

The

Florida Future Farmer

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SUMMER, 1955

**Announcement Of
Foundation Awards**

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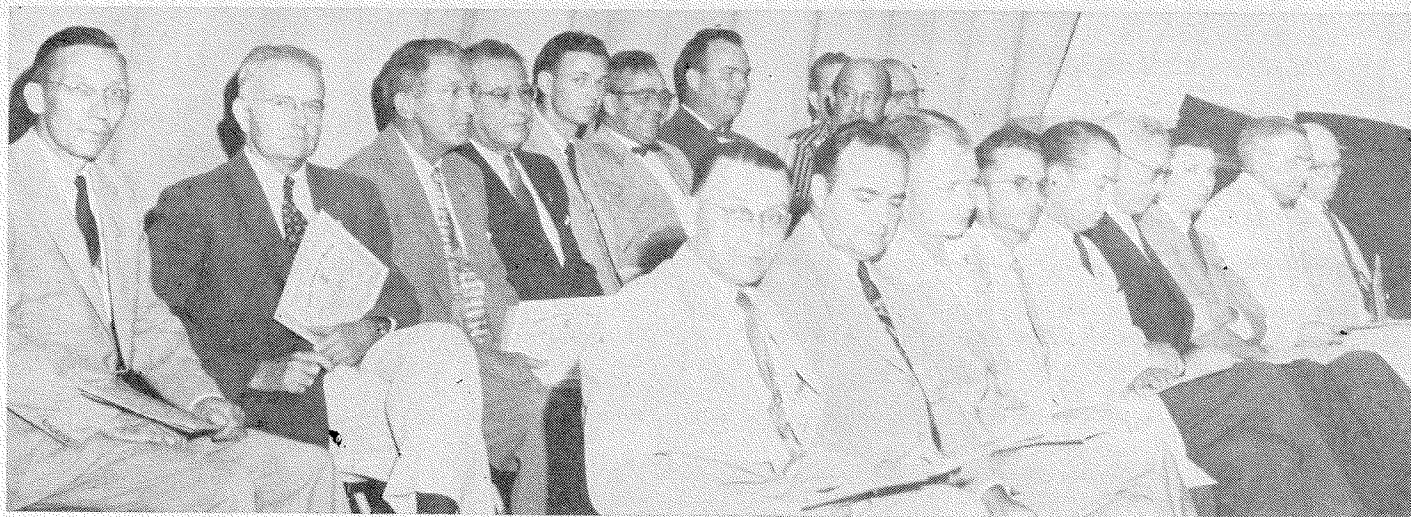
National President's Address

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**The 1955 FFA State
Convention Report**



120 Awarded State Farmer Degree



Outstanding men in Florida receiving the Honorary State Farmer Degree at the 27th Annual State FFA Convention in Daytona Beach. Back row, seated from left to right are: T. A. Delegal, Jacksonville, former principal of National President, Bill Gunter; Aubrey Fowler, Live Oak, Production Credit Association; Ray Hayes, Leesburg, principal, Leesburg High School; J. H. Keele, Miami, Sales Promotion Manager, Florida Power and Light Company; W. L. Kilpatrick, High Springs, Principal, High Springs and former Agriculture teacher of State President, Colin Williamson; Earl Kipp, Orlando, Supervising Principal, Boone High School, Orlando; J. Edward Langley, Daytona Beach, Choral Director, Mainland High School; Colin Lindsey, Ocala, State Manager and Operator, Belk-Lindsey Stores; Emory McCallum, Tallahassee, Accounting Clerk; Wesley W. Mathews, Miami, Assistant Superintendent, Dade County; front row, left to right; Broward Miller, Bushnell, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Sumter County; J. D. Odom, Live Oak, Livestock Marketing Specialist; Douglas Oswald, Ocala, Assistant vice-president, and Farm Representative, Commercial Bank and Trust Company; Harvey T. Paulk, Malone, Vocational Agriculture Teacher and member of the State FFA Advisory Board; Paul N. Simmons, Lake Alfred, Assistant Manager, Growers Fertilizer Company; Harry Smith, Tallahassee, State Budget Director; Jack Stevens, Tallahassee, Assistant Secretary, Florida Education Association; Al Whitmore, Orlando, Secretary, Florida Council of Farmer Cooperatives; Steve Williamson, High Springs, father of State President, Colin Williamson.

Over 800 Attend 27th Annual State FFA Convention at Daytona Beach

FLORIDA FUTURE FARMERS 27th Annual State Convention and Leadership Training Conference was held in Daytona Beach during the week of June 13-17, 1955. The beautiful and comfortable Peabody Auditorium was again used for the indoor convention activities. Future Farmers from all over the State, over 800 in number, attended as delegates, contest and award winners, State Farmer Degree recipients and interested observers. Bill Gunter, Live Oak, National President of the Future Farmers of America, was the honored guest for this occasion and won the friendship of all by his pleasing personality and his never-failing willingness to assist in any manner that he could. The theme of the convention was "Courage and Faith in Worthy Undertakings for the Good of All." This is also a great theme to live by.

MONDAY

Registration, housing, interviewing of candidates for State Office, athletic contests and the Tractor Driving contest held the spotlight during the first day. Future Farmers filled their headquarters, the Princess Issena Hotel, and many of the surrounding hotels. The Macclenny Chapter team won the State Softball

Championship, defeating the Plant City Chapter team by a score of 5 to 4, and the State Tractor Driving contest was won by Homer McMillan of DeLand. The State Championship of the Horseshoe Pitching contest was won by the Green Cove Springs Chapter team, composed of William Moody and James Spengler.

Over 225 Delegates, State Officers, members and friends, attended the Dele-

gates Dinner, held at the Princess Issena Hotel at 5:00 p.m. The String Band from Trenton played most of the time during the dinner, which was followed by a special program. The Invocation was given by Emory Weatherly of Havana, 5th Vice-President, and a short welcome by Willard Durrance of Wauchula, 1st Vice-President, who acted as Master of Ceremonies. Special entertainment was

The President's Message

It was a great pleasure and a high honor to be elected State President of the Florida Association for 1955-56. I sincerely appreciate everything that everyone has done to help me become president.

During the coming year, we must all work together if we are to achieve a greater amount of advancement in agricultural education than we have ever before witnessed.

I ask that everyone read and hold fast the creed of our organization. Then we will all be better farmers and citizens.

If everyone will try to make their chapter's record an outstanding one for the coming year, you will be proud when you see your chapter receive higher honors than it has ever before received.

I will do all that I can during the coming year to make the Florida Association one of which we will all be proud to say we are members. I am depending on you for help, and I know you won't let me down. We must all work together to uphold our organization, for no one of us can do this alone.

