

The
● Florida
Future
Farmer

VOLUME XI

NUMBER 1

JANUARY, 1950

Tampa Fair Beckons

Kansas City
Convention Reports

County Fair Exhibits



The miracle of meat

ALL of us in the livestock-meat industry know that meat is appetizing, wholesome, satisfying. "It sticks to the ribs." People like it. But perhaps we don't all realize just what a miracle food meat really is. We know it's good—but do we know how good it is for people... how important to the health of individuals and of the nation.

If you feed livestock or poultry you know the importance of protein in their ration. It's just as important in the human diet. Proteins are known as the *building blocks* of the body. They build and renew the living cells in muscles, tissue and blood.

Meat supplies the essential protein in a form that our bodies can use most readily. The most valuable protein foods—meat and poultry, milk, eggs and fish all contain what are known as amino acids. There are 23 different amino acids. Ten of them are absolutely essential to human health. All ten are found in meat. Important vitamins, too, like riboflavin, niacin, thiamin... and "APF" (animal protein factor), the newly discovered, very important vitamin B₁₂ that's found only in animal products.

Most new discoveries about the nutritional value of meat have been made in the past fifteen years. Credit goes to research scientists in universities, in government service and in privately financed laboratories of industry, such as Swift's Research Laboratories.

The more people we can tell the above facts, the better for all of us. First, people who eat meat and other protein foods regularly will be healthier. Next, with ample meat in their diet, they'll get more benefit from cereals, fruits and vegetables and other foods they eat. Of course, the more meat that's eaten, the better the demand for meat, the better the market for livestock.

Swift & Company has often said, "Nutrition is our business." It's yours, too! So when you talk with your friends and neighbors, tell them these facts about meat, the miracle food. We will continue to tell them, too, by our advertising; and by passing along to them the findings of our Research Laboratories and Martha Logan Test Kitchens.

Every livestock producer and meat packer has a vital public interest and a private personal interest in promoting better nutrition in America. Let's work together in promoting it!

Martha Logan's Recipe for

PORK AND NOODLES

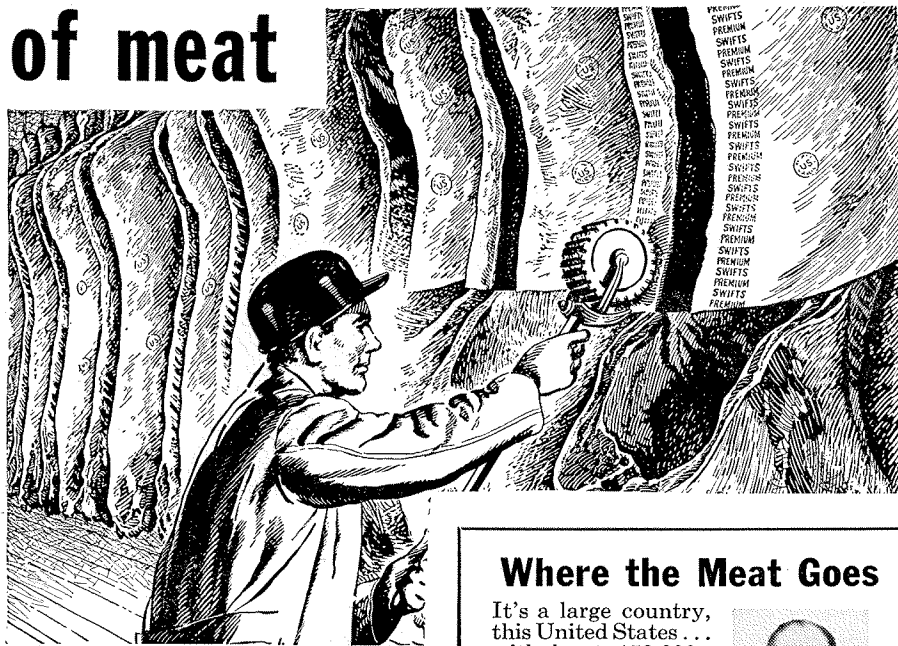
(Yield: 5 servings) 4-oz. pkg. noodles
1 lb. grd. pork 2 qts. boiling water
1 egg 1/2 cup diced green pepper
Seasoning 1 cup diced cooked rutabaga
Flour 2 tbsps. shortening

Combine pork, egg, and seasoning. Form into 1-inch balls. Roll in flour. Brown in hot fat. Boil noodles in salted water 10 minutes. Drain. Combine noodles, green pepper, and rutabaga. Place in greased 2-quart casserole. Place pork balls on top. Bake in a moderate oven (350° F.) about 40 minutes or until pork is well done.

Swift & Company

UNION STOCK YARDS, CHICAGO 9, ILL.

Nutrition is our business—and yours



Farming as a Business

H. B. Howell, Ext. Farm Management Specialist
Iowa State College,
Ames, Iowa



Good farm planning anticipates changes. It includes not only decision on how to use available resources—your land, labor, and capital to produce an income—but also how to use the income after it is produced.

Records kept on 51 Iowa farms (160 acres each) in 1948 reveal some fundamentals of successful farming:

1) Production or volume of business is of first importance. The high 17 farms averaged \$14,000 production per man; the low 17 farms only \$7,800.

2) The top farms used a combination of all resources—not just some of them—to get the greatest return. They fed enough grain to make efficient use of roughages; kept enough land in sod to maintain fertility; raised enough livestock and crops to keep man power fully employed; had enough machinery to do the work efficiently.

3) Good practices paid dividends. The best 17 farms produced \$177 worth of livestock for each \$100 worth of feed fed, while the comparable return was only \$117 on the low 17 farms. Top farms averaged 87 bu. of corn per acre; low farms only 67 bu. Good practices can easily increase crop yields and feed returns by 20%.

4) Farm records, such as used in this study, help measure results; show up weak spots and make a sound basis for planning ahead. Your state extension service can help you set up the proper records for your farm or ranch.

Where the Meat Goes

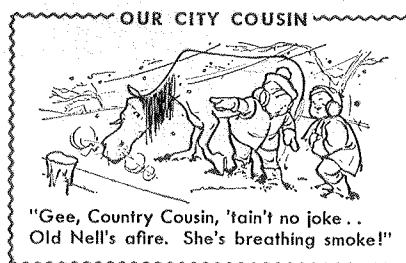
It's a large country, this United States... with close to 150,000,000 people in it. They live on 5,859,169 farms and ranches, and in about 125,000 cities and towns. Most of these millions of people want meat. Last year they ate an average of 146 pounds of it apiece. That adds up to over twenty billion pounds—to be distributed all over the 2,977,128 square mile length-and-breadth of our country.

That's a man-size job. To handle it takes the services of over 4,000 meat packers (including Swift & Company) and 14,000 other commercial slaughterers of livestock in the United States. The average 1000-mile gap between where the livestock is produced and where the meat is eaten must be bridged. One end of our "bridge" reaches west of the Mississippi, where two-thirds of the meat animals are produced. The other end reaches the markets to the east, where two-thirds of the meat is consumed.

But that's only one of the jobs we do. Another important one is to match up the nationwide supply against the nationwide demand. From day to day the numbers and grades of animals marketed vary greatly (which accounts largely for the day-to-day ups and downs in livestock prices). Also from area to area the people's meat preferences vary greatly. In New York and Boston they want heavy beef cuts. Pork eaters in Los Angeles and Baltimore prefer the lighter, leaner cuts. And so it goes, all over the map. It's an important part of our job to see that the various grades of meat and kinds of cuts go where there is the highest preference and most demand for them. Thus Swift & Company renders a twofold service—both by bringing to consumers the kind of meat they want, and by bringing to producers the benefit of a nationwide demand.

F.M. Simpson.

Agricultural Research Dept.



By Way of Editorial Comment:

Gala Welcome Assured at Tampa For 1950 Florida State Fair

FLORIDA FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA are assured of a gala welcome at the 1950 Florida State Fair next January 31-Feb-ruary 11, inclusive.

For months a Committee of State Fair Directors has been busy with plans for housing the boys on the nights of February 3 and 4; plans for cash awards for prize-winning cattle; plans for the big day of February 4; plans for encouraging FFA participation by payment to each FFA exhibiting cattle a sum to help him meet the expense of transporting and feeding his animal. This is in addition to record-level prize money in each class of dairy and beef cattle, with first place, \$12.50; second place, \$10; third place, \$7.50; fourth place, \$5.00.

There will be the big parade of chapter members before the Fair Grounds grandstand. State Fair Association President Carl D. Brorein, an honorary Future Farmer for many years, will make the welcome address. Officers of the Florida Future Farmers Association, led by State President L. V. Vaughn, Tate Chapter, Gonzalez, will take part in these ceremonies.

H. E. Wood, State Advisor, and J. G. Smith, District FFA Supervisor, are working closely with the Fair management, including Chairman R. D. Jackson and members of the Livestock & Poultry Committee.

FFA livestock owners may enter their dairy and beef cattle in "open" competition against purebreds of the adult exhibitors. Dairy cattle will show the first week, beef cattle the second, with some of both beef and dairy cattle on exhibit each week in order that chapters may compete in National Program judging. Chapter teams will engage in other



J. C. HUSKISSON

agricultural judging competition.

The first two units of our new Livestock Building will be ready—160 ft. x 200 ft., with a show ring 45 ft. x 82 ft. (Continued on page 22)

The Cover L. H. Lewis, left, livestock specialist with the Florida State Marketing Bureau, conducts a grooming demonstration at Plant City during the Hillsborough County Junior Agricultural Fair. Looking on are Vocational Agriculture Teacher Hinton of Turkey Creek, and two Turkey Creek Future Farmers.

THE FLORIDA FUTURE FARMER

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VOL. XI, NO. 1

STATE OFFICERS, 1949-50

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2nd Vice President.....Alvin Futch, Plant City
3rd Vice President.....Charles Alford, Palatka
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Future Farmers
are always welcome!

KEEP FLORIDA GREEN

We commend to FFA members the reforestation and fire prevention program of the State of Florida

BANK OF NEWBERRY

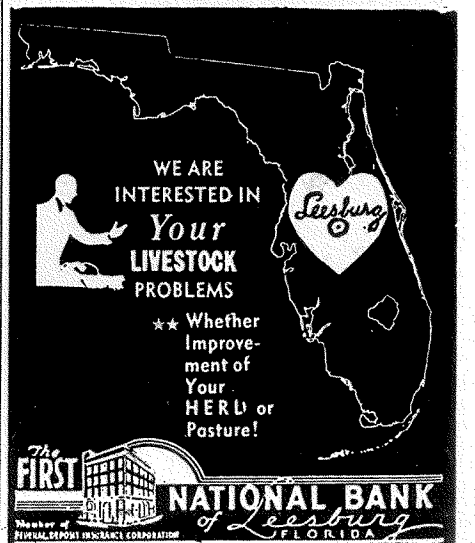
NEWBERRY, FLORIDA

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'Conner Special' Carries 203 Floridians To National FFA Convention in Kansas City; Brings Back Honors for Florida

by Lois Wood

THERE ARE MANY ways to tell of a week's trip—324 in this case—a different way for each person who was on board the "Doyle Conner" Special Train to the Future Farmers of America Convention in Kansas City, Missouri, October 9-16, 1949.

