the present we are discussing field crops and their cultivation." In following up the experiment station's improved methods of producing corn, the class has engaged in side-dressing of the crop.

The Quincy chapter has access to reference books, bulletins, and various educational matter published by the experiment stations of Florida, Georgia and Alabama. "Under the supervised training program we wish to right the mistakes which we make in our farming. Secondly, we wish to encourage constructive changes which will result in greater returns."

"Here in Dade we are working against an initial handicap in attempting to organize cooperative effort for buying, selling, working and the use of equipment, in that the classes are split in two groups—one meeting at Redlands high school Tuesday evenings, and the other meeting at the Miami Edison high school on Thursday evenings."

These two schools are about thirty miles apart, Childress explains, but occasional meetings bring both groups together for events of special interest.

"Since the class has been organized we have made it our policy, whenever possible, to have men who are recognized authorities in their respective fields because of study, application, experience, results and position to come in and give us the benefit of their experience with the problems we are studying."

Fertilizer experts, master carpenters, nurserymen, and several farm service organization representatives have appeared before the Dade groups, and in addition four motion pictures, and many strip-films and charts have been studied.

"An organized field trip has been made

Veterans' Training Must Embrace Many Many Phases of Practical Agriculture

(Continued from page 17)

be overemphasized, particularly to the new equipment farmers in your class. Quite often the oil is changed without changing the filter cartridge. This is useless, as the cartridge can absorb only a specified amount of sludge. After this point is reached it goes into the oil lines and may clog them, causing damage to close tolerance fittings. The result, excessive wear and repair.

"In the minor, though important adjustments readily made on tractors might be listed the checking, cleaning and adjustment of spark plugs, and the adjustment or replacement of magneto points. Care should be taken in the latter operation not to throw the ignition out of time, but with care and practice this work may be safely and quickly done. The adjusting of the valves is also easily done with a little study and practice.

"All of the above listed jobs, and others, have been accomplished on equipment belonging to veterans in the class under my instruction, and at this writing there are several jobs pending the season's end when time, and we hope by then parts, will be more plentiful."

to a nursery for demonstration and practice in budding and grafting. A hydroponic plant was visited and studied, and fifteen of the members attended the agricultural field day at the Everglades experiment station." The trips have been of from three to ten hours duration.

"The first seven months of the course under Public Law 316 found these problems to be outstanding among the group: growing, grading, feeding, fertilizing; picking, pruning, marketing and financing," according to Childress. "These problems were met by cussing and discussing the eradication of insects and diseases, bugs and beetles, frost and freezing, wet and wetter, organic and inorganic."

Advanced thinking along the lines of a cooperative association for buying and selling, and in the exchange of labor and equipment. "Aid is given to the neighbor who is ill or disabled, help is given to the neighbor who is short of labor or equipment."

Citrus and Truck Crops Evenly Divide Homestead Veterans' Interest

THE VETERANS' agriculture training class at Homestead, composed of half citrus growers and half truck croppers, has been chiefly concerned with control of plant diseases and insects, according to reports received from the instructor.

Considerable time has been spent in gathering and identifying the various injurious and beneficial insects of the area. Progress has been made by the trainees in using insecticides and fungicides for combating these hazards.

Use of concrete on the farm, and particularly in construction of farm build-

Pierson Class is Fern-Minded

OF THE TWENTY members of the veterans' agriculture class at Pierson, 18 derive their income wholly or in part from the production of the *asparagus plumosus* fern, it is reported by R. C. Lipscomb.

"Growing this fern is a highly specialized type of farming about which there is very little printed information," Lipscomb states, "and very few experiments have been conducted to determine the best methods of cultivation, marketing, fertilizing, and management."

The class therefore went to the successful fern growers of the community for information and advice, through the medium of a questionnaire.

With the information provided from the answers to the questionnaire, the students have a basis for the planting of an experimental plot.

ings, has been a feature of the program, with practical problems given for homework and later class discussion.

"Group visits are being arranged for the class on such phases of agriculture as hydroponics, nursery work, production of poultry, and dairying," a spokesman for the class reports. "The rockland soils of the Redland district offer many disadvantages in development of a livestock program, although some of the trainees are considering the production of more of the needed feedstuffs.