WILLIAM APLIN

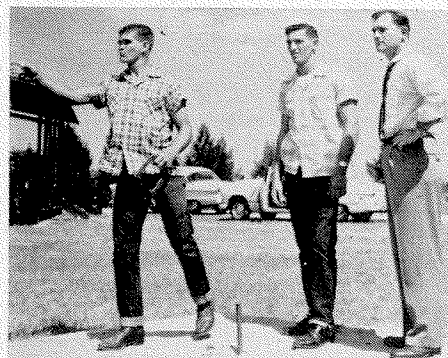
given by Billy Poston of Quincy and Delmo Higdon from Groveland.

MONDAY EVENING

A General Assembly of all delegates, advisers, and guests, was held in Peabody Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. with Willard Durrance presiding. After some entertainment by the Jay String Band, the session opened with the official ceremony. State Officers occupied their respective stations, except for Willard Durrance, who occupied the President's Station, since Colin Williamson was graduating that night. Vice-President Durrance addressed the assembly briefly, introduced the other State Officers, and then presented Mr. W. T. Loftin, Associate Professor, Agricultural Education, University of Florida, Gainesville, who was in charge of the Parliamentary Procedure contest. Judges were: Professor Frazier Rogers, Head of the Agricultural Engineering Department, University of Florida, Gainesville; Mr. Francis G. Whitehair, Lawyer in DeLand; Dean R. C. Beaty, Dean of Men at the Univ. of Fla. in Gainesville; and Dr. E. W. Garriss, Head Teacher-Trainer, Agricultural Education, University of Florida, Gainesville, who acted as moderator. Chapter teams and members in the order of their final placings in this contest were: Bristol (Bobby Phillips, Lewis Johnson, Wilbur Moran, Keith Revell, Billy Maher, and Deete Preacher) who was awarded \$25.00 and Pennant from the Florida Association, F.F.A., and a Trophy from the



Pictured at top is the Plant City State Champion String Band performing on the Band-shell Program presented by the Future Farmers at their Annual State FFA Convention in Daytona Beach. Members of the band are: Harold Hogue, Buddy Stevens, Don Futch and Dale Miley. • Below is shown the Trenton FFA String Band entertaining at the Annual Delegates' Dinner at their 27th Annual State FFA Convention in Daytona Beach, June 13-17, 1955. Members of the Band are from left to right: Billie Colson, Ralph Read, Aubrey Deen, Grady Colson, Dale Polk, and Ray Parrish.



Top photo shows State Champion Horseshoe Pitching Team, William Moody and Jack Spengler from Green Cove Springs with their adviser, Mr. E. M. Thrasher. • Below: Colin Williamson, president, Florida Association, FFA, presents a special award plaque to Dr. A. L. Sheely, who received the Honorary State Farmer Degree in 1931, in appreciation for the work he has done. This award was made at the 27th Annual State FFA Convention in Daytona Beach.

Florida Farm Bureau; Sebring (Harry Rape, Al Holifield, John Watson, Shelby Farr, Bobby Howzi, and Bobby Livingston)—\$20.00; and Ocala (Duncan Wright, Richard Barber, Herbert Counts, Mickey McGee, Donald Goolsby, and Robert McAtcer)—\$15.00. Mr. T. K. McClane, Executive Director of the Florida Farm Bureau presented the trophy.

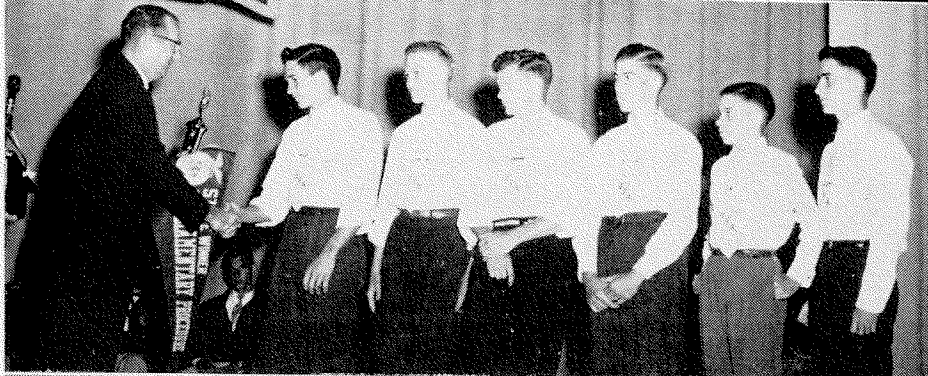
The Farm Safety Award of a Certificate and check for \$100.00 from the Future Farmer Foundation was presented to the Malone Chapter by Mr. Ed M. Parker, Southeastern District Agronomist, Spencer Chemical Company, Atlanta. Jerry Barlow, President of the Chapter, accepted this award.

Mr. T. L. Barrineau, Area I Supervisor of Agricultural Education, presented Pennants to Macclenny for being State Champion in the Softball contest and Green Cove Springs for being State Champion in the Horseshoe Pitching contest.

Awards in the State Tractor Driving contest were presented by Mr. G. C. Norman, State Farm Mechanics Specialist, as follows: State Winner—Homer McMillan of DeLand, Wesley Smith of Hastings, Richard Cowdy of Crawfordville,

James McElveen of Hillsborough in Tampa, and Leon Tullis of Walnut Hill. The awards, sponsored by the Florida Association, F. F. A., were as follows: \$25.00 and Pennant, \$20.00, \$15.00, and two \$10.00 awards. Professor Rogers; Mr. T. E. Hancock, Educational Manager of the Florida Ford Tractor Company, Jacksonville; Mr. R. O. Ivey, Service Manager, International Harvester Company, Jacksonville; and Mr. J. E. Hollowell, Territory Manager, John Deere Plow Company, Lake City; were the judges. Our thanks go to the Ford Tractor Dealer in DeLand and the International Harvester Company in Jacksonville, who loaned tractors, plows and harrows for use in this contest; to the U-Haul-It Company in Daytona Beach for the use of a trailer; and to the Engineering Department of Daytona Beach for laying out the course.

The Public Speaking contest followed with the Future Farmer Foundation award being presented by Mr. R. A. Miesson, Assistant Division Manager, Standard Oil Company of Kentucky, Jacksonville. Contestants in the order of their placings, subjects, and awards are as follows: Kenneth Moore, Alachua—"The Facts and Fears of Agriculture" Certifi-



Panels from top to bottom show Kathleen State Champion Quartet after winning Championship at the 27th Annual State FFA Convention in Daytona. Members, front to rear are: James Glass, Jim Hagan, Floyd Dees and Grey Robinson. Accompanist is Morris Hagan. • T. K. McClane, Executive Director, Florida Farm Bureau, Winter Park, presenting the State Pennant and Trophy Cup to the Bristol, State Champion Parliamentary Procedure Team. Members of the team are: Bobby Phillips, Lewis Johnson, Wilbur Moran, Keith Revell, Billy Maher and Deete Preacher. Their adviser, W. R. Tolar is not in the picture. • Mr. R. A. Miesson, Standard Oil Company, Jacksonville presenting the \$100.00 Future Farmer Foundation Check and the State Pennant to State Champion Public Speaker, Kenneth Moore, Alachua. Other winners are from left to right: Jerry McCall, Mayo; Robert Enoch Owens, Orlando (Boone); Dean Ward, Gonzalez (Tate); Terry McDavid, Pompano; Dale Miley, Plant City; and Douglas Oswald, Commercial Bank and Trust Company, Ocala, one of the judges in the Public Speaking Contest who presented the State Awards in the contest sponsored by the Belk-Lindsey Stores in Florida.