The "Doyle Conner Special" (named in honor of Doyle Conner of Starke, Flor-

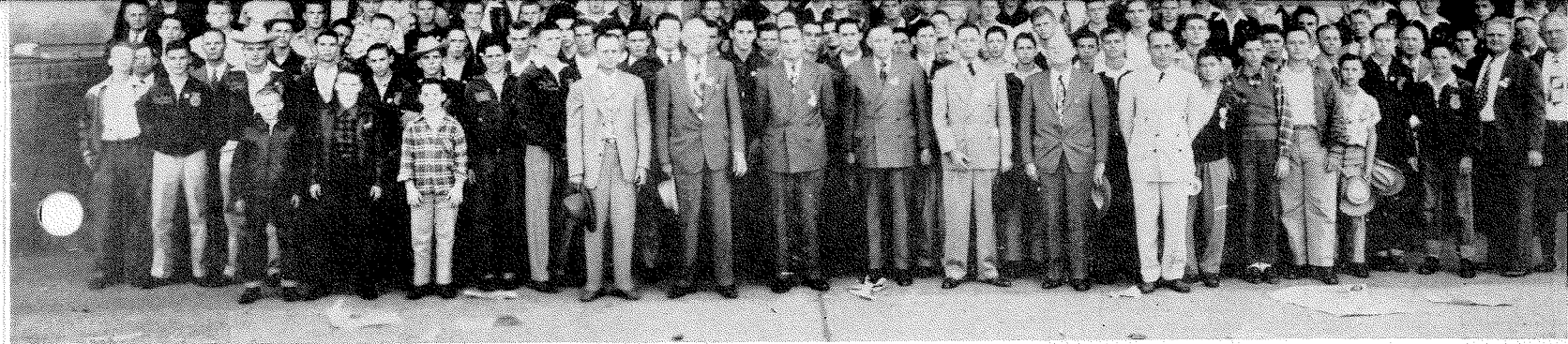
ida, the 1948-49 National President of 273,000 Future Farmers of America) left Jacksonville, October 9th. Future Farmers from a hundred Florida towns and communities were aboard. Senator Claude Pepper rode the train with them as far as Atlanta. He held an open forum in the observation car as the train rolled along. The boys crowded in and

asked questions about labor, civil rights, foreign affairs, the atom bomb, agricultural problems, and everything in the world.

At Albany, Atlanta, and Nashville, more Future Farmers and more cars were added until there were 324 passengers on board the 11-car train, 203 from Florida, 45 from Georgia, 38 from Alabama, and 38 from Tennessee. On its 1000 mile run to Kansas City, the train went past Florida truck, peanut, and corn fields, Georgia peach orchards, Alabama cotton fields, Tennessee lupine pastures, Kentucky blue grass, Illinois corn and alfalfa fields, Indiana barns stuffed with timothy and clover hay, and through the as-yet-unfrosted Missouri pastures with herds of fine Herefords and Guernseys grazing on the rolling hills. Five railroads had been traveled over when the train pulled into the Union Station in Kansas City, the Atlantic Coast Line, the Central of Georgia, the Louisville and Nashville, the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis and the Wabash.

At Kansas City there were over 7,000 in attendance at the convention in the enormous Municipal Auditorium, with two official delegates from each State, also two each from Hawaii and Puerto Rico, making 100 delegates in all. With Doyle Conner wielding the gavel, all meetings were run according to parliamentary law. There were many fine speeches and music programs throughout the week. English farm boys who are organizing a group in Great Britain similar to the FFA, were present and they gave talks on their visits to FFA Chapters in various parts of the United States. The Future Farmers, who have met in Kansas City for 22 years, have evidently made a good impression, for the red carpet was rolled out with a flourish, and the boys were warmly welcomed by the Mayor and the people of Kansas City. A number of pretty girls came down to tell the boys goodbye when the convention was over.

A few of the honors brought back by the Florida Future Farmers were: American Farmer Degrees conferred on Maurice Edwards, Starke, Florida; William Futch, Plant City, Florida; Frank McIntosh, Paxton; Lloyd Monroe, Summerfield, Florida; Bill Norris, Jasper, Florida; Lynn Ward, Chiefland, Florida; Gold Emblem Chapter Awards to Paxton



The delegation of Florida Future Farmers makes an imposing picture in front of the Music Hall in Kansas City at the National FFA convention in October 1949.

and DeLand; Silver award in judging livestock; Bronze award in judging meats. Jimmy Morgan won Gold award in individual judging of livestock. Mr. Bailey was one of the outstanding judges in National Public Speaking Contest, and Doyle Conner of Starke, Florida, the best National President ever to preside over a National Convention.

As the train returned south, there was a stop-over in Nashville, Tennessee. The *Southern Agriculturist* Magazine editors and staff had prepared a full evening of entertainment for the Future Farmers on the "Doyle Conner" Special Train. A banquet was given in the Maxwell House Hotel ballroom, then the Future Farmers were given tickets to the Grand Old Opry show at WSM. They were recognized during a nation-wide hook-up there.

The boys were tired but happy as the train drew near home once more. Many of them slept soundly in their reclining chairs. Several climbed up in the baggage racks overhead and stretched out on pillows for a good rest. Fortunately the racks sloped inward and nobody rolled out. Some of the boys played cards on tables in the observation coaches, some read comics, newspapers, magazines, or books, the string band members strummed lively music at times, a harmonica player leaned back with eyes closed and practiced a hounds-and-hunting piece. Several of the boys were playing with "step-walkers"—coils of wire which opened and closed. The Starke chapter members were busy running a snack bar, which did a "land-office" business during the times when the diner was not on the train. Everywhere the bright blue FFA jackets with gold emblems and lettering were worn proudly by the boys. Ten-gallon hats and cowboy boots were popular articles of clothing too.

To get as many viewpoints as possible, brief interviews were held with some Florida Future Farmers, and with Florida's Superintendent of Public Instruction, Thomas D. Bailey and Mrs. Bailey, and with National President of FFA, Doyle Conner, after he joined the group on the train at Nashville.

The boys interviewed were chosen at random here and there throughout the

line of swaying cars. Gerald Stokely of Greenville, who grows tobacco, corn and cotton, and Edwin Prevatt of Starke, who is raising an 8-month-old Brahman bull,

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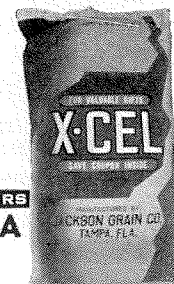
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On the return trip from the National Convention, Future Farmers of America, Florida Future Farmers attended a banquet at the Maxwell House in Nashville, Tennessee as guests of the *Southern Agriculturist*. Bottom picture shows the Doyle Conner Special Train just before it left Jacksonville for the Kansas City convention.



Florida at the National Convention • Top picture shows the livestock judging team from Plant City representing Florida at the American Royal Livestock Judging contest, (from left) J. D. DeHaan, Lawrence Carlton, Alvin Futch and Jimmy Morgan • Center panel depicts Chilean Nitrate leadership award winners from Florida, (left to right, front to rear) Travis Morgan, Wimauma, L. C. Vaughn, Gonzalez, Van E. Couthern, Clewiston, Gene Norris, Hastings and Don Fussell, Webster • Bottom picture shows national glee club and band members from Florida (left to right, front to rear) Idral Bowen, Moore Haven, Charles Herndon, High Springs, Carthel Williams, Chipley, Billy Holley, Blountstown, Merwyn Barrineau, Gonzalez, and Donald Betts, Sarasota.

my two acres of plants when I get home. Surely have seen lots of things on this trip I would never see otherwise. Guess I was most impressed by seeing the way the cows were butchered and by seeing a Ford roll of the assembly line every minute and a half."

E. J. Barden of Vero Beach, who lives on a 360-acre orange grove, said he liked the meat packing plant and the Live Stock Royal, especially the Chester White hogs and the fine horses. "I didn't see any Florida oranges in Kansas City," he added. "Just those shriveled up California oranges."

Wright Crosby of Greensboro, who has ten Herefords and Jerseys and five acres of corn at home, said "the thing that I remember best is the Auditorium—the way it was built. All that big in-

side and no pillars holding up the ceiling anywhere. It seats 17,000, and there are no pillars, not even under the balconies. Sure would like to know how they did it. I liked going out and watching the ice hockey games at a building in the southwest part of the city too."

Ray Duren of Kathleen, who has cattle and hogs for his project, said he visited the National Headquarters of DeMolay, and went to the City Zoo, and made other short trips. "This week has been more educational to me than two months of school," he said emphatically.

Bill Norris, Jasper, who received the American Farmer Degree at the Convention, said Kansas City was mighty nice to the Future Farmers, or it wouldn't have put up with some of the things they

(Continued on page 14)



The observation end of the Doyle Conner Special attracted these friends of Future Farmers as the train pulled out of the Jacksonville Union Station. From left are F. L. Northrup, district supervisor, Gainesville; A. Rice King, Florida passenger agent for the N.C. & St.L. Railway; J. G. Smith, district supervisor, Gainesville; Don Burch, Florida delegate, Sen. Claude Pepper; L. C. Vaughn, president Florida FFA; H. L. Sitterton, district passenger agent for A.C.L.; J. Marcus Phillips, assistant general passenger agent, G. of Ga.; A. B. Alford, Jr., agricultural and livestock agent, A.C.L. At left behind Mr. Smith is Dr. E. W. Garris of University of Florida. At left behind Senator Pepper is Ray Paschall, assistant passenger traffic manager, A.C.L. Above and behind Mr. Sitterton is J. W. Moore, of the L. & N., and behind Mr. Alford is John S. Stallings of the L. & N.

Soil Conservation is Prime Requirement For Advancement of Civilization

by CHARLES THOMAS
Marianna Chapter, FFA

THE CHIEF CONCERN of the human race is its physical needs. Its greatest needs, food and clothing, depend entirely upon the soil which is intimately associated with life. Plants and animals have lived upon the earth for ages and ages because soil exists.

The soil antedates the most ancient forests. It is the heritage of all life, the source of all food, the beginning of wealth, and the basis of civilization. It is a cradle for the seed, sustenance for the growing plant, and a grave for the dead. When the soil loses its fertility, empires decline, and nations crumble.

The first farmers in America were the Indians; then came from England the early settlers, landing in Jamestown, Virginia in 1607. Land was plentiful, and would yield an abundance of crops without any thought of soil depletion. When land became poor and worn out, nothing was thought of it because there was plenty of new land that was waiting to be claimed.

The successors of Columbus beheld a continent of abundance beyond their fondest dreams, a continent rich in land, minerals, water, fertile soils, timber, fish and wild life. They believed these things to be inexhaustible, and generally their descendants still cling to this belief.

All who have studied American history know something about Washington as a General and as President, but little about him as a farmer. Washington was probably the first American farmer to consider soil conservation as a problem. His concern about soils is shown when he said, "Our lands were originally very good, but poor farming practices and abuses have made them quite otherwise."

As a means of keeping his lands in a state of good production, Washington decided to grow less tobacco and corn. "Tobacco", he said, "is very hard on the soil," and of corn he decided to produce only the necessary amounts. The keeping of livestock on his farm and the rotation of crops was a prominent idea of his in keeping the soil on his farm in top producing condition.

Since the days of George Washington, no nation in history has gone ahead so rapidly or so recklessly in the utilization of its natural resources as has the United States. No other nation has been guilty of permitting soil destruction at a rate so appalling.