Farmer Should Live at Home, View Of Jackson Adviser

CONVINCED that the farmer of today should "live at home" and not "out of paper sacks", Morgan Rogers has embarked his class of on-the-farm training for veterans in Jackson county on a six-point program of objectives. The training program combines classroom instruction with work and study assignments on the farm.

These objectives are as follows:

1. Helping the veteran to become progressively established in farming;
2. Stressing soil conservation;
3. Increasing production of food and feed for home use;
4. Establishing desirable ideals and standards of farming;
5. Providing technical instruction;
6. Stressing farm sanitation;
7. Improving farm management.

Referring to the last point, Morgan states that it is of great importance "because farm management is far below par compared to the management of the average business.

"Farming is a business and must be managed as such in order to prove profitable."

Future plans for the class include the furnishing of a home reference file to each veteran, establishing a small home library for each member, more widespread use of the farm workshop, and field trips including a visit to the West Florida experiment station at Quincy.

Social Events at Grand Ridge

SOCIAL EVENTS at the rate of one each quarter are definitely on the program for the veteran agriculture trainees at Grand Ridge, according to W. D. Plemons and W. E. "Bill" Knight, instructors. Knight resigned in June to resume post-graduate studies at Auburn.

Two classes at Grand Ridge pool their resources for the social occasions, the first of which was a banquet at Grand Ridge school May 10.

Guest speaker for the occasion was the Rev. Dan Whitsett, Methodist pastor at Marianna, who urged more emphasis on cooperation among veteran farmers to create "a new era in Southern agriculture" through better educational facilities, improved farm practices, conserving of farm resources, so as to permit the South to compete with other sections of the country in annual farm income.

Monticello Veterans 'Sold' On Treatment of Seed—Beans and Everything Else

PROOF THAT TREATING and inoculating Kentucky Pole beans is worthwhile is well demonstrated by Isaac W. Lewis, Aucilla veteran in vocational agriculture, who used Spergon for treating his seed against seed borne fungus and diseases.

"Ike", as he is known to his friends, also used a special legume nitrugin for inoculation.

Lewis planted his beans February 7 hoping for an early spring and early beans. February cold prevented the beans from coming up until March 4 and "Ike" began to wonder whether he was going to get a stand. With a little encouragement he waited and by March 15 he had what could be called a perfect stand, as the picture shows.

1500 pounds of 3-8-8 fertilizer was used in the drill as the beans were planted, and when they were 25 days old a side dressing of 500 pounds 3-8-8 and

200 pounds of nitrate of soda was applied.

"I was doubtful at first about the advantages of treating seed, but after my supervisor pointed out that I had nothing to lose and everything to gain I decided to try it," Lewis says.

"Now I am convinced that treating not only pole beans but all seed is worth the little trouble and expense that it costs."

Lewis is buying the 95-acre farm he now operates; it is his second year on this farm. Besides the 2 acres of pole beans he has over two acres of tobacco and six acres of sweet potatoes for cash crops. For early feed crops he has 14 acres of corn and 8 acres of hegari, and for late crops he has 40 acres of corn and 12 acres of peanuts. Lewis will market about 35 Number One hogs in early summer and plans to market about the same number in the fall.

Hastings Veterans Make Progress Since Class Established in July

MEMBERS of the Hastings veterans' class in vocational agriculture have made considerable progress toward becoming established in farming since the class began in July.

"In spite of a very poor farm year, from the standpoint of both weather and market conditions," says Instructor A. H. Maltby, "valuable experience has been gained, although profits will be small."

Of the two principal crops grown, cabbage and Irish potatoes, both were severely set back by freezing temperatures and excessive rainfall, Maltby explains. "In spite of this, yields on those two crops by this class as a whole, were considerably above the average for this section."

The class of 20 veterans planted a total of 405 acres of Irish potatoes, 289 acres of cabbage and 38 acres of mixed vegetables. About 410 acres are being planted to field corn this spring.

"Three of the veterans presently own their own farms," Maltby states. "Four others are buying out their fathers this summer and will own their farms out-

right. The remaining veterans plan to rent or work on a sharecrop basis until the price of farm land comes down."