cate and check for \$100.00 from Future Farmer Foundation and a Pennant from the Florida Association (Kenneth won the Tri-State Public Speaking Contest in Daytona Beach on July 14, and will participate in the Southern Regional contest in September.); Jerry McCall, Lafayette at Mayo—"The Land—Our Greatest Natural Resources"—\$25.00; Robert Enoch Owens, Boone at Orlando—"I Believe"—\$20.00; Dean Ward, Tate at Gonzalez—"Why Farmer Coops, What are They, and What are Their Functions?"—\$15.00; Terry McDavid, Pompano—"Farming as a Vocation"—\$10.00; and Dale Miley,

Plant City—"Our Creed—Do We Live by It?"—\$10.00. Second through sixth place awards were sponsored by the Belk-Lindsey Stores of Florida and were presented by Mr. Douglas Oswald, Agricultural Representative, Commercial Bank & Trust Company, Ocala, for Mr. Colin Lindsey of Ocala. Judges in this contest were Mr. Oswald, Dr. J. B. White, Dean of Men, College of Education, University of Florida, Gainesville; and Dr. Dallas C. Dickey, Professor of Speech, University of Florida. While waiting for the results, the Wauchula String Band entertained with several selections.

Vice-President Durrance presented the Cattlemen's award on behalf of the Florida State Cattlemen's Association. State winner of the Feeder Steer contest was Tom Maxwell of Quincy (\$100.00 toward expenses for him and his adviser to attend the National Convention in Kansas City in October 1955). Other winners who were awarded \$15.00 each toward their expenses in attending the State Convention in Daytona Beach were Grant Richmond of Fort Myers, Jimmy Bentley of Greensboro, and Carl Albritton of Wauchula. The State winner of the Beef Breeding contest was Harrison Thornhill of Winter Haven (\$100 to apply on the purchase of a purebred registered beef animal of his choice). Other winners, each awarded \$15.00 toward their expenses in attending the State Convention at Daytona Beach, were: Craig Griffin of Tavares and Don Deadwyler of Sebring.

The meeting adjourned with the official closing ceremony.

TUESDAY MORNING

Before the official opening ceremony on Tuesday morning, delegates and guests were entertained by the Quincy String Band. The Devotional Service was given by Reverend Hugh Hawkins of the First Baptist Church in Daytona Beach, and Mr. J. Edward Langley, Director of Glee Clubs, Mainland High Schools, Daytona Beach, led the group singing accompanied by Miss Jo Anne Malone from Tallahassee.

The 27th Annual State Convention then opened officially with the State President, Colin Williamson of the High Springs Chapter, presiding. All officers occupied their respective stations for the official opening ceremony.

Mayor Frank W. Morrison of Daytona Beach extended a most hearty welcome to the Florida Future Farmers and wished for them a very successful convention. He also extended an invitation to them to return to Daytona Beach next year for their convention.

Colin introduced his fellow State Officers and Mr. H. E. Wood, State Advisor of the Florida Association, F.F.A., after which the Roll Call of Delegates by District was made by the State Vice-Presidents, and the entire delegation was seated.

After being introduced by Bob McLean of Brandon, 3rd Vice-President, Colin Williamson gave the State President's Message.

The Minutes of the 26th Annual State Convention were read by Arvid Johnson, Groveland, 6th Vice-President, and approved. The Annual Accomplishment Report of the Florida Association, F.F.A. for 1954-55 was given by James Quincey, Trenton, 4th Vice-President, and approved, after which Arvid Johnson an-

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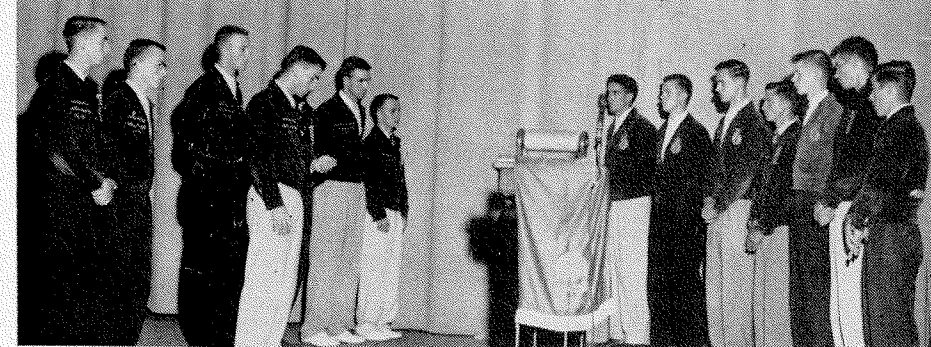
nounced that the following men were presented the Honorary State Farmer Degree during the past year.

Dr. J. T. Kelley, Director, Division of Teacher Education Certification and Accreditation, State Dept. of Education, Tallahassee; Dr. Sam H. Moorer, Director, Division of Instructional Field Services, State Department of Education, Tallahassee; and Mr. V. H. Northcutt, President of the First National Bank of Tampa; during F.F.A. Day at the Florida State Fair in Tampa;

Mr. T. J. Brooks, Assistant Commissioner, State Department of Agriculture, Tallahassee; Mr. E. L. Henderson, Manager of Central Services, State Department of Education, Tallahassee; and Mr. James Love, Farmer in Quincy; during the West Florida Livestock Show in Quincy; Mr. Jay Starkey, President of the Florida Cattlemen's Association, Largo, during the Southeastern Livestock Show in Ocala;

Mr. George Britt, Chief Clerk, Supply and Mailing Room, State Department of Agriculture, Tallahassee, during a Kiwanis Club Program in Tallahassee; Mr. William Wannop, Exchange Student, Linstock Castle, Carlisle, Cumberland, England, during a Banquet at Camp O'Leno; and Mr. Louis Wadsworth, Editor of the Suwannee Democrat in Live Oak; and Mr. William D. Gunter, Live Oak, father of Bill Gunter, National F.F.A. President, during the Suwannee F.F.A. Chapter Banquet in Live Oak.