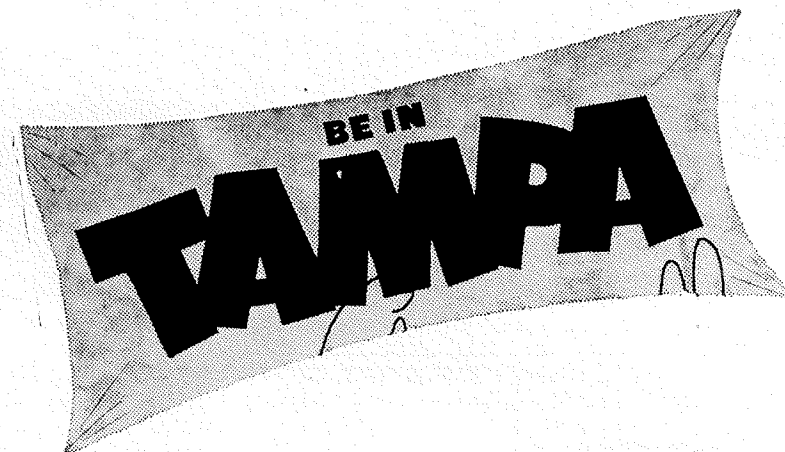
In the three hundred years since the

settlement of this country began, and mostly within the last hundred years, fifty million once fertile acres are seriously damaged. In addition, there are now in cultivation one hundred million acres impaired by erosion and another one hundred million where erosion has begun.

The law of self-preservation demands that a farmer give first consideration to providing for his family and himself.

Sound farming practices, which promote wise and proper use of the land and produce the greatest ultimate returns, should be of first importance to the farmers of this nation.

The dictionary will inform you that conservation is, "The keeping of a thing entire." With this definition in mind, it is easy to understand that total soil conservation is practically impossible.



FLORIDA STATE FAIR

JANUARY 31 TO FEBRUARY 11

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FLORIDA STATE FAIR AND GASPARILLA ASSOCIATION



Notables at Kansas City • Front row (from left) includes Doyle Conner, national FFA President 1948-49, Mr. Thomas D. Bailey, state superintendent of public instruction, Alvin Futch and Matt Matthews, vice presidents, Florida FFA 1949-50, and L. C. Vaughn, president, Florida FFA 1949-50 • Rear row (from left) includes Mr. H. E. Wood, state FFA adviser, Charles Alford, George Sprinkle, and Howell Waring, vice presidents, Florida FFA 1949-50, Donald Burch, president, Florida FFA, 1948-49; and Mittle Bronson, vice president, Florida FFA, 1949-50.

since both plants and animals of the earth must obtain their life-producing and their life-sustaining materials from the soil. Although it may be impossible for man to keep the soil "entire", it is also impossible to justify man's present practices of systematically robbing it of the life-producing and life-sustaining elements with which God endowed it. There is a limited amount of these essential elements in any soil. If the present generation of life is to be the last generation, man might be justified in exploiting all natural resources for his personal satisfaction. But since man is only a trustee of the land for a short span of life, should he not discharge his trusteeship by delivering the land to the succeeding generation with the least amount of the vital materials depleted?

One of our accepted laws of physics is, "To every action there is an equal and a contrary reaction." This law applies to the conservation of soil as demonstrated in the increased or the decreased yields of crops or other vegetation according to the methods of conservation practiced.

Several years after World War I ended, the soils of our Great Plains area reacted to the treatments practiced there under war conditions. The story of destruction of life and property in the dust bowl section of our country is too well known to

require any narration.

Today, we are called upon to help feed the people in all the war torn countries of the world. Again we must call upon our soils for the maximum production of life-sustaining elements. Mother Earth will furnish these essentials, and will react in direct proportion to the treatment received in stimulating crop production. To relieve this burden, good soil conservation practices must be followed or our soils may react with destruction comparable to that experienced

There is evidence that hunger breeds war, and war breeds hunger. We hope that the opposite is also true—that plenty breeds peace, and peace breeds plenty.

The world's people are using resources as if they still had unlimited room to move around. To insure ourselves against disaster in the future, we must not only stop the losses, but make sure what resources we have will provide adequately for our wants.

At no time in the history of this nation should there be a stamp of approval placed upon idleness. In our food-for-peace campaign, idleness in man, beast, fields, or forests should not be tolerated either in winter, spring, summer or fall. Let's seize the golden opportunities and push forward to achievements even beyond the expectations of those who set the goals.

My friends, let's awaken ourselves to this shameful waste of one of our natural resources, the soil. Let's not make it necessary for our posterity to recite this poem of farm tragedy.

"Hordes of gullies now remind us,
We should build our lands to stay,
And departing, leave behind us,
Fields that have not washed away;
When our boys assume the mortgage,
On the land that's had our toil,
They'll not have to ask the question
"Here's the farm, but where's the soil?"
in the dust bowl.

In thinking of soil conservation, most people confuse it with erosion control. Erosion control is primarily the installation of mechanical structures and vegetative coverings as foundations upon which soil conserving practices may be continued. These practices should be initiated and diligently followed on all our soils, regardless of whether there is any appreciable soil erosion or not. It is true that the greater the slope of the land, and the more erodible the soil, the more complex the practices must become in order to establish the most effective soil conservation program on any given area.

To keep our soils as nearly "entire" as possible, it will be necessary to replace some of the plant food elements removed through artificial applications of fertilizer materials. It is a logical assumption that, when any one of these essential plant food materials has been depleted, the crop yield will decrease until such material has again become available. Every farmer can, and should be encouraged to establish and follow the simpler practices for erosion control.

Some of the simpler erosion control practices consist of terracing, contour furrowing, contour cultivation, strips of vegetative cover on the long gradual slopes alternating with clean tilled crops, and permanent vegetation on the areas too eroded to use for cultivation. Through experience obtained from the dust bowl, it is now known that, if strips of vegetation had been left on the land instead of plowing it up, the destruction caused by erosion would have been much less.

Probably one of the simplest conservation practices would be a system of crop rotation on each acre of farm land. It has been definitely proven that it is more profitable under average conditions to follow a leguminous crop with a crop of the grass classification. Since corn, oats, rye, and many other crops are classified as grasses, such crops should be grown immediately following a crop of legumes. The legumes grown here are the Blue Lupine, Austrian winter peas, Vetches, for winter growth, and peas, velvet beans, crotalaria, alyce clover, lespedezas, and kudzu for summer growth. Another simple rotation that can, and



Charles Thomas, Marianna, won the public speaking contest at Daytona with this discussion of soil conservation.

should be practiced on each acre of land as a conservation program is to follow a soil depleting crop immediately with a soil conserving crop. Since cotton, corn, market peanuts, and potatoes are among the soil depleting crops, any acreage planted in these crops one year should be planted in a soil conserving crop the following year.

Quincy Buys Hogs

Six hogs were recently purchased for fattening by the Quincy Chapter from the proceeds received after selling three hogs they had previously bought and fattened with "swill" from the school lunchroom, and with corn grown by the chapter and minerals.

Homestead is Host

THE MEMBERS of the Miami-Jackson FFA Chapter were guests of the Homestead Chapter. The Jackson members bought a calf which had been recently won by Steve Torcise of the Homestead Chapter at the rodeo.

DeLand Has Meeting

THE KIWANIANS of DeLand were the guests of the DeLand Chapter. The meeting was held at the Farm Shop Building and on the School Farm. A full report of the accomplishments for the past year was made, and the program for the coming year was given.

Fort Myers Gets Calves

THE LEE COUNTY BANK is financing the buying of calves by 17 members. These calves will be fattened and sold after showing in the County Fair, according to the Fort Myers Chapter.

Grooming, Fitting Demonstration

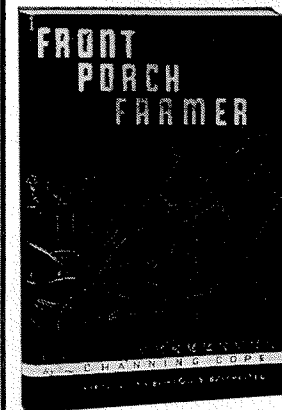
GROOMING AND FITTING Demonstrations were held at Sarasota, Plant City, Lake City, Ocala, DeLand, Ft. Pierce, Belle Glade, Bartow, Greenville, Quincy, Chipley, Paxton, Baker, and Walnut Hill. The demonstrations were sponsored by the Florida FFA Association in cooperation with the State Department of Agriculture.

Mr. L. H. Lewis, State Marketing Specialist, demonstrated how to groom beef cattle for shows. He said that the first thing was to select an animal with good conformation, ability to change feed

into meat, a good feeding program, and good care of the animal. He further stated that since the grooming should take place as the animals are growing, proper equipment should always be available. Halter breaking, taming the animal, teaching him to lead and stand as desired, brushing and trimming, to cover weak points and to make strong points stand out, and the trimming of hoofs to correct animals' posture were points included in the demonstration.

The members and teachers expressed their appreciation.

POPULAR VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL BOOKS



FRONT PORCH FARMER—Channing Cope. "This important book is more than well written; the proof of its truth is triumphantly visible on the face of the land."—Russell Lord, Editor, The Land. List price \$2.96.

PASTURES (Grazing, Hay and Silage Crops) Lancaster, Bailey, James and Harris. "Here is the first and only really complete pastures book. It is destined to be one of the most widely read books of its kind." Chas. J. Hudson, Jr., Atlanta Journal. List price \$2.96.

LIVESTOCK FARMING—Dinsmore and Chapman (628 pages, 1947 edition) Gives valuable and unusually helpful information on every phase of livestock farming. List price \$2.96.

SOUTHERN FORESTRY—Elliott and Mobley (504 pages, 1949 edition) Fills the urgent need for a clear and practical book on forestry. List price \$2.96.

SOUTHERN HORTICULTURE—Stuckey. "One of the finest books ever written on the culture of the major fruit and vegetable crops, as well as ornamental plants in the Southern regions." List price \$2.96.

FOOD PROCESSING—Duncan (1949 edition) The latest and most scientific information on canning, freezing and processing foods by all other accepted methods. List price \$3.28.

SOUTHERN CROPS—Chapman and Thomas (562 pages, 1947 edition) Since the production of field crops is the basis of successful farming, this book, which treats cotton; corn; sweet potatoes; tobacco; peanuts; rice; sugarcane; hay, and pasture crops, is invaluable to the young farmer. List price \$2.96.

CONSERVATION OF AMERICAN RESOURCES—Elliott (688 pages) The most inclusive text on Conservation—this book shows the relationship of one natural resource to another and their importance in the life of our country and its people. List price \$2.80.

POULTRY FOR HOME AND MARKET—Cooper. A practical book, dealing with fundamental problems of poultry production, chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, squabs and upland game birds. List price \$2.92.

SUCCESSFUL FARMING—Chapman. Stresses the simple things so vital to success in farming and recognizes farming as a way of life. A book popular with all ages. List price \$2.96.

EFFICIENT FARM MANAGEMENT—Hardin, King, Leith. A new book giving information necessary in making farming a profitable business. List price \$3.28.