Work is progressing very satisfactorily in the farm shop, according to Maltby. The students have received experience in use of welding equipment, power tools, forge works and woodworking equipment. Cabbage carts and truck bodies have been built and repaired. Tractor power equipment, such as disc bedders, listers, potato planters and diggers, has been repaired and rebuilt.

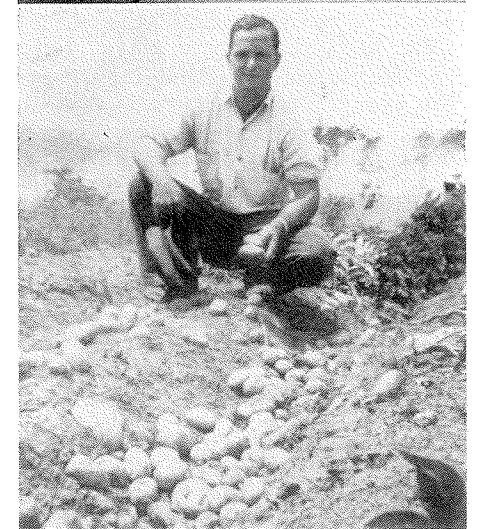
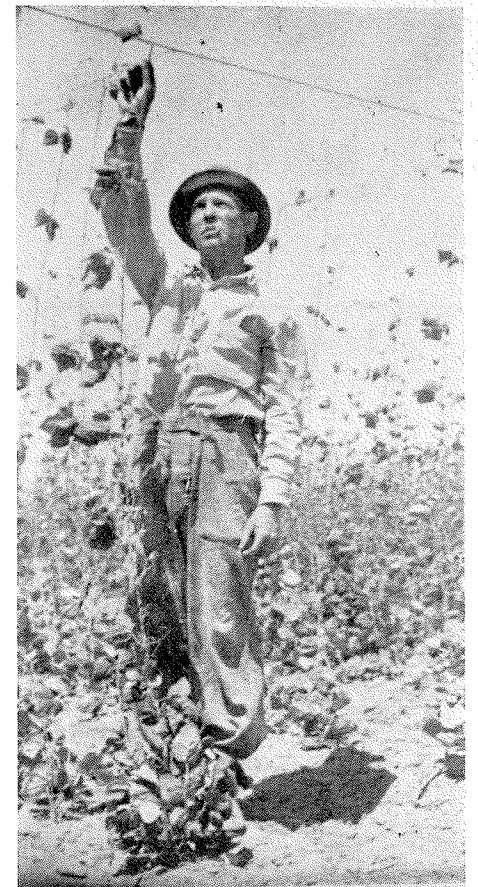
Sumter Veterans

(Continued from page 19)

Oxford, Coleman and Long Hammock communities. Meetings are weekly on Monday evenings, with a monthly four-hour shop training period in the vocational agriculture building.

About 90 percent of the class are sharecroppers with general farming programs, the main cash crops being watermelons and tomatoes.

Two brothers in the class have established an apiary, making all neces-



Isaac Lewis, Aucilla, and his beans, product of a veterans' agriculture training project, are shown at top, while lower panel pictures Norman R. Byrd, Hastings, digging in his 5-acre potato field. The yield was 9255 pounds of marketable potatoes per acre, considerably above the average for the Hastings area this year.

farm equipment with their own small sawmill and woodworking shop.

Sumter county veterans are learning the need for diversification, and this has expressed itself most often in combining livestock with vegetable operations. Many purebred bulls have been bought for beef cattle projects, and improved pasture is being set out in Pangola or Bahia grass.



Instructor J. D. Webb shows Sanders Kent and Buford Kent, Chipley veterans, the "how" of culling hens, in picture at left. Center panel shows the veterans' class in Calhoun county examining nodules on Blue Lupine on the farm of classmate James Laramore. At right, John Corbin, Chipley, is shown chipping boxes in his gum farming enterprise.

Three Veterans' Classes are Underway in Washington County

THREE CLASSES of veterans' vocational agriculture are going strong at Chipley, in Washington county. The first group began under Rex T. Yates, veterans' instructor, and Tom Love, vocational agriculture teacher for the Chipley school, in September of 1946.