Arvid read the names of those recommended to receive the Honorary State Farmer Degree during the Convention and they were approved. He then presented the nominating committee's se-



Top photo shows installation of officers at the 27th Annual State FFA Convention. Reading from left to right are officers for 1954-55: Arvid Johnson, Groveland, 6th vice president; Emory Weatherly, Havana, 5th vice president; James Quincey, Trenton, 4th vice president; Bob McLean, Brandon, 3rd vice president; Jack Smith, Poplar Springs, 2nd vice president; Willard Durrance, Wauchula, 1st vice president; and Colin Williamson, High Springs, president. Officers for 1955-56 are: William Aplin, Paxton, president; Jerry Smith, Poplar Springs, 1st vice president; Richard Kelly, Inverness, 2nd vice president; Terry Martin, Newberry, 3rd vice president; Bobby Tyre, Blountstown, 4th vice president; Danny Cowart, Bushnell, 5th vice president, and Kenneth Cooley, Miami-Jackson, 6th vice president. • Bottom photo shows Mr. W. C. Greenway, Assistant Southern Director, Sears Roebuck Foundation, Atlanta, Georgia, presenting the annual awards in the "Pass-the-Chicken, Pappy" Contest at the 27th Annual State Convention in Daytona Beach.

lection for State President, Danny Cowart of Bushnell, which was approved and nominations were received from the floor for Payton Bemby, Jr. of Jasper, Terry Johnson of Quincy, William T. Aplin of Paxton, and Richard Kelly of Inverness.

President Williamson read a letter of good wishes for a very successful Convention from Mrs. Janice C. Northrop, State F.F.A. Pianist, and by unanimous vote, it was decided to send special greetings from the convention and regrets that she could not attend.

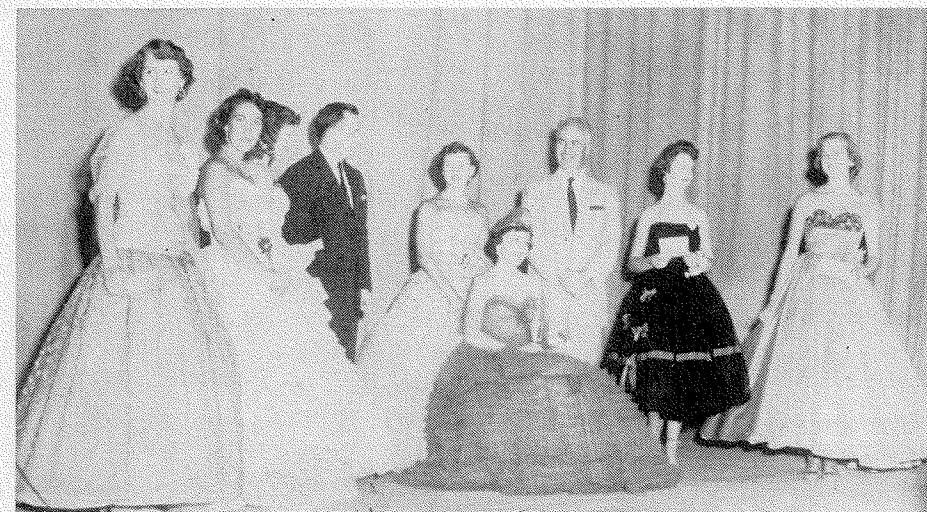
The five candidates for State President gave brief talks, after which the meeting adjourned with the official closing ceremony.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON

The Plant City String Band entertained with several selections before the Tuesday afternoon session was called to order by the President and opened with the official ceremony.

Mr. J. G. Smith, Area II Supervisor, Agricultural Education, Gainesville, introduced the judges for the Harmonica Contest as follows: Mr. Douglas Oswald; Mr. R. N. Hoskins, Industrial Forester, Seaboard Air Line Railroad Company, Norfolk, Virginia; and Mr. R. A. Miesen. Mr. Oswald presented the awards sponsored by the Florida Association, F.F.A. to the following in the order of their placings—Ernest Hendrick of Fort Meade, \$10.00 and Pennant; Wayne Turner of Bonifay, \$8.00; Ralph Jackson of Quincy, \$7.00; Kinley Waters of Arcadia, \$5.00; and Robert Burham of Chiefland, \$5.00.

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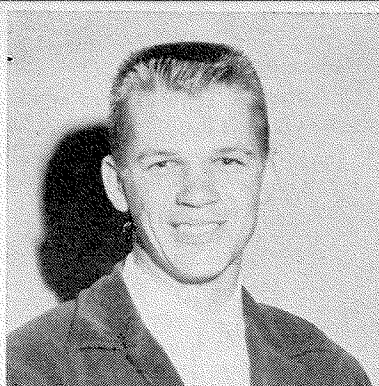


Miss Joan Van Arsdall, 1955 State FFA Sweetheart, immediately following her crowning and presentation of awards from the Belk-Lindsey Stores of Florida by Mr. J. E. Gorman, Managing Director, Florida Chain Store Council, for Mr. Colin Lindsey. Others in the picture are: Sylvia Sears, Arcadia; Ann Smith, Ocala; Annette Young, Bartow; Doyle E. Conner, Starke, past State and National FFA President and member of the House of Representatives from Bradford County; Judy James, Winter Haven, State Sweetheart for 1954-55; Mr. Gorman; Becky Simpson, Milton; and Jean Ragans, Madison.



William Aplin
President

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FFA CHAPTER



Jerry Smith
First Vice President

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1955-56 OFFICERS

William Aplin

WILLIAM APLIN reached two of his goals in life on Thursday of the Convention. They were: Star Farmer of Florida in 1955 and President of the Florida Association, FFA. William was dreaming of being Star Farmer in Florida in 1950 as a Greenhand, and with the assistance of his vocational agriculture teacher and his father planned a long time supervised farming program and started toward his goal by working hard to make his dream become a reality. This year his supervised farming program includes 60 head of hogs for meat, 20 cows for meat, 12 sows, 40 acres of grain, 5 acres of cotton and 2 acres of peanuts. During his first three years in vocational agriculture, he received \$8,000 from his supervised farming program. He served on the chapter executive committee, as junior secretary, vice president and president. He has participated in many FFA activities in the chapter, such as speaking at the banquets, representing his chapter and district in the state public speaking contest in 1954, member of the parliamentary procedure team, judging team, softball team and the chapter groups on various trips. His list of cooperative activities in helping the chapter carry out their cooperative productive activities is very large, including growing garden vegetables, corn and oats for the chapter animals which include calves, hogs and chickens. He participated in cooperative buying and selling of supplies and produce, and helped in distributing 1,000 pounds of poison in the rat eradication campaign in cooperation with the Ruritan Club.

He has served as president or vice president of all his classes since the 8th grade, member of the Beta Club, Student Council, captain of the basketball team for three years and named to the Northwest Florida Star Basketball Team in 1954. He has also participated in tours and the Florida Forestry Camp where he was named an outstanding camper, and served as president of his Sunday School class.

Though William lost his father last year, he has continued to carry on farming through his senior year in high school, and is interested in increasing the size of his farm and improving the land that is already in cultivation.

Jerry Smith

JERRY SMITH, the newly elected vice president representing District I, hails from a typically rural area known as the Poplar Springs Community, west of Graceville. He grew up on a general farm and it was only natural that his supervised farming program would be centered around the major farm enterprises: corn, cotton, peanuts, hogs and beef cattle.