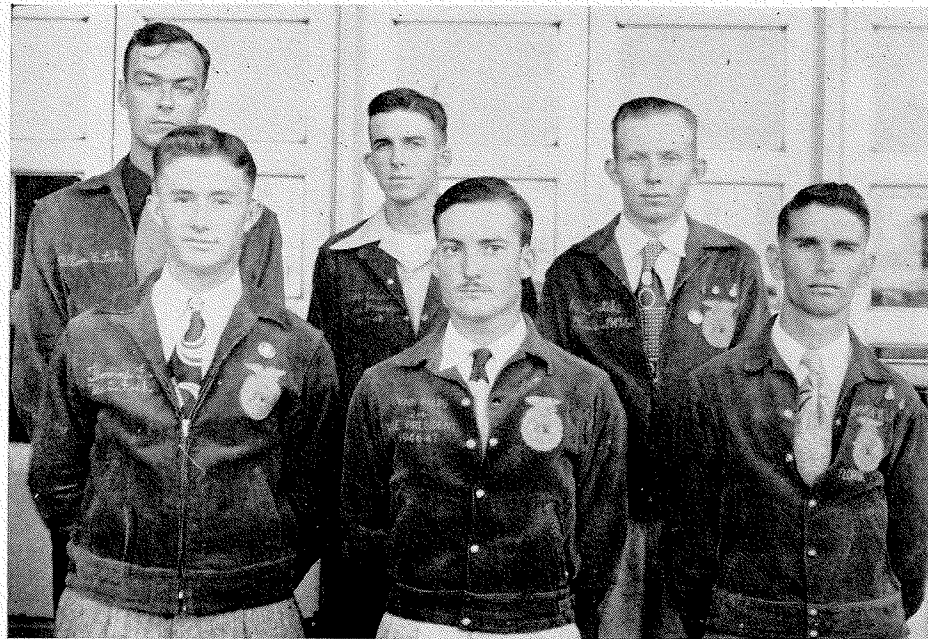
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Twenty-fifth Anniversary

Georgia



The American Farmer Degree was awarded at the National Convention in Kansas City to these six Florida Future Farmers: (from left) William Futch, Plant City, Frank McIntosh, Paxton, Maurice Edwards, Starke, Lynn Ward, Chiefland, Bill Norris, Jasper and Lloyd Munroe, Summerfield.

Future Farmers Participate in Fourth Annual Hillsborough Junior Fair

RECENTLY, IN PLANT CITY, the South's greatest single county's pagentry of rural youth burst into brilliant bloom in the form of the Fourth Annual Hillsborough County Junior Agriculture Fair. Jimmy Morgan, outstanding Plant City FFA student and president of the Junior Agriculture Fair, spearheaded the Fair which was held on the "Strawberry Festival grounds." This Fourth Junior Fair completely startled approximately 8,000 adults who lined the aisle of the Festival grounds to get a glimpse of their children's countless hundreds of projects, aims, and accomplishments. This unique show run by children is perhaps broader in scope than many of the area and county fairs over the state. It was jammed with exhibits of more than 2,500 youth.

Perhaps the most outstanding exhibits were those of the shop students of Plant City, Brandon, and the Turkey Creek Chapters. These colorful exhibits were highly complimented by Mr. A. H. Hollenberg, National Farm Shop Specialist of Washington, D. C., who was a welcomed guest for the occasion. In the shop display competition, Plant City FFA Chapter placed 1st; Brandon FFA, 2nd; Turkey Creek FFA, 3rd; Pinecrest FFA, 4th; and Wimauma FFA, 5th. Plant City featured a home made horsedrawn outfit for treating soil with DD for root-knot, and other soil borne pests.

In the Vegetable and Fruit Displays, Turkey Creek FFA Chapter was 1st;

Franklin Jr. High, Tampa, 2nd; Plant City, 3rd; Pinecrest, 4th, Brandon, 5th; and Wimauma, 6th. A unique part of the festival was the beautiful display of the famous Plant City strawberries exhibited by Donald Plunket, president of the Turkey Creek FFA Chapter. He grew the first pint of Plant City berries for the current year. The award for the best display of potted plants was also won by Donald Plunket.

The Grand Championship Award for

Trenton Future Farmers Make Tour Of Southern Florida During Summer

FOURTEEN MEMBERS of the Trenton FFA Chapter made a tour of Southern Florida in a school bus. At Silver Springs, the boys watched the milking of rattlesnakes for venom. At DeLand, the members were the guests of the Deland Chapter for a tour of the Chapter farm. After this, they enjoyed an afternoon of swimming at Daytona Beach.

The next day, they drove South along the East Coast to Fort Lauderdale visiting the scenic spots en route. The drive from Miami to Key West along the scenic highway, and the visit to the aquarium in Key West were enjoyed by all the members on the trip.

Returning to Miami, they were the guests of the FFA Chapter; and Mr. Otis

Hereford cattle was won by the Plant City FFA Chapter. Reserve Champion in this class went to the Turkey Creek Chapter. Both of these excellent type animals are Sears, Roebuck bulls awarded to these chapters in November, 1948. The Brahman bull Champion was owned and shown by Bobby Sapp of the Plant City FFA, and the Reserve Champion was shown by Lawrence Carlton, also of the same chapter, and whose bull is another of the fine animals awarded by Sears Roebuck & Company. Championship was awarded to a registered Guernsey heifer belonging to Arlen Wetherington, Turkey Creek FFA. Arlen also won the Cattle Showmanship Contest.

First place awards were made for swine as follows:

Purebred boar, over a year, Turkey Creek FFA Chapter;

Purebred boar, under a year, Carl Lentz, Brandon FFA;

Litter of weaned pigs, Jurl Mansell, Turkey Creek FFA;

Champion grade boar, Raleigh Enfinger, Turkey Creek FFA; and

Grand Champion of the swine show, aged boar, Turkey Creek FFA Chapter.

In competitive FFA livestock judging of beef cattle, Brandon placed 1st; Plant City, 2nd; Wimauma, 3rd; and Turkey Creek, 4th. In similar dairy cattle judging, Plant City was 1st; Franklin Jr. High, Tampa, 2nd; Turkey Creek, 3rd; and Brandon, 4th.

Hillsborough County extends its sincerest thanks to Mr. L. H. Lewis, State Marketing Specialist, and Mr. A. R. Cox, Executive FFA Secretary, who conducted a very informative demonstration on grooming beef animals to bring out their utmost in good quality; and to Mr. C. W. Reaves, Extension Service Specialist, who conducted a similar demonstration on dairy animals.

Bell, Director of Agricultural Education in Dade County, conducted them on a tour of the eighty acres, which the boys in Miami are farming. The deep sea fishing trip was a new experience that they will never forget, because most of the members were seasick. They returned by the Tamiami Trail, visiting a Seminole Indian Village, and other points of interest along the West Coast.

Mr. Herbert Brown, Adviser, and Joe Ellis, who accompanied the group, said that it was a very educational trip even for boys living in Florida. These Future Farmers earned the money to pay the expenses of this educational trip by co-operatively marketing watermelons in that County.

Past President

Progress Made In Vocational Agriculture

by WOODROW O'STEEN, Supervisor
Florida National Egg Laying Test, Chipley
VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE as taught in our high school today has made considerable progress during the past twenty years, and today commands much more respect than in the early days.

I recall very well how my grand-dad laughed when he found out that I was in school studying how to farm. However, in just a few years, the kind old fellow changed his mind about Vocational Agriculture, as he began to observe and realize the interest and knowledge of farming as shown by young boys in our community.

The Future Farmers of America Chapters organized in the Vocational Agricultural Department have been one of the big factors contributing to the respect this department holds. The interest created by the Future Farmers of America caused thousands of farm boys to continue their education, and to think of farming and life on the farm in quite a different way than they did before this organization was founded. I say this because I am one of the boys who was inspired and encouraged through my work in the Future Farmers of America.

I had the opportunity of studying Vocational Agriculture under one of the outstanding agricultural teachers in our State. The guidance and encouragement received from the late Professor Thomas A. Treadwell has always been helpful to me. I feel sure that this fine teacher will be long remembered for the many services rendered to the farmers and farm boys in Jefferson County.

I am greatly interested in farming and particularly in farm boys and girls. I know the Future Farmers of America will continue to grow in the future as in the past. In the future, I feel certain that many farm boys will benefit from this great organization as farm boys have in the past.

There are two young boys that live in our home now. Their Mother and I are looking forward to the day when they will be little "Green Hands" in the FFA.

THE ANNUAL FFA Talent Parade Program presented by the Jasper Chapter was a great success. It was attended by the largest and most enthusiastic audience of the three years that the Talent Parade has been given.

Are you Ready for 1950?

With the ending of 1949, growers can look back on a year of prosperity for most Florida Agriculture. 1950 is still a question—But, CAREFUL growers of all crops can look forward to continued prosperity.

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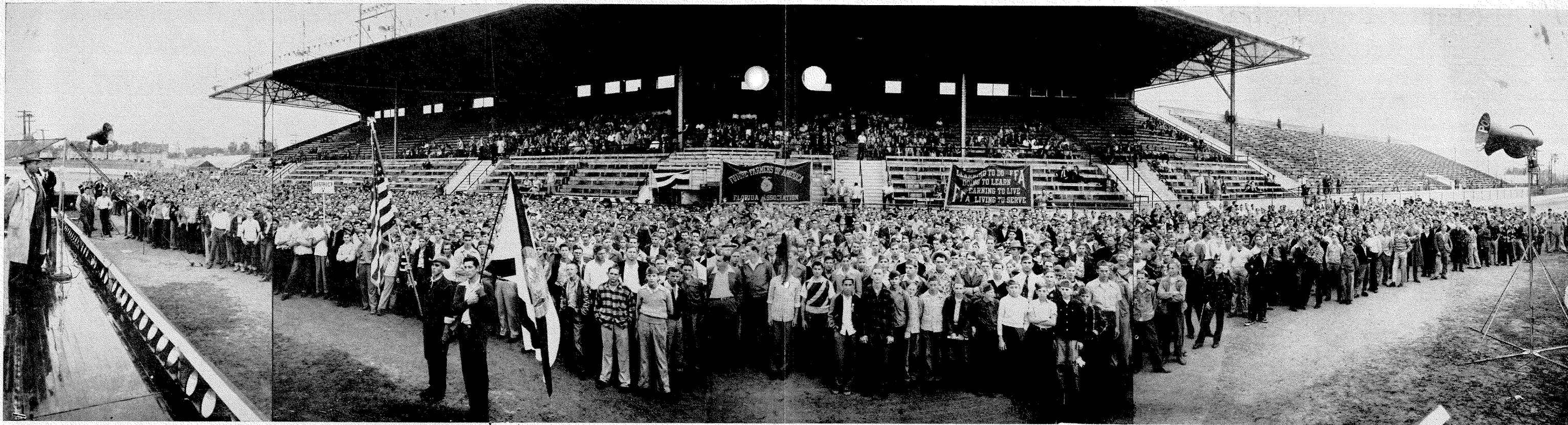
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Judging Contests for Exhibits and Livestock Slated on Fair Program

General Superintendents—J. G. Smith and A. R. Cox
 Exhibit Judging (Fruits and Vegetables)—F. L. Northrop
 Exhibit Judging (Hay, Grain, and Forage)—T. L. Barrineau
 Livestock Judging—Dr. E. W. Garriss and W. T. Lofton
 Livestock Judging—(Timekeeper)—W. T. Shaddick

The Livestock Judging Contest will be centered around several classes of beef and dairy animals. One team will judge both beef and dairy cattle. The classes for judging will be selected from the following breeds: Angus, Brahman, Hereford, Guernsey, Holstein, and Jersey. Teachers and boys will proceed immediately to the grandstand after entering the fair grounds for the purpose of being assembled in the different judging groups. Group leaders will be labeled and stationed at convenient intervals in front of the grandstand. Dr. E. W. Garriss will issue definite instructions at that time on judging livestock. Various county exhibits will be used for the exhibit judging contest. The hay, grain, and forage exhibits will be judged by Future Farmers teams from Districts I, II, and III, and will be in charge of Mr. T. L. Barrineau. The fruit and vegetable exhibits will

be judged by Future Farmer teams from Districts IV, V, and VI, and will be in charge of Mr. F. L. Northrop. Four county exhibits will be selected for the Hay, Grain and Forage, and four for the Fruits and Vegetables Exhibit Judging Contest. General information for Exhibit and Livestock Judging: For each Chapter three boys will compose a team in Livestock Judging, and there will be no substitutions after judging begins. Both Livestock and Exhibit Judging will be going on at approximately the same time, therefore, the same team could not judge in both contests. Each group will be given a total of ten minutes for general inspection and official scoring of each of the four entries in each class. Explicit instructions will be given group leaders in Tampa before the judging begins. These will be followed by all entrants.