Realizing the need for growing feed at home and improving their land, this group began plans for a winter grazing and legume cover crop for their respective farms. Several hundred bushels of seed oats were purchased cooperatively with the FFA chapter at Chipley, and more than a carload of fertilizer was purchased. Some were able to seed blue lupine for a winter cover crop, others turned it under as a green manure, and some harvested the seed as a cash crop.

Finley J. Duncan, veterans' teacher of vocational agriculture, reports enthusiasm and practical experience in the case of A. T. Bingham, a thrifty, hardworking veteran who has purchased a 40 acre farm with money saved during his period in the service. "On this farm there are 27 acres in cultivation and the balance in young pine timber," Duncan explains. "This year he has 4 acres of cotton, 5 1/2 acres of runner peanuts, 5 acres of early corn for hogs, 8 acres of field corn, 1 1/2 acres of watermelons and half an acre for garden. His livestock consists of a mule, a cow, a small flock of chickens, a sow and ten shoats.

"A. T. realized that in order for him to be successful in his farming operation, he would have to have more land," Duncan continues, "so when he started his farm training course he secured a loan from a local bank and bought eighty acres of cut-over land adjoining his farm.

"By courage, the sweat of his brow, and the desire to be self-sustaining, he

will finally achieve his goal and become one of the most progressive and prosperous farmers in the community."

Reporting on a third class in Washington county, Jefferson D. Webb states it was started October 1 under the supervision of T. M. Love. "We began and have attempted throughout to establish a progressive diversified farming backed up with sound business methods and an emphasis on 'living at home'."

After an instruction period on the use

Blue Lupine as Soil Builder is Used by Veterans in Calhoun

AT LEAST ONE veteran agriculture trainee is sold on Blue Lupine.

He is James Laramore, a member of the training program in Calhoun county, and he is using this legume as a soil builder for his sandy soil in the area west of the Chipola river—soil which traditionally has kept production low and poverty high.

Laramore's instructor, L. T. Pendarvis, says the trainee "like his neighbor farmers around him, ambitiously tills his soil, fertilizing at a high rate, yet his average yield is less than ten bushels of corn per acre.

"When it rains the sand fast gives up its fertilizer through leaching, and when it's dry there is no humus to hold the moisture for crop growth."

This year Laramore decided to try licking the sand menace with Blue Lupine, and so far he has sowed six acres, fertilizing it with 200 lb. 0-10-1 fertilizer to the acre. Planted in October, it attained a height knee-high and better by the time it was turned under in March.

of minerals in livestock feeding programs, the class purchased minerals in wholesale quantity.

"Record keeping and planning have been stressed," Webb continues, "and the men have begun numerous soil conservation improvement practices such as terraces and AAA cover crops."

M. A. Cushing, veterans' teacher of vocational agriculture at Chipley, reports his class is making a special study of the uses of cement on the farm. Cement block manufacturers have furnished materials, pictures, blueprints and maps. Such characteristics as strength, durability, and ability to withstand moisture were studied.

One acre, left for seed, was at the "roasting ear" level in early May.

The remaining five acres was planted to corn and beans, and observers predict a "distinct and promising difference" in the yield with the lupine treatment. "Young corn on the lupine ground has already stepped out with twice the growth of the other and has a dark green color," Pendarvis explains.

Better than half of the Calhoun county class has farms in the same sandy area, and others are planning to give blue lupine a large place in their future program.

VETERANS' AGRICULTURE training should embrace the entire family, in the belief of Lee I. McDonald, vocational teacher at Allentown high school, Milton.

"Of this class, all are training in general farming, ten own their own farms, eight are farming with tractors and only two are growing cotton," McDonald reports.

Pampas Grass is Interesting Project At New Smyrna

by W. R. FORT
Volusia County Veterans' Teacher

WILLIE HUGHES, a veteran trainee living near New Smyrna in Volusia county, is concentrating on the production of Pampas Grass plumes in connection with the growing of ornamental shrubs and plants.