Jerry has been an outstanding leader in

his chapter serving as vice president for two terms, sentinel and assistant secretary, as a speaker on his chapter banquet programs, attended the state convention as a chapter delegate, and cooperated in carrying out the chapter cooperative productive projects.

Bobby Tyre

BOBBY TYRE from Blountstown, the newly elected vice president representing District II, has a very outstanding swine program which started five years ago when he entered vocational agriculture. This year, his program includes 51 hogs for breeding, 4½ acres of peanuts, and 17½ acres of corn to be used for feed and five acres of cane.

He has served as secretary and president of his local chapter and took a leading part in carrying out the cooperative projects of the chapter which included raising vegetables for the lunch room, producing and selling 7500 broilers and managing 250 laying hens. He has served as class editor and reporter and has been a member of the high school honor society and a Sunday School teacher. He is also one of the few members in Florida to hold a Junior membership in the National Duroc Record Association.

Terry Martin

TERRY MARTIN, newly elected vice president representing District III, comes from Newberry. His father, Austin Martin, served as State Secretary in 1931-34. Terry has a very outstanding general supervised farming program which this last year included: 60 head of hogs, two cows, 20 acres of corn, 20 acres of peanuts, 10 acres of watermelons, 20 acres of oats, and 20 acres of sweet lupine. During his first three years in vocational agriculture, he received \$6,000 from his supervised farming program.

His participation and cooperation in the Future Farmer activities have been very outstanding. He held the office of reporter, vice president and president in his local chapter, vice president and president of several of his classes, treasurer of the Beta Club and president of the Student Council. He also found time to help his chapter with their cooperative productive projects, such as growing garden vegetables, running a creosoting plant, selling ads in the chapter calendar program and participating in the cooperative buying and selling of insecticides, seed and livestock.

Danny Cowart

DANNY COWART, Bushnell, the newly elected vice president representing District IV, is the son of a famous cattle raising family in Florida and of course, was started in the cattle raising business at a young age. After enrolling in vocational agriculture,

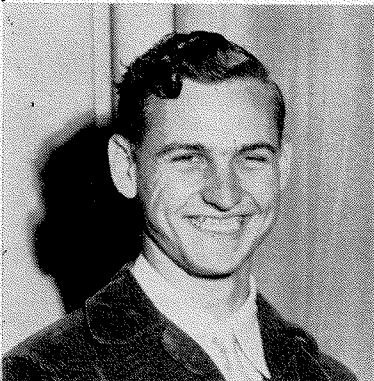
he began to understand more the importance of breeding, feeding and improved pasture. His program last year included 32 head of beef cattle, three head of hogs for meat, 5 acres of watermelons, ¼ acre of tomatoes, and one acre of pepper. During his first three years in vocational agriculture, he received \$9,000 from his supervised farming program. Though he has been very busy riding range and taking care of his project program, he has served as reporter, vice president, and president of his local chapter, has participated in many FFA activities and events having a very fine record, being a member of the judging team that represented Florida in National Competition, and being selected as Star Area Farmer in 1955 to receive the Chilean Nitrate Leadership Award. He has also been active in helping the chapter with the cooperative projects and other activities such as serving as the vice president or president of each of his classes in high school, member of the football, basketball, and baseball teams, which made him eligible to be a member of the letter club, vice president of the Student Council, Key Club and president of his Sunday School class for two years.

Richard Kelly

RICHARD KELLY, Inverness, vice president representing District V says that his only asset when he entered vocational agriculture was his love and desire to do farm work. He has been very active in the chapter by serving as President for 2 terms, vice president of the County Federation and assistant secretary in the chapter. His participation in FFA activities are many and varied, as are his miscellaneous activities in the high school and in the community. He met with many obstacles in trying to qualify for the State Farmer Degree, such as a show steer developing fungus rot which affected not only the steer's weight but also his showing. He was active in his chapter sponsoring and staging a very successful rodeo for two years.

Kenneth Cooley

KENNETH COOLEY, vice president representing District VI is from the Miami-Jackson Chapter. He recognized the importance of participating and making the best of each opportunity as it was presented after enrolling in vocational agriculture in 1951. He served as vice president and president of his local chapter, plus being a speaker at chapter banquets, member of the Parliamentary Procedure team and help to carry out the cooperative productive program of his chapter. Ken served on active duty in the Navy for a 90 day accelerated program and became an airman upon completion of his tour of duty in 1954. He has been a member of the Student Council, Church Choir, and president of the Ceramics Club.



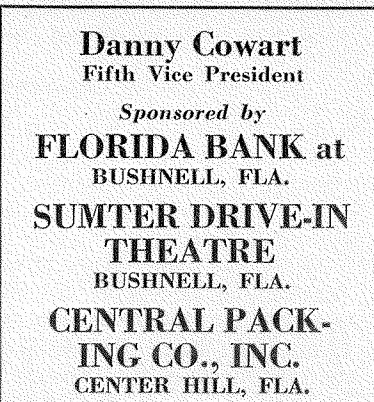
Bobby Tyre
Fourth Vice President

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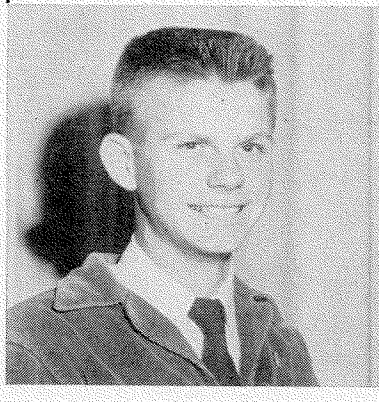
Terry Martin
Third Vice President

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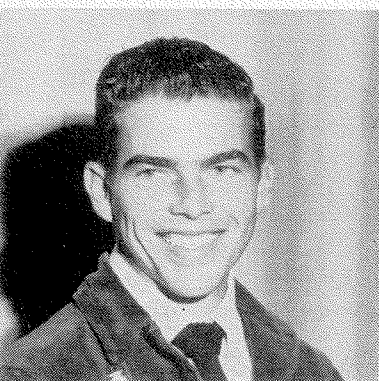
Danny Cowart
Fifth Vice President

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Kenneth Cooley
Sixth Vice President

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Honored guests at the International Harvester Luncheon held at the close of the 27th Annual State F.F.A. Convention in Daytona Beach. Seated, front row, left to right are: vice presidents for 1954-55, Willard Durrance of Wauchula, Jack Smith of Poplar Springs, James Quincey of Trenton, and Arvid Johnson of Groveland; Mr. Austin Martin, Newberry, past state secretary; vice president for 1955-56, Terry Martin of Newberry, Richard Kelly of Inverness, Danny Cowart of Bushnell, and Kenneth Cooley of Miami-Jackson. Second row: vice presidents for 1954-55, Bob McLean of Brandon, and Emory Weatherly of Havana; and vice presidents for 1955-56, Jerry Smith of Poplar Springs, and Bobby Tyre of Blountstown. Standing, left to right: William Aplin of Paxton, president for 1955-56; Colin Williamson of High Springs, president for 1954-55; Eugene Mixon of Bradenton, president for 1953-54; Doyle E. Conner of Starke, former state and national president and member of the House of Representatives from Bradford County; Mr. J. P. O'Donnell of Jacksonville, District Manager, International Harvester Company; Bill Gunter of Live Oak, national president; Mr. H. E. Wood, Tallahassee, State Adviser of the Florida Association; Eldred Hollingsworth of Walnut Hill, State Soil & Water Management Award winner; Payton Bembry, Jr. of Jasper; George Ford of Quincy, State Star Dairy Farmer for 1955; and Tom Maxwell of Quincy.