Program for FFA Day at Florida State Fair Tampa, February 4, 1950

General Chairman, H. E. WOOD, State Supervisor of Agricultural Education

8:30 a.m.	Assemble at East Gate of Fair Grounds.	12:40-12:45 p.m.	Welcome Address — Carl D. Brorein, President, Florida State Fair Association.
9:00 a.m.	Admission to Fair Grounds and Assemble in Grandstand.	12:45-12:50 p.m.	Presentation of F.F.A. Award Plaque — Doyle Conner, Immediate-Past National President, Future Farmers of America.
9:15- 9:30 a.m.	Organization of Livestock and Exhibit Judging Teams.	12:50-12:55 p.m.	Introduction of Platform Guests — H. E. Wood, State Adviser, Florida Association, F.F.A.
9:30-10:45 a.m.	Livestock Judging Contest.	12:55- 1:00 p.m.	Address — Honorable Tom D. Bailey, State Superintendent of Public Instruction.
10:45-11:15 a.m.	Awarding Ribbons to Winners in Sears Roebuck Bull Show, J. C. Haynes, Public Relations Director, S & R Company, Atlanta	1:00- 1:05 p.m.	Presentation of Honorary State Farmer Keys by State President and Officers of Fla. Association, F.F.A.
10:00-11:00 a.m.	Judging Agricultural Exhibits.	1:05- 1:10 p.m.	Awarding Ribbons to Grand Champion Winners in F.F.A. Livestock Show: Honorable Nathan Mayo, Commissioner of Agriculture.
11:15-11:30 a.m.	Visiting Commercial Exhibits.	1:15 p.m.	Awarding Heifers by Presidents — Southeastern Brahman Breeders Association, and Florida Hereford Breeders Association.
11:30-12:00 noon	Lunch.	1:30- 5:00 p.m.	Entertainment — Grandstand.
12:00 Noon	Assemble on Track (East side) for parade to front of Grandstand.	5:00- 6:00 p.m.	Visiting Agricultural Exhibits.
12:15 p.m.	Assemble in front of Grandstand for Press Photo of F.F.A. Group.		
12:15-12:30 p.m.	Music by Wimauma F.F.A. String Band.		
12:20-12:40 p.m.	Take Seats in Grandstand for Program — in Charge of C. Vaughn, President, Florida Association, F.F.A.		

75 Beef and Dairy Cattle Entered In Fair to be a Credit to Florida FFA

The 75 beef and dairy cattle entered by FFA chapters and members in the Livestock Show will be a credit to them and to the State of Florida. Sears, Roebuck & Company bought and gave to the Florida FFA Association 40 Hereford and Brahman bulls in November, 1948. Twenty-five of these bulls will be shown at the Fair. Chapters and Future Farmer members are entering 50 other animals of beef and dairy breeds in this Show. These consist of Guernsey, Jersey, Brahman and Hereford. The top two chapters that have done best in providing pasture, feeding, breeding, showing and managing of the Hereford bulls will receive a purebred heifer from the Florida Hereford Breeders Association, and the Sears, Roebuck & Company. A purebred heifer will also be given to the chapter that does best with the Brahman bulls and the chapter that does best with Brahman cattle from the Southeastern Breeders Association.

Show Rules

The following are rules of eligibility for the Future Farmer Livestock Show:
 1. Any Future Farmer of Florida in good standing is eligible to enter

- one (1) animal in each classification, provided all requirements are complied with.
- This show shall consist of animals from both beef and dairy breeds.
- All animals entered must be a credit to the breed represented.
- All animals will meet Exhibition regulation tests for T.B. and Bang's diseases and certificates furnished superintendent as evidence when animals arrive at fair.
- Every F.F.A. entry is to receive a premium.
- Not more than seventy-five (75) animals in all classifications may be entered in this show.
- Premiums will be paid through fourth (4th) place, plus additional compensation for each entry.
- A project record book completed to date must be submitted with entry.
- The animal must have been owned at least ninety (90) days by exhibitor before entering in show.

THE MEMBERS of the Sarasota Future Farmers of America Chapter are moving their hives of honey bees from Myakka River State Park to the chapter forest, planning the Greenhand invitations and other activities for the fall program.

Aucilla Chapter Reviews History Since Charter Received in 1929

THE AUCILLA CHAPTER, Future Farmers of America, received its Charter in the Florida Association, Future Farmers of America, in June 1929. The Vocational Agriculture Department was organized under Mr. Howard. Since that time, the following teachers have taught there; E. L. Matthews, T. A. Treadwell, and J. C. Waldron.

This Chapter has had the following as State Officers:

President, Woodrow O'Steen-'30-'31, and Frank Henry Reams-'42-'43; Vice-President, Maxey Walker, '29-'30, and Griffin Bishop, 38-39; Secretary, W. L. Bishop, '32-'33; Treasurer, Reuben Reams, '29-'30; Douglas Walker, '30-'31, Marion Bishop, '36-'37; and I. L. Bishop, '40-'41; Reporter, B. F. Lanier, '33-'34, Douglas McLeod, '35-'36, Jim McClung, '37-'38; and 5th Vice-President, Joe Treadwell, '44-'45. This is the largest number of officers from any one chapter in the State. They have had as many American Farmer Degree members as any chapter in the State. The members receiving the American Farmer Degree, the highest degree in the FFA are: Woodrow O'Steen, 1930; W. E. Bishop, 1933; and G. E. Bishop, 1945.

Maxey Walker, A. B. Degree, is teaching Mathematics, Coach, and Physical Education Director in Havana High School. He, his wife (Polly), and young daughter Paula make their home in Havana.

Reuben Reams, Lamont, died about four months before he was to graduate in Agriculture Education from the University of Florida in 1938.

Woodrow O'Steen, B.S.A., Supervisor, Florida National Egg Laying Test, Chipley, Florida. He, his wife (Elsie), and young sons, Oscar, and Leslie make their home in Chipley.

Douglas Walker, Lamont, has followed a Navy career.

W. E. Bishop, B.S.A., M.S., is teaching Vocational Agriculture in Lake City. He, his wife (Virginia), and children, Bucky, and Dianne make their home in Lake City.

Douglas McLeod, B. S., Dentistry, is interning at the State Hospital in Chattahoochee, Florida. He, and his wife (Evelyn), make their home in Chattahoochee.

Marion Bishop, B.S.A., M.S., is teaching Vocational Agricultural in Newberry. He, his wife (Mildred), and young son Lannie live in Newberry.

Jim McClung, B.S.A. is Capt. in Army Air Force in South Carolina. He, and his wife live in South Carolina.

Griffin Bishop, B.S.A., is teaching Vocational Agriculture in Madison High School. He, his wife (Edna Earl), and young son, Tommy live in Madison.

B. F. Lanier is doing Carpentry work in Tallahassee. He, his wife (Teresa), and two children, Bruce and Sandra live in the capital city, Tallahassee.

Isham Leon Bishop is now farming. He bought a farm in Tennessee, which is located in a rich tobacco belt. Isham Leon, his wife (Cavelle), and two young sons make their home on this farm.

Frank Henry Reams, Aucilla, is now carrying on general farming, and turpentine business at home. He attended college one year after graduation.

Joe Treadwell won a Banker's Scholarship to the University of Florida, and is now in his Senior year studying Vocational Agriculture.

Aucilla is only a Junior High School at the present time, and the students go on to Monticello for advanced work.

Some of these students are: Jimmie Thomas, Joe Register, Herbert Demott, Charles Sparks, Willie Thigpin, John Blalock, Eugene Brock, Gerald Pickles and James Clark.

They have had 42 members to receive the State Farmer Degree.

an area of 680 acres.

The stop at Colorado Springs, where two days were spent in trips to the Garden of the Gods, Will Rogers' Monument and Pike's Peak, was very enjoyable after the long ride. At Royal Gorge, near Canon City, the boys saw the world's highest bridge at the 1053 foot gorge.

A tour of the Museum of History highlighted the party's stay in Denver. The members saw the world's largest well at Greensburg, Kansas. The well was dug by hand in 1887, to furnish water for the Santa Fe Railroad. Along the Mississippi delta at Memphis, the boys saw rice under cultivation.

These Future Farmers stated that the trip was very educational, and that they were looking forward to many similar trips in the future.

Doyle Special

(Continued from page 6)

did. Bill, who grows cotton, peanuts, corn, tobacco, and cover crops, said he liked the Live Stock Royal. "But if I had a \$25,000 animal like some they had there, I'd be afraid all the time it would die," he said. "I'd rather have scrub cattle and fatten them up."

John Waring, Madison, leaned across Bill. "Do you know," John said, "They don't have grits in Kansas City. Our steak is better than theirs too. They charge too much for everything up there."

Raymond Carley, Miami, was so impressed by the meat packing plant that he took notes on it. He pulled a paper from his jacket pocket and read the figures: "They butcher 287 beef animals an hour; 1750 pork a day; and 1850 mutton a day. They have 2500 to 3000 workers putting up hot dogs and sausages. I liked watching them curing hams—they had them hooked on long racks, curing over oak coals."

Raymond Futch, who raises beef and sugar cane on a ranch near Plant City, said he liked the steaks and the pumpernickel bread in Kansas City. "I thought the FFA officers were fine in carrying out their duties," he said. "And I enjoyed visiting the packing plants, the zoo and the Chevrolet assembly plant."

Raymond has eight Brahmans on his father's native carpet grass pasture. He and his brothers, William, who got the American Farmer Degree, and Alvin, who is State Secretary of the Florida Future Farmers, all three attended the Convention. William and Alvin drove back taking a week for the drive and going down through Denver, Colorado, into Mexico and back by way of the King Ranch in Texas.

Richard Roberts, Immokalee (LaBelle Chapter), who raises beef cattle, vegetables and watermelons, said, "I like

MEMORANDUM

CHAPTER

TO: Teachers of Vocational Agriculture

FROM: A. R. Cox, Executive Secretary, Florida Association, FFA

Our records show that you had _____ FFA members last year and _____ members this year, although you have _____ boys enrolled in Vocational Agriculture. The records also show that you have _____ subscriptions to the NATIONAL FUTURE FARMER Magazine.

If you bring your membership and subscriptions up to 100% of the boys enrolled in vocational agriculture, then your Honorary Chapter Farmers are eligible to receive the NATIONAL FUTURE FARMER Magazine free. BE SURE TO SEND THEIR NAMES AND MAILING ADDRESS.

The records also show that you have made a \$_____ donation to the J. F. Williams Memorial Scholarship Fund.

I surely hope that your chapter will be 100% on these three items as almost all of the chapters in the state were last year.

PLEASE RUSH THE ABOVE SO THAT FLORIDA WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE NINTH AMERICAN FARMER DEGREE THIS YEAR, AND SO THAT THE RECORDS CAN BE BROUGHT UP-TO-DATE, SHOWING YOUR CHAPTER AMONG THE TOP IN THE STATE.