Pampas grass is a native plant of the Pampas area of South America, from which it takes its name. So far as known there are very few plantings of this grass in the United States. Being a sub-tropical plant, its growth is limited to Florida and some of the more protected areas along the Gulf Coast.

Hughes' father obtained a shoot of Pampas from a neighbor's yard, some fifteen years ago and began propagation. Today Willie, in cooperation with his father, has seven acres in productive grass, ten acres of new plantings and he expects to plant five acres more this fall.

Pampas grass is propagated by shoots

If you are interested in some of the best agriculture textbooks—and want them absolutely free—write to "Surplus Books for Veterans, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C." and request a list of surplus USAFI books, states George W. Byrd, Tate high school veterans' instructor. "Some would cost \$5.00 or more if purchased at a bookstore, but they are free for students under public law 16 or 346 and become their property if the course is satisfactorily completed."

put out by the mother plant. These shoots are set in rows sixteen feet apart at ten foot intervals in the row. No special time is required for setting, providing moisture conditions are ideal. At maturity the grass will meet in the row, leaving a narrow walk between rows for harvesting. Full production requires about three years.

The ideal soil is one rich in plant food, high organic content and sufficient moisture. Low lying soils appear to be more suitable. Drainage is necessary but excess water during the rainy season produces no apparent injury to the plant. The yield of plumes is governed by the amount of fertility and moisture present.

The only cultivation required is to keep down grass and weeds until the young shoots have obtained sufficient growth to shade the ground. Mature plantings require little cultivation since they crowd out the weed growth and the

Vet Teacher's Lot is Envable One

THE PLACE of the veterans' teacher of agriculture is an enviable one among agriculture teachers, in the belief of W. N. Clymore, instructor of the on-the-farm training program at Micanopy.

"In the first place he is dealing with a group of mature men," Clymore points out. "These men are at a stage in life where they are strong in body and active in mind.

"They are not too old to learn nor too resistant to changes involving a departure from time-honored but antiquated methods.

"From many fields, these men have chosen farming as a vocation, and they are an interested and inquisitive group, anxious to learn, and therefore receptive to the instruction presented.

"Lastly, the government has assumed to a large extent, the economic responsibility for the veteran while he is learning to become a successful farmer. Thus is allayed the ever present specter of economic failure before the student has had a full and fair opportunity to become established in his chosen work."

massive root system would be subject to injury.

Two applications of fertilizer are made annually, broadcast in April and September. A high grade of commercial fertilizer analyzing 3 percent N, 8 percent P₂O₅, and 8 percent K₂O, composed mostly of organics, is used. On mature plantings some two tons of fertilizer are applied annually.

Gainesville FFAs Have Laboratory Plot Close By

MAKING MONEY was primary and farm experience was secondary when the Gainesville chapter started to locate a plot of land for laboratory purposes, but six acres were found nearby and rented by the chapter.

The land laboratory committee planned to grow one acre plots of corn, peanuts, chufas, half-acre plots of onions, beans, peas and sweet potatoes, and smaller plots of cucumbers, okra, turnips, hairy indigo, and lupine. In addition tomatoes for plants and 100 bushels of potatoes for plants were set up.

By May the chapter had sold onions worth \$141, potato plants worth \$216, beans worth \$34.

Selecting fertilizers, fertilizing and side dressing was emphasized, and all vegetable seeds were treated.

So far as is known there are no diseases attacking the crop and the only insect pest is the large grasshopper which eats the new plume just as it emerges from the sheath.

Attention, veteran softballers! The Hastings veterans agriculture training class plans a softball team in the city league during the summer months, and issues a challenge to any other Veterans class within 75 miles. "We will play any class at any time, provided a return game is guaranteed," states A. H. Maltby, instructor. In addition to softball, the class' summer activities program includes socials with wives and sweethearts as the guests of honor.

The commercial product of Pampas grass is the plume which appears in August. When the plume has fully emerged it is cut and dried, preferably under a shelter for two weeks. Several cuttings are made as the plumes develop.

"Harvesting, grading, marketing and crop rotation were learned in the classroom and practiced on the laboratory plot. Recently the lack of rain showed the need for irrigation. Corn, bean, pea and potato variety-tests are underway."



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