National President Bill Gunter Brings Greetings From F.F.A.

HONORED GUESTS and friends of the FFA, Fellow Future Farmers: I am certainly very proud to be here at the Florida Future Farmers Convention and to bring you greetings and best wishes from your National organization of Future Farmers of America. It would be impossible for me to adequately express the enjoyable time that I have already had here, and I am looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible and to observing the remaining portion of this convention.

You fellows should all be commended for your part in this well planned and efficiently conducted convention program. It has been impressive to me to see you officers, you delegates, and all of you FFA members as you have taken part in the proceedings and helped to make this convention the success it is. You have presented me with a real challenge in allowing me to speak to you. I say this because I have observed the quality of your ability even during the short time I have been here.

Fellow Future Farmers, I want to direct a question to you for your thinking

today. Are you taking full advantage of the opportunities you have as an FFA member and a student of Vocational Agriculture? Perhaps this question has been presented to you many times before and I imagine that your first impulse, as leaders in your respective local chapters, will be to answer in your minds, yes, I am. But, are you taking full advantage of all of the opportunities? And does your responsibility end with yourselves, or as leaders, should you challenge every member of your home chapters with these opportunities?

Let us briefly examine our organization and see some of these opportunities that are available to us as farm boys. In 1928, the FFA was born in the Baltimore Hotel of Kansas City, Mo. There were two primary purposes in the minds of leaders who worked to form our national organization; first, the establishment of farm boys in the farming business and second, leadership training.

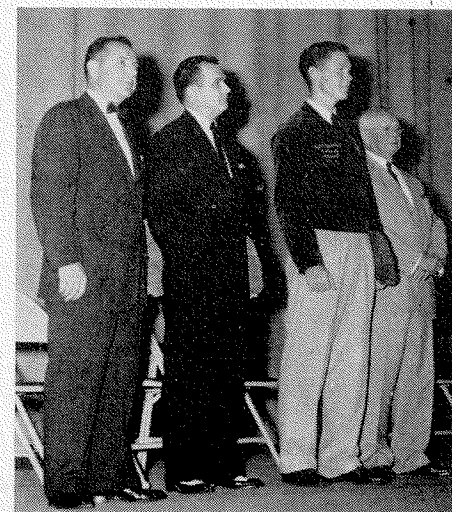
You think Future Farmers realize that with the large investment required to start in the farming business today, it is

necessary that we set our goals and plan our farming programs early in Vo-ag training. The FFA offers many opportunities and incentives to help us achieve our farming goals. When we advance from Green Hand to Chapter, State and American Farmer Degrees, our farming programs are a primary consideration. There are also the special awards of Star Farmer, Dairy Farmer, Farm Electrification, Farm Mechanics and Soil and Water Management offered by the Future Farmers of America Foundation. Are you taking full advantage of these? I think that every Chapter should have one boy who has accomplished something in each of these fields. An outstanding example of an FFA member who made his opportunities work for him is Florida's own Joe Register, Southern Regional winner in the National Dairy Farming Awards Program two years ago. Joe began with little or nothing, like most of us, and today, through the help of his agricultural teacher and others, he is well on the way to a successful career in dairying.

Let me tell you about another Future Farmer I know. During this boy's Green-hand year, he wanted to begin a farming program more than anything, but he was working at a tremendous disadvantage. Both of his parents were suffering from a dreaded disease and all of the profits from his home farm had to be put into doctor bills and medical supplies in order that his parents might remain well and happy. So there was no money for him to make a start. One day he was rummaging about in his attic when he discovered the baby crib he had used as a child and an old bicycle that had been his toy some years back. He took these two articles downstairs, dusted them off, made some minor repairs, and later sold them at the local public auction for a few dollars. With this money, he bought a calf to begin his farming program. Today, that same Future Farmer owns thirty-three registered Holstein dairy animals, farms 240 acres, and has just completed a term of office as president of his state Association of Future Farmers of America. Fellows, achievement in farming includes a realization of the opportunities and a burning desire to make good. You can do it too.

Yes, the FFA will help pave the way for our future in farming, but is it enough that we become just good farmers? I don't believe it is, and I

(Continued on page 22)



J. Lester Poucher, former member of the Largo Chapter, now with the Wilson-Toomer Fertilizer Co., Jacksonville and former state and national president of the FFA; Hon. Doyle E. Conner, former member of the Starke Chapter, member and speaker elect of the House of Representatives from Bradford County, former state and national president of the FFA; and present National FFA President, Bill Gunter, Suwannee Chapter at Live Oak with the Honorable Nathan Mayo, State Commissioner of Agriculture after he had presented them with a plaque in recognition of their outstanding achievements and leadership.

46 YEARS OF GROWTH WITH FLORIDA

The Jackson Grain Company was organized in 1909 in Tampa by the late Frank D. Jackson as a wholesale distributing organization to serve the growing agricultural needs of the state. Products sold by the company at that time consisted almost entirely of corn, oats, wheat, flour and mill by-products such as bran and shorts, cottonseed meal, cottonseed hulls and hay. The company prospered from the start and within a few years moved to its present location and built the first grain elevator in the state of Florida.

In the early 1920's the poultry and dairy industries began to assume some importance in the state's economy and the Jackson Grain Company adapted itself to changing conditions and became one of the largest distributors of mixed dairy and poultry feeds in the state. It sold the first mixed scratch grains and the first "sweet-feed" ever offered in Florida and it was the first feed distributor to bring in to the state a solid freight train of manufactured feeds.

In the early 1930's the Company began manufacturing some feeds of its own and by 1940 it was manufacturing and distributing a complete line of poultry and dairy feeds under its

now well known X-Cel brand. Growing rapidly with Florida the next 10 years the company found it necessary by 1950 to build a modern "push button" feed mill to meet the ever-increasing demand for its products.

During the same period the company organized a retail subsidiary known as X-Cel Stores, Inc. and opened branches in Tampa, Plant City, Winter Haven and Orlando. The company also began distributing fertilizer, seeds and agricultural insecticides.

In 1952 the company extended its activities to manufacturing agricultural insecticides and fungicides in its own plant so that it could better serve growing Florida agricultural interests.

Today the Jackson Grain Company has a well rounded organization staffed with men competent to serve in the various fields in which it operates. It has its own chemical laboratory and a poultry research farm where its products are checked scientifically.