ENCLOSED ARE _____ MEMBERSHIP CARDS FOR MEMBERS SUBMITTED

[illegible]

"Every one of us boys feels that the trip was very much worthwhile, and we hadn't realized how good Florida agriculture was until we compared it with the farms we saw on the trip. Most of the states we went through have a 3-months growing season, while we have a year-round one in Florida. And the soil in some of those states is not so much better than ours. And a \$1.50 Kansas City steak is not as good as a Florida steak at the same price".

Mr. Thomas D. Bailey, who served as a judge in the convention public speaking contest, said he was impressed by the good behavior of the boys on the train, and the business-like way they conducted their meetings in Kansas City. "The whole trip is of great educational value to the Future Farmers," he concluded.

Mrs. Bailey agreed with this. "And I also thought of the importance of the whole national group of 279,000 Future Farmers to our country, both now and in the future," she said. "I have enjoyed the whole trip very much—as much as if I had been a Future Farmer".

Doyle Conner flew down from Kansas City to board the train at Nashville. He had stayed over at convention headquarters to wind up the last threads of his presidential year, and to ride in one of the leading cars in the American Live Stock Royal parade.

"It has been a wonderful year," Doyle said. "Hate to see it end. I've traveled 60,000 miles during it. Guess my trip to Hawaii was one of the biggest things, but I've enjoyed every bit of it. People have been great to me everywhere in the United States. I feel like this year has helped me more than anything that ever happened to me. I'm going back to the University of Florida now and continue my studies there."

Live Oak Develops Successful Hog Show For North, West, Florida

A NEW HOG SHOW has developed in the Suwannee River Valley where Future Farmers of North and West Florida can compete for top honors in hog production and showmanship.

Sponsored by the Suwannee River Valley Development Association, this show fills a long-felt need for a centrally located show to increase North-west Florida's FFA participation. Next year it is hoped that all chapters in the area will be represented.

Some 300 prize hogs were exhibited representing six major breeds. Seventy-two fat barrows were exhibited by FFA, 4-H and adults. Entries as far as north Georgia were present making it the largest of its kind ever held in the State.

'Soil and Water Management' is Theme of Foundation Awards

by REX VAUGHN *

Ponce de Leon Chapter, FFA

MY INTEREST IN FARMING and farm life began when I was a youngster in the lower grades. The interest continued when I enrolled in Vocational Agriculture at Ponce de Leon High School. I can honestly say I had no intention of farming or following any career in agriculture. To me, life on the farm looked like one of hard work and drudgery with little or no reward in return for the amount of effort expended. But, now I have completely changed my mind.

I am eighteen years old, and live on a one-hundred-sixty-one acre farm up in the Northwest section of Florida. My Father used to be a public worker, but for several years our living has been made on the farm, which the two of us now operate.

I have participated in many activities of the FFA Chapter, such as livestock judging and softball, and was a member of the parliamentary procedure team, which took sub-district honors. I was secretary of the local chapter in 1948, and am now president of the chapter. The high point of my FFA career was my participation in the Florida State Forestry Camp at Camp O'Leno.

Soon, I found that Vocational Agriculture taught me not only to make the best of my personal endowments, but to conserve and make the best of use of our most valuable resource—our soil. I

*State winner of \$100 award by the National Future Farmer Foundation, in the Soil and Water Management contest.

learned forestry facts, how to set out trees, and the way to protect them. I learned the ways and means of preventing erosion. I planted about ten acres of vetch, clovers, and winter peas last fall, and turned them under during the spring. I went in shares with my Father, and bought a tractor and equipment which was to be used for terracing land and preventing erosion. We have found it invaluable in our farming program. With the aid of my Father we have plowed up the terraces which had been run on the home farm, and also plowed out the channels to the terraces. We have established grass in the terrace channels, and have put flumes at the terrace outlets to prevent erosion.

I am now putting the old land, which has been out of cultivation, into permanent pastures. I have approximately ten acres in permanent pastures.

The hill-side land, which is too steep for cultivation, is being put into use by planting pine seedlings. I have approximately fifteen acres of land that is planted in pines. I have also found pines very valuable as border plantings. They aid in conserving the wildlife on the home farm.

Through my Supervised Farming Program, I have learned much about scientific farming. The Soil and Water Management practices that I have learned and practiced, have been a great source of satisfaction as well as profit.

We have known that the terrace system on our farm needed a thorough going over from top to bottom for a long time. This year, with the help of my teacher, we re-ran the terraces, and worked out a new water disposal system. With the help of the Soil Conservation Technician from our district, we worked out a long-time farming program to suit our soil.

I knew that you could stop washes, but I couldn't understand how until I enrolled in vocational agriculture. I now know what the right cropping practices will do, what terracing means, what stopping a small gully in time means, and what it means to keep the soil covered with close-growing crops which will keep the top soil in place and give legumes a chance to build up the nitrogen and humus supply for future crops to use and provide for a better living on the farm.

Forestry at Largo

THE MEMBERS are receiving instruction in forestry and conservation practices on an area leased by the Clearwater Kiwanis Club from the County.

Brahman Cattle Project Outstanding Feature of Belle Glade Chapter

by K. DAVIDSON

IN 1941, WHEN THE CHAPTER of the Future Farmers of America was organized at Belle Glade, Florida, little did the members think that within eight years they and their chapter would be building a herd of registered Brahman cattle.

After years of experimenting by individual farmers and the Everglades Experiment Station, it was discovered the paramount reason cattle did not thrive well in this Everglades area was the lack of certain minerals in the rich muck soil. Many farmers have now diverted considerable portions of their acres into lush pastures and have gone into livestock production. Not only the addition of minerals to the soil but improved grasses have resulted in an expansion of this region's cattle program.

The Future Farmers with their adviser, J. R. Davidson, became aware of this change so the Chapter and individual boys invested in registered Brahmans. In the spring of 1947 seventeen heifers and two bull calves ranging in age from one to six weeks, were purchased from the herds of the United States Sugar Corporation at Clewiston and the Durrance Ranch at Brighton.

The calves were placed in pastures with

nurse cows. These pastures had been developed and fenced by the boys on land owned by the Palm Beach County School Board. They consist of 27 acres and contain bermuda, para and napier grasses. A complete mineral mix is kept before the cattle at all times. On several occasions when frost has killed part of the grass, a citrus molasses has been fed. These pastures are equipped with concrete automatic water troughs made and installed by the boys.

Aside from the registered cattle individual boys own 3 nurse cows, 3 dairy heifers, 3 range cows, 14 steers and 8 calves. A number of the registered Brahman heifers are bred and will calve in the spring.

The boys who use the School pastures are charged 50 cents per head per month and this is payable when the cattle are sold. This charge also includes the water and minerals.

A number of the registered cattle are halter broken and were shown at the State Fair in Tampa last February and at the Belle Glade Livestock Show held at the Experiment Station last April. Prizes won at these shows were 3 firsts, one second and two thirds all within their class.

ChIPLEY Future Farmer Seeks American Farmer Degree

by HURTIS SMITH

ChIPLEY FFA Chapter

I ENROLLED IN THE FIRST YEAR agriculture class in ChIPLEY High School in September of 1945, and was elected to the Green Hand Degree. For my projects that year, I chose five acres of peanuts, one sow for breeding, fifty head of poultry for meat, and fifty head of pullets. At the end of the year, my labor income was \$205.41. Most of this came from peanuts, because my sow soon died after weaning her pigs.

The next year, I increased my productive enterprises to include pecans, hogs, poultry, and corn, and my labor income increased to \$327.33. I was elected secretary of the local FFA chapter, and was appointed chairman of the Scholarship Committee. In February of 1947, I was elected to the Chapter Farmer Degree.

During my junior year in high school, I was unable to take agriculture because of a conflict in the schedule. Although I didn't take agriculture, I continued to be an active FFA member, and remained

as secretary of the chapter and chairman of the Scholarship Committee. I increased the acreage of corn, almost doubled the number of hogs for meat, besides having sixteen head for breeding. I continued the acre of pecans, added an acre of sweet potatoes, and a half acre of cucumbers. My labor income was \$964.64. This was a great increase over any previous year.

The most important improvement projects for the three years were: building new fences, planting soil improvement crops, improving the breeding of livestock, installing lights and other modern conveniences, and starting a home fruit orchard. This year, I am covering the farm dwelling with fireproof siding.

The list of supplementary farm practices is long, but here are a few: Improving the fertilization of crops, conserving and using farm manures, treating seed, laying pipes, fertilizing, spraying and general maintenance of fruit trees and grape arbors, and castrating livestock.

Purebred Swine Project Hailed at Hawthorne

by B. K. WHEELER

Hawthorne F.F.A. Adviser

THE MEMBERS STARTED the pure-bred hog project for the Hawthorne Chapter in May 1948 with one pure bred guilt, just weaned. Two of our boys bought a purebred barrow to feed out for the fat hog show in Ocala, at this same time.

We selected clean, well drained land, and built large pens, or lots, about one-fourth acre each and provided shade and running water, a concrete feed flour and water trough and a concrete hog wallow vat.

These pigs were fed a balanced ration with little grazing, but some green feed thrown over. They averaged about 200 lbs. each at the time of the hog show in Ocala, September 29-Oct. 1, 1948. About 4½ lbs. of feed was required for each pound of gain during this period. The cost of this feed averaged four and one-half cents per pound.

At this Ocala show and sale, Mr. J. G. Smith, District Supervisor, bought Proud Lassie, a six and one-half months old guilt, raised by Mr. W. T. Cannon and Son of Live Oak. This guilt was turned over to us to start the Fla. FFA pig chain. A few days later she was bred to an outstanding boar belonging to the Trenton FFA chapter.

Our boys took good care of these hogs and they developed into good brood sows. On January 24, 1949, Proud Lassie brought us eight pigs, 4 guilts and 4 boars. On April 1, 1949, Our chapter guilt, Miss Hawthorne, brought us ten pigs, 4 guilts and 6 boars. We grew the pigs out very successfully, and when they were from 2½ to 3 months old and weighing from 50 to 60 lbs., we still had the 8 in the first litter and the ten in the second litter and sold them for \$25.00 each. They were all sold to local people who needed good hogs. With every pig we furnished the registration paper. We selected Proud Lassie's two prettiest guilts to pay for their mother and Mr. Smith turned them over to High Springs and Callahan Chapter members, when they were about five and a half months old.

We grew some corn and peanuts for these hogs last year, 1948, and again this summer. That with scraps from our kitchen has helped to keep down our feed costs. But, still, the feed bill has been a considerable item of expense to our Chapter. But, the hogs have now paid out and the two sows are starting with their second litters.

Projects Range from Swine to Citrus Among State FFA Upper Echelons

From Scrub Cows to Purebred Angus

by ALVIN FUTCH

State 2nd Vice-President, Plant City Chapter
MY SUPERVISED FARMING PROGRAM and Future Farmer activities have meant much to me. At the time of my initiation as a Green Hand in 1945, my projects consisted of six head of scrub cows; hogs, which were used at home; five acres of sweet corn for a money crop; and one half acre of sugar cane which was used for syrup.

Mr. D. A. Storms was supervisor my second year of agriculture. That year I received my Chapter Farmer degree. I was a member of the judging team at the Guernsey Show and Sale at Largo, where I won a second place prize. I was also the chapter reporter that year. My best project for the year was a purebred Aberdeen Angus steer, which I purchased from Mr. C. E. Williams of Bartow. I kept this steer for ten months, feeding him on snap corn, velvet beans, and sugar cane, which were home grown; supplemented by purchased cotton seed meal and Omaline. This Aberdeen Angus weighed 550 pounds when I sold him at the Southeastern Fat Stock Show for 33½¢ per pound. I made over \$100 profit. My next best project consisted of six head of beef cattle with considerable Brahman blood. I cleared \$86 from this project. Another project was five acres of sugar cane, which was used as a forage crop for the cattle. Again I had three head of feeder hogs, which I fattened on home grown corn.