After 46 years of service to the state, changing its operation to meet changing conditions, the Jackson Grain Company is today a Florida-owned and operated organization looking forward each day for better ways to serve the agricultural community of Florida.

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Panels may be identified from top to bottom as follows: Area Star Farmers, Dorian Williamson, Brandon, Danny Cowart, Bushnell and William Aplin, Paxton, receiving Chilean Nitrate Leadership Awards from Mr. J. F. Bazemore, State Educational Manager, Chilean Nitrate Educational Bureau, Orlando, at the 27th Annual State FFA Convention in Daytona Beach • Terry Johnson, Quincy; Jack Pepper, Wauchula; Richard Gaudio, Groveland; Melvin Vernon, Jr., Tampa (Hillsborough); and Bodie Jack Smith, Jay; receiving Florida Bankers Scholarships from Douglas Oswald, Farm Representative, Commercial Bank and Trust Company, Ocala. • Billy Truluck, member of the Williams Chapter at Live Oak, 3rd place and David Crapps, Suwannee Chapter, at Live Oak, 2nd place with Sonny Smith of the Quincy Chapter, State Winner in the Chapter Contest receiving awards from Mr. J. E. Gorman, Managing Director, Florida Chain Council. These awards are sponsored by the Florida Chain Store Council.

William Aplin of Paxton Chapter Acclaimed 1955 Star State Farmer

WILLIAM T. APLIN, 17 year old senior from Paxton High School was acclaimed the Star State Farmer of Florida for 1955 at the 27th Annual State FFA Convention in Daytona Beach.

Aplin received the highest State Farmer award for his well-rounded supervised farming program, leadership and cooperative activities and outstanding participation in FFA work.

The Paxton youth received \$100.00 from the Future Farmers of America Foundation and a silver trophy from the *Florida Times-Union*. He also received one of the Chilean Nitrate Educa-

tional Bureau Leadership awards of \$75.00 to help pay his expenses to the National FFA Convention in Kansas City in October.

William has completed five years of vocational agriculture as part of his work at Paxton High School. His chapter adviser, John E. Baldwin, spoke highly of him saying he was "a fine agricultural student and leader among his fellow students."

His first supervised farming project included 1 hog for meat, 1 acre of corn for grain, and 1 beef cow. He has increased his projects so he now has 60

head of hogs, and 20 cows for meat, 12 sows, 40 acres of corn for grain, 5 acres of cotton, and 2 acres of peanuts.

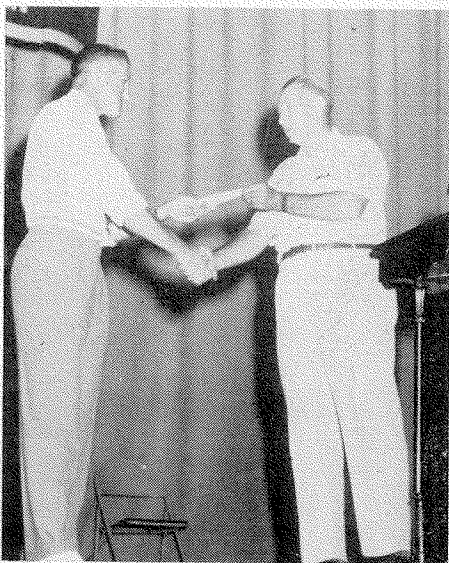
His improvement projects consisted of building fences, rearranging fences and fields, growing a home garden, improved breeding of livestock and poultry, growing feed crops, stumping and improving land, crop rotation, construction of farm buildings, terracing land, and protecting forest land from fire.

Supplementary farm practices carried out in his program consisted of repairing and improving gates and fences; construction of poultry equipment; building hog lot equipment; controlling rats and rodents; conserving and using farm manures; repairing and improving farm buildings, pruning, fertilizing, etc. of fruit trees and grape arbor; home mixing of fertilizer, feeds, etc.; repairing and sharpening farm tools and equipment; repairing, painting, and storing farm machinery; and controlling insects.

"Tucker" as he is known to most people, earned over \$8300 from his supervised program during the first four years in vocational agriculture. He rented land from his father and paid the bill by working on his section of the farm for the first three years in vocational agriculture. He then bought half interest in a tractor and equipment with his Dad. After his Father's death, the tractor and equipment were given to him, as well as free access to the farm land.

Leadership and cooperative activities were many, having served as Junior Secretary, Vice-President, President and on the

(Continued on page 17)



Glenn Wade, former member of the Bushnell Chapter and a member of the Collegiate Chapter at the University of Florida receiving the \$125 J. F. Williams Memorial Scholarship at the 27th Annual State FFA Convention in Daytona Beach from Mr. H. E. Wood, State Adviser, Florida Association, FFA.

Editorial

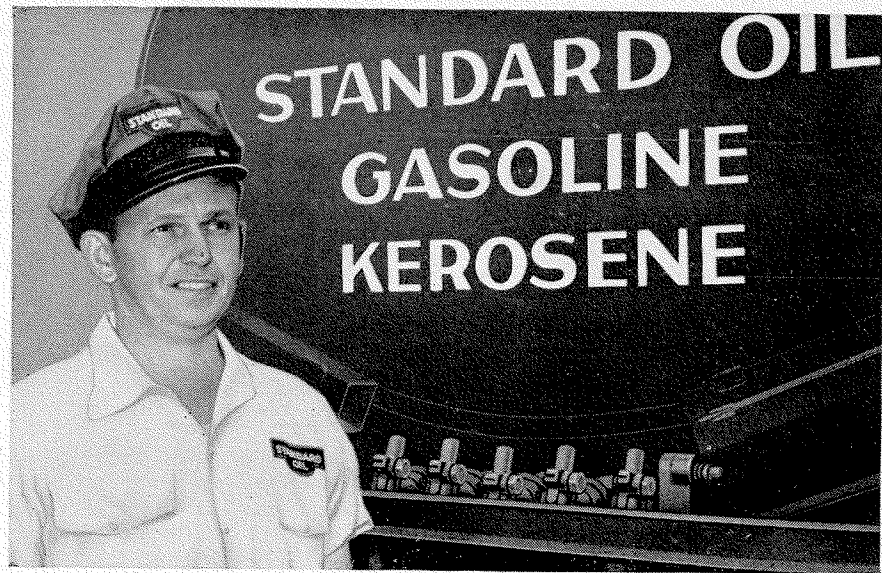
(Continued from page 3)

ing them? This represents a poor type of leadership. Good leaders have ideas and suggestions which they make to the group, but they do not insist that they be the ones which the group follows. Each suggestion made by any member is given equal consideration until the group agrees on what it wants to do. Thus the plans and activities of the group become the plans and activities of each member because he had a real part in determining them. When this condition exists, the leaders do not have to worry about the group. It will be loyal to the program which it has developed, but it might not support a program imposed by its leader.

These are just a few questions that leaders today are asking themselves. These point the way to an emerging idea of democracy. Have you tried them as you work with your fellowman? If not, try them over and over again until you become skilled in these techniques. Research and experience indicate that they will work.