I was elected President of our chapter at the beginning of the 1948-49 school year. I was a member of the judging team that represented the Plant City Chapter at the State Fair. Our team won the first place, and was awarded a trip to Kansas City, where we competed in a National Stock Judging Contest.

Two of my projects for my final year in school were: five head of feeder hogs fattened for home use (I fed them corn and kitchen waste); and ten acres of sugar cane for a forage crop, which will be used for winter feed. I am proud of my beef cattle project this year, as I have five of the best cows in our herd of over 500 head. I have the most outstanding veal on the ranch, and own two more fine calves. My eight head of cattle are

worth more than \$800.

The Hillsborough County Rodeo held here at Plant City each Fourth of July held many thrills and spills for me. I was very fortunate in taking second place in calf roping, and first place in cow pony racing. Although, I was no money winner in either Bronc riding, Bull-dogging and Bull-riding, I was out there showing the public what a Future Farmer could do.

I planted okra and tended ¾ acre of collards, which I have on shares with my brother, William. We also put in 20 acres of Rhodes grass.

Matthews Started With Corn, Livestock

by MATT MATHEWS,

State 1st Vice-President, Allentown Chapter

MY FFA WORK BEGAN when I entered the eighth grade at Allentown High School, under the direction of Mr. L. H. Kendall. He has been very helpful to me in planning my farming program. The first year, I had one acre of corn, one meat hog, and one beef breeding cow.

In 1946-47, I increased my farming program considerably. I financed it with my first year's earnings. I had five acres of corn, one beef breeding cow, one breeding hog, and two meat hogs. I used part of the corn to feed my livestock to help cut expenses.

In 1947-48, after returning from Forestry Camp, I obtained thirty acres of land from my Father. I planted this thirty acres in slash pine as a new project. I also had five acres of corn, four head of breeding hogs, and sixteen head of meat hogs. I raised forty purebred Durocs, and sold them as breeding stock.

This year, I have twenty-five acres of corn, thirty acres of forest, two breeding hogs, and ten meat hogs. I am still raising purebred Durocs, which I plan to sell as breeding stock.

I have always had at least three projects in my farming program. To date, my labor income is \$2,063.22.

I have had some fine experiences in our FFA, and in Vocational Agriculture. The work I have done in FFA has been enjoyable, as well as educational. Having already received my State Farmer Degree, my next goal is the American Farmer Degree.

Valencias Are Bronson's Interest

by MITTIE BRONSON

State 5th Vice-President, Ocoee, Florida

ONE OF MY PROJECTS for 1947-48 was four acres of Valencia Oranges—Citrus. The orange trees were about seven to ten years of age, and averaged about one to four boxes per tree for a total of four hundred boxes. The crop was very light compared to other years, and though the price was very low, I was fortunate to get one dollar per box. The total charges included: material for dusting, spraying, fertilizing, plowing, and disking. I had a labor income of one hundred and seventy-five dollars, and a net profit of one hundred and thirty dollars.

My other project was a Jersey calf, which I bought four days after it was born for three dollars. The total charge for raising this calf was fifty-four dollars and twenty cents. I had a labor income of forty dollars and eighty cents from this project.

During the '47-48 school term, I entered the Public Speaking Contest, and was a member of the judging team at Tampa.

I continued my four acre project in 1948-49. The prices at one dollar and fifty cents per box, were much better this year, and I received five hundred and seven dollars and twenty cents for the crop. The total charges were one hundred and eighty-three dollars, which included dusting, fertilizing, spraying, disking, plowing, and hoeing. I estimated that each acre had increased in value at least twelve dollars and fifty cents per acre, which gave me a labor income of three hundred and seventy-four dollars and twenty cents.

My other project was home gardening. The garden was on two acres of good, low, and moist land, suitable for growing vegetables. The garden included corn, beans, peas, okra, turnips, mustard, and squash. The total expense of thirty-three dollars and five cents was for feed and fuel for the tractor. My student labor income was eighty-three dollars and forty-five cents, giving me a net profit of forty dollars and ninety-five cents. We used part of the vegetables at home, and sold the remainder.

Last year, I served as President of the local chapter, entered the public speaking contest, and sang in the quartet.

Suwannee Vets Exhibit Winners At County Fair

by SHELTON PINKERTON, Veterans Teacher
THE SUWANNEE COUNTY FAIR was held October 24-October 29, with the Veterans Vocational Agricultural trainees participating by exhibiting a very outstanding booth.

Each item exhibited was from the different veterans' farms, coming either from Branford or Live Oak Center. The display showed an example of a well rounded Live-At-Home program. There was a wide display of canned vegetables, fruits, etc. Also exhibited were home cured meat and lard along with home grown fresh fruits and vegetables.

The booth displayed several kinds of hays and also exhibited samples of the several different kinds of grasses that can be grown in this county.

To show work done in the planting of better varieties, several different varieties of corn were displayed. Small grain and other feed crops such as velvet beans, peanuts, and chufas were shown.

Tobacco was shown as one of the cash crops. Several varieties of pecans were also exhibited giving credit to the large number produced here for market. Blue lupine, crotalaria, and hairy indigo were exhibited to show the crops used most as cover crops. Lupine and indigo seeds are finding their place in this county as cash crops as well as are some of the grass seeds.

The veterans booth was the only booth that showed record books. These books were records kept by different trainees and represented that they were an important item in farming.

All of these farm products were displayed on a background of red, white and blue showing the National colors under which these veterans served during the war and are now serving by producing more and better farm produce.

The veterans booth won 35 blue ribbons, 26 red ones, and 1 white ribbon, thereby carrying away more ribbons than any other booth. On the day of judging, the veteran's booth was eliminated from competition with other booths and was placed first in an individual group, winning second prize money of \$50.00 plus \$26.50 for prize on individual items.

Ponce de Leon

FOLLOWING A DEMONSTRATION on proper methods to use in planting slash pine seedlings, the veterans planted 7500 seedlings.



Suwannee County veterans in on-farm training programs claim first place for this exhibit at the Suwannee County Fair.

Walnut Hill Trainee Continues to Grow On His 160 Acre Farmstead

WALNUT HILL-- Start off small and grow is the motto of Morris B. Miller, Veteran farm trainee, who farms in the Northern part of Escambia County, a short distance from Atmore, Alabama.

Born and raised on a farm, Morris knew what the farm could do if proper knowledge and hard work were applied at the right times. He began in 1947 by renting a 30-acre farm right after returning from army duty. After one year of this, he branched out and rented a 70-acre farm and bought a 90-acre tract of timberland. Since that time, his hard work formula has paid off. Just a quick look at his deep freezer and his wife's pantry will prove his point.

They canned 1200 jars of fruits, meats, vegetables and preserves and jellies in 1947, 1000 again in 1948, and again this year. In the deep freeze unit, Morris has put 50 fryers, 50 hens, two hogs and a beef to be used as needed during 1949. By canning fruits and vegetables and putting his meats in a deep freeze proves that Morris is above the average farmer in his ability to make a living on the farm.

After acquiring the 90 acres of his own, Morris fenced the tract and cleared 40 acres of it for cultivation. This with his 70-acre rented tract gives him 160 acres of real farmland. Morris has im-

proved it by the right use of soil and water conservation practices recommended by the Perdido River Soil Conservation District. His crops are varied from Irish potatoes, soy beans and corn, to livestock, such as about 100 hogs, sired by registered Durocs, cows and adequate pasture consisting mostly of White Dutch Clover and Lespedeza sericea. Morris has 300 laying hens to give him a daily cash income and this year added 10 acres of turnips for sale as a truck crop.

Not only is he interested in his farm as a business, but he is community-conscious, working with the County Farm Bureau, Duroc Association in Escambia County and the American Legion post in Atmore.

He has built a good barn and laid the foundation for a sturdy home, with all the lumber being used coming from the 40 acres he cleared. Morris hasn't stopped growing, but he is making a comfortable living now and intends to improve and enjoy his farming as he grows.

THE VETERANS at Jay have finished planting 45 acres of Crimson Clover, 21 acres of Pensacola Bahia and Dallas grass. John S. Pittman, Veterans Teacher, reported that all the veterans are co-operating in preventing and controlling forest fires.



Daniel W. Maxwell, Lake City veteran, is shown above illustrating four steps in his hay-production operation. At left he mows Pangola grass and at right he is raking the hay into windrows.

Maxwell then bales his Pangola in simple round bales with his pick-up baler, and at right he is shown in his hay drier, with P. A. Browning (left) his Veterans vocational agriculture teacher.

Maxwell, Lake City Veteran, Sees Great Opportunity In Production of Pangola Hay, Using Modern Methods

RETUNING FROM SERVING his country during the last war, David W. Maxwell enrolled in the Veterans On-The-Farm class at Lake City. He started with a run down farm and the desire to have it produce grass for cattle.

By planting cover crops to improve the soil on the farm, he made his initial start. In June of 1947, a pangola grass seed bed was planted; today he has 60 acres of this fine grass. The seedbed was mowed in August of 1948, the grass being spread in the field then disked in to give a good start in helping to root it.

A fertilizer of 400 lbs. 0-14-10 and 100 lbs. of Uramon per acre was used in the spring of 1949. Maxwell was able to cut

an average of two tons of grass hay per acre in August, and another ton per acre in October. This was a good return on the original cost of \$10.00 per acre for planting.

Seventy-five acres of the farm was seeded in Pensacola Bahia from which he combined an average of 200 lbs. of seed per acre in July. He used 400 lbs. of 5-12-6 with rare elements and 100 lbs. of Uramon per acre in fertilizing last spring.

Since the weather is not always favorable to "making hay" trainee has a drier which will handle from 20 to 30 tons in fourteen hours for a cost of about \$6.00 per ton. The drier has four blowers to

push the hot dry air through the hay, thus enabling it to dry faster.

While waiting for the pangola grass to grow for mowing and the Bahia for combining, he has four acres of Coastal Bermuda grass, ten acres of African Weeping Love grass, and forty acres of Alyce Clover for the cattle to graze. In the summer, sixty acres of hairy indigo is planted for soil improvement, and in the winter, sixty acres of sweet lupine for grazing and soil improvement.

By trying new grasses and new methods, under the guidance of his teacher, P. A. Browning, Maxwell has proved that improved practices and pastures can help him turn his dream of a livestock farm into a reality.

Tragedy Stalks Turkey Creek Veterans for Second Time

TRAGEDY, in the form of dread disease, has struck a second time in the Turkey Creek Veterans On-The-Farm Training classes. The second victim is Mrs. John Foy Lee, who was stricken with polio. After being confined to the polio ward in a Tampa hospital, doctors performed a delicate Caesarean operation to deliver her six pound, two ounce baby boy.

Mrs. Lee's husband, several months ago, started a campaign to help a classmate veteran, Wallace Beaty, whose boy was suffering from Leukemia. The Beatys received financial aid, and members of his class also donated time to help with his work during little Butch's illness. Donations to help cover expenses were made by members of Lee's class, the class at Turkey Creek and citizens of the Turkey Creek community.

Lee Has Own Well-Equipped Farm Shop

IF YOU ASK Willie Lee of Reddick how to accumulate tools and machinery, he probably will tell you, by keeping up with the tools that you buy. He has lost only one pair of pliers in three years.

He has recently completed a practical shop, 20' x 40', valued at \$300. His tools, valued at \$650 are kept in open cabinets at the back of the shop, as each one has a place. When a tool has been used it is cleaned, oiled lightly and put in its proper place.

To show what he means about the shop being practical is to see a few of the jobs done there. The construction of a tractor wheel puller saves time and labor in changing the wheels on his tractor. He built a drill press for \$20.00, instead of buying one for \$150.00.

Other things made for the shop or farm are: A portable saw, a vise stand, a forge, a farm wagon, a rotary type mowing machine. He has installed an attic fan, a running water system in the house, converted his wife's sewing machine to electricity, and has plans to build a deep freeze for the kitchen.

Blountstown Veteran Harvests 75 Bushels of Corn on Single Acre

HORACE KENT of Blountstown, Veteran of World War II, harvested 75 bushels of corn from one acre. This was the result of a trial acre of corn being planted under the supervision of Mr. Wayman Cayson, local Veterans Teacher. Kent used 900 lbs. of 4-10-7 fertilizer, applying it at three intervals. That is, for the first and second applications he used 400

DeSoto On-Farm Trainees Find Dairy Cows Profitable Investment

VETERANS taking Institutional-on-the-Farm Training in DeSoto County are "sold" on having milk cows which provide many of the necessities as well as luxuries of life. When this course started in November 1946, one veteran in ten had a cow. The other veterans, at that time, stated that a cow was not a profitable investment. Today, however, eighteen of the twenty veterans possess their own cows and realize a profit from them.

These veterans have found that the cow is a profitable investment since it provides the owner with approximately ten quarts of milk a day. At present milk prices, this is \$2.50 worth of milk a day. Homemade butter, cottage cheese, and buttermilk enrich the farmers' tables. The skim milk reduces the feed bills and greatly aids in keeping pork or chicken on the table. Baby beef can also be provided with the family milk cow. Usually about 1/4 of the cow's milk production is fed to her calf and, in six months, a 200 lb. baby beef is ready for the deep freezer. Calf hides are being used to replace the seats in kitchen chairs.

DeSoto County veterans are not all in the purebred milk cow business, but they do have a good number of milk cows since they have found that a milk cow is the best investment they have ever made. The veterans and their families take care of the cow and, in turn, she helps them build a stronger live-at-home program.

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Roy Long, Deland veteran, inspects a quart of Irish potatoes in his pantry. He grew all the vegetables in his home garden.

Gala Welcome Assured at Tampa

(Continued from page 3)
and an arena with seating capacity of 832.

Attention is called to the innovation in the Poultry Division. For the first time in our history the Florida Poultry Industry is organizing an exhibit of Florida utility birds (egg and meat producers) and will show in competition. This show is spear-headed by prominent State feed dealers and top-ranking breeders and producers. Nationally known dealers in farm equipment, incubators, laboratories, etc. will exhibit.

There will be education and fun for all Florida Future Farmer chapter members at the 1950 Florida State Fair at Tampa. Do wear your jackets and caps so that the tens of thousands of Fair-goers may realize the big part FFA plays in our State.

Okaloosa

THE VETERANS have been busy building and installing sanitary privies in cooperation with the Sanitary Department. Through cooperation, they have reduced the cost of each privy installed to \$42.00, under the supervision of David Wyche, Veterans Teacher.

Inverness

FUTURE FARMERS of the Inverness Chapter have worked out an agreement with the Gulf Soil Conservation District for handling equipment, including seeders, fertilizer, distributors, and a chopper. The FFA Chapter will be in charge of renting the equipment, which they will keep stored at the school building.

THE CALLAHAN CHAPTER raised money to pay expenses of their delegates to the National Convention by presenting three one-act plays, November 18.

Long Combines Varied Agriculture With Fernery

by A. N. MINER, Veterans Teacher
CANNED POTATOES, field peas, chicken, pears, tomatoes, and pickles—a whole 6 ft. x 3 ft cabinet full—meet your eye and make your mouth water when you walk into Roy Long's storeroom. If you have had a good meal and can let your eye wander, you will see more jars of canned goods on the floor, and will notice the bin where Roy stores his Porto Rican bunch sweet potatoes each year.

When Roy was released from the Navy, it seemed that the next good strong wind would "flatten" out such of his fernery and farm buildings as were not already on the ground. Since that time, Roy has put the buildings back in order, built a garage and packing shed combination, and a wash house and storeroom building. As he likes a good place in which to live as well as good food to eat, Roy has refinished his home inside and has just finished adding two new rooms. The REA put in its blessed appearance in the Long home the first of this year, and Roy is now looking for a market for his generator. When the new water system and remodeled bathroom are finished, his home will be complete.

Beyond Roy Long's cane and sweet potato plantings is a farrowing pen for his Guinea sow that is soon to become a mother. The sow and boar, in an adjacent pen, are sleek and happy as they lie in the shade and thrive on the home grown corn and supplementary feeds that Roy gives them.

An excellent fall garden indicates more food for the family, and more products for canning. Roy is also preparing a pasture, and expects to secure a family milk cow in the near future.

During the time he has been on the Veterans' Training program, Mr. Long has added about one acre to his fernery. This acre plus the original fern, that he has brought back into production, will be his main cash enterprise in the future.

The constant year around work of fern production and growing food for his family makes Roy a rotund and happy man, and after a visit to his farm you can feel a renewed faith that farming is really a way of life as well as a way to make a living.

Baker

THE VETERANS have finished seeding 22 acres of Kudzu, Bahia and Crimson Clover.

Cottdale Veteran Gets First Farm Housing Loan in Florida

MR. & MRS. HUBERT A. CHRISTMAS, of Cottdale, received the first Farm Housing Loan in Florida. He is a Veteran enrolled in the Institutional On-Farm Training Program, with Mr. John S. Braxton as his Teacher.

Hubert started his training as a renter in 1947, and was able to purchase his present farm of 120 acres in 1948, though he still rents 30 acres for farming, he planted cover crops and practiced other improvements to built it up. He has cleared 53 acres and is in the process of clearing 23 acres more. His plans are to have all the farm in production by 1953, with 10 acres in a farm pond and woodland. So far, he has 14 acres of improved permanent pasture and a nursery plot of Coastal Bermuda. This last year, he produced cotton, peanuts, corn, oats, millet, and a home garden. His livestock program consisted of 5 milk cows, 5 other cattle, a farm poultry flock, 3 Duroc sows and 24 hogs, which he sold this last year.

The trainee has planned his farming practices for 1950, planting Dixie Runner peanuts in 30 inch rows, 6 inches in the row, fertilizing with 400 pounds of 0-14-10 per acre, and dusting with Sulphur and DDT. The cotton will be Coker's wilt resistant in 36 inch rows, with 400 pounds of 4-10-7 per acre, and side dressing with Soda. The 20 acres of Dixie-18 corn in 42 inch rows, 24 inches in the drill, fertilizing with 400

pounds of 4-10-7 per acre, and side dressing with Soda. To improve the land, planting 22 acres of lupine, using 100 pounds of seed per acre, fertilizing with 400 pounds of 0-14-10 per acre, treating 10 acres of clover pasture with a ton of lime and 400 pounds of 0-14-10 per acre, 10 acres of millet to be followed by soybeans for grazing, purchase 7 head of dairy cows, a purebred boar, and plans for abundant milk, eggs, pork, and poultry meat, vegetables and fruit for the family use. He plans to seed 10 acres of Dixie Crimson and ladino clover and 5 acres of Pensacola Bahia grass.

His long-time program calls for him to develop pasture and feed crops to support a 20 cow dairy herd in 1953. Then he expects to have 50 acres in improved permanent pasture and 60 to 65 acres in row crops, keeping 3 to 5 brood sows and producing 75 to 80 hogs for market, testing all the livestock for bang's disease and feeding the necessary minerals. Re-arranging the fence so that the farm will be in 10 plots.

The loan will be used to improve the dwelling and farm buildings. In the home, he will re-screen all the windows and outside doors, put two coats of paint on all exterior and interior woodwork, re-roof with a metal roofing, replace the front porch with cement, and install a bath and build more closet space. The yard will be landscaped by leveling and

Ocala Trainee Raising Dairy Replacement Stock at Profit

TOM SMITH, On-the-Farm Trainee in Ocala, has an idea that he is working into a profitable and worthwhile business, under the supervision of his teacher, Mr. Bryan H. Phillips.

His idea was to raise replacement stock for dairy herds, obtaining surplus heifer calves from dairies. In June, 1946, he purchased a 260 acre farm in Marion County and started raising heifers. Starting on a small scale, he has gradually increased to 80 heifers and plans to start 100 heifers this year, which he figures as a minimum number for his farm.

He obtains the calves from different dairies in the State when they are about three days old. The calves at this age require very close attention, being sensitive to changes in diet. The calves are weaned from a liquid diet from three to six months of age, the condition of the

individual animal being the determining factor. A good concentrate and plenty of hay is fed from weaning until they are about nine months old. After this, they feed well on pasture. If the animals grow out well, they are bred to freshen at around two years of age.

The trainee raises corn and hairy indigo for hay, and plans on including some oats in the future. The cane is used for winter feed for yearlings and older animals, with protein supplement.

Tom and Majorie, his wife, are very active in community activities. Tom is Chairman of the Music Committee of his Church, member of the Church Choir, and Sunday School. He is the Secretary-Treasurer of the Marion County Veterans' Farmers' Cooperative. Majorie is a member of the Pioneer Garden Club, and Chairman of the Junior Garden Club.

planting shrubs, and fruit trees for shade. He will build a 4-stall dairy barn, a 22 foot by 40 foot tool shed for his tractor and equipment, erect 8 rolls of cross fence, and buy seed and fertilizer for pasture improvement.

Independence is Main Objective Of Vet Program

By JOHN SMILEY
ONE OF THE MAIN OBJECTIVES of the Institutional-on-the-Farm Training program is to enable the veteran to become independent in his chosen life of farming. This is accomplished by improved and modern methods of fertilization, spraying, and marketing, accompanied by an improved "live-at-home" program.

Two and one-half years ago, Leon Pittman began his training under the GI Bill of Rights. Realizing that a farmer's home should be as up-to-date as his farming methods, Leon built a modern five-room house.

His next objective was to improve and enlarge his asparagus plumosus business. He planted his own seed under trees in a "hammock," assuring himself of a supply of plants to transplant at the proper time. He saved approximately \$10.00 per thousand plants or, \$400.00 per acre on plants alone.

After having such good luck with the seed bed under the oak trees, Leon expanded his acreage of fernery under the trees. This enabled him to furnish florists with a better quality of fern through the hot summer months of June, July, and August. By planting under the trees, the "keeping" quality of the fern was improved, less "rust" was encountered, and a large expenditure for slat shade was saved. Mr. Pittman plans to expand his program to include potted ornamentals and citrus trees.

During the past few months, Leon has been working on an enlarged live-at-home program as stressed by all instructors of Institutional-on-the-Farm Training. He has set up a small poultry business, fattened and butchered two meat hogs for his own consumption. He plans to buy a milk cow and use the surplus milk to raise veal to help stock his deep freezer.

We feel sure that the expiration of Leon Pittman's training will find him a modern independent and successful farmer with a comfortable home and a happy family.

DELAND FFA members have christened their new purebred Hereford heifer "Hurricane".



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