At top is shown Mr. John Baldwin, adviser Paxton Chapter and right Grover Henley, Staff Photographer, presenting the Florida Times-Union Silver Trophy after Hon. T. D. Bailey, State Superintendent of Public Instruction had presented a check for \$100 from the Future Farmer Foundation to William Aplin, Paxton, Star State Farmer for 1955, at the 27th Annual State FFA Convention in Daytona Beach • Bottom photo shows C. Blakely, Assistant Secretary, American Fire and Casualty Company, Orlando, presenting Stanton Richardson of the Ft. Pierce Chapter and M. B. Jordan, adviser of the chapter with a special citation from the National Safety Council for their outstanding safety work during the past year. The Fort Pierce Chapter was acclaimed the top chapter in Farm Safety in the Nation at the National FFA Convention in October, 1954.



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With sixty-nine years' experience in supplying the rural South with petroleum products, it is small wonder that Standard Oil's service is more extensive and dependable than ever.

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Down through the years—in good times and bad—we have continued to expand our service to the rural South, so that wherever you live you can be sure of having the products you need when you need them.

We feel sure that the dependability of our service, as well as the quality of Standard Oil products, has been a big factor in keeping them first in sales on the farms of the South.

For fuels that assure you maximum work hours per gallon from your tractor, plus delivery service you can depend on—see the Standard Oil salesman serving your community.

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Why be satisfied with anything short of the best? Use the farm fuels and lubricants that are first in sales on the farms of the South, year after year.

CROWN GASOLINE A powerful gasoline with its highest octane of all time, that assures top performance in gasoline burning tractors.

STANDARD TRACTOR FUEL An outstanding, clean-burning tractor fuel, made to give more work hours per gallon to distillate burning tractors.

STANDARD DIESEL FUEL A fuel specially designed for diesel-powered tractors. Its high ignition quality assures complete combustion.



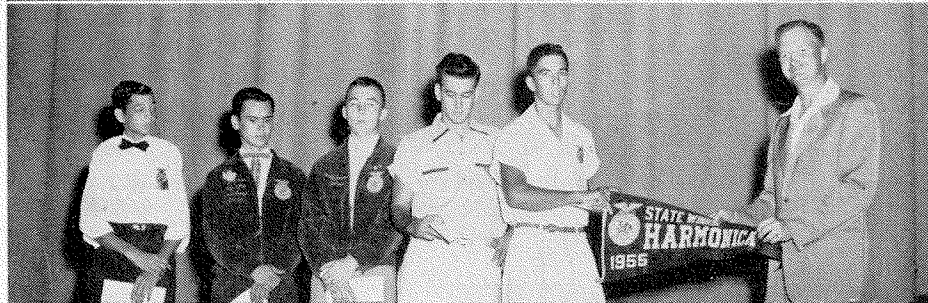
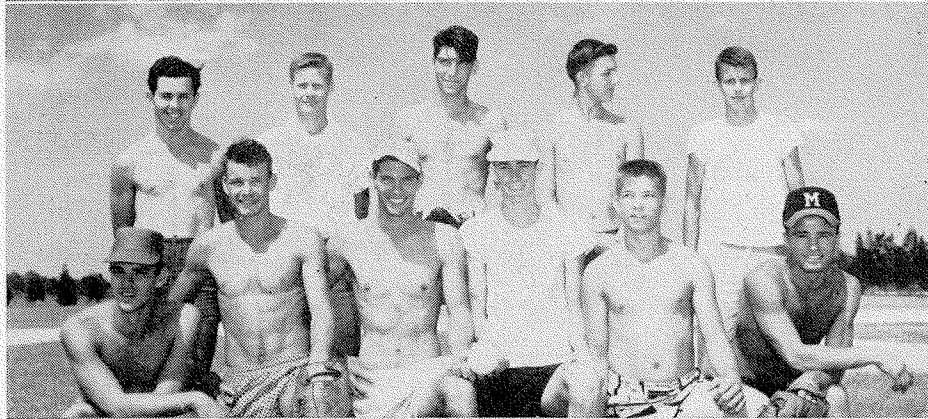
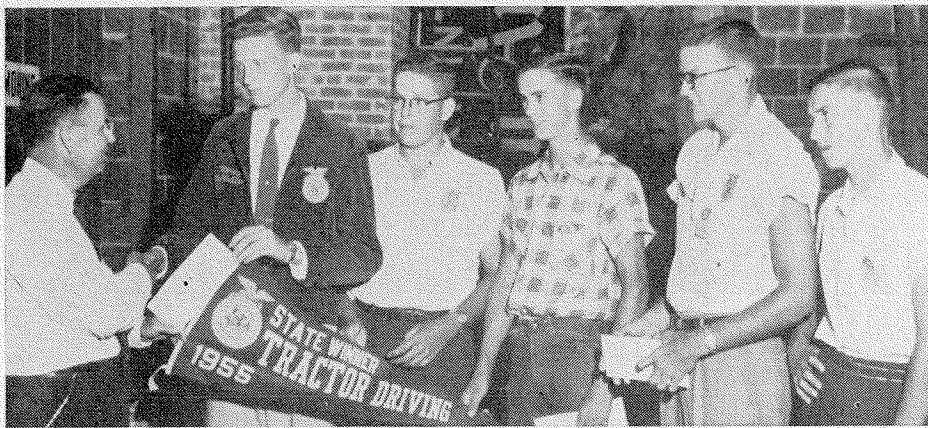
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Panels may be identified from top to bottom as follows: Mr. G. C. Norman, Farm Mechanics Specialist, presenting Tractor Driving Awards at the 27th Annual State FFA Convention in Daytona Beach. Winners from left to right are: Homer McMillan, Orlando; Wesley Smith, Hastings; Richard Gaudy, Crawfordville; James McElveen, Tampa (Hillsborough); and Leon Tullis, Walnut Hill. • 1955 State Champion Softball Team from Macclenny. Members of the team are seated from left to right: Elton Rhoden, Jackie Raulerson, Dale Jones, Bobby Thomas, Paul Raulerson, A. Vernon Brinson and standing from left to right: Dale Starling, Alan Harvey (Adviser), Thomas Bartow, Wimpy Jones, and Cecil Dice. • Douglas Oswald, a former State Champion Public Speaker presenting awards in the State Harmonica Contest. Reading from left to right are: Robert Burham, Chiefland, Kinley Waters, Arcadia; Ralph Jackson, Quincy; Wayne Turner, Bonifay; and Ernest Hendrick, Ft. Meade.

1955 Foundation Awards

Beef Breeding Award

HARRISON THORNHILL, President of the Winter Haven F.F.A. Chapter and Vice President of the Polk County F.F.A. Federation is the 1954-55 winner of the Beef Breeding Contest sponsored by the Florida Cattlemen's Association.

Harrison has two registered Brahman bulls and a registered cow as a means of building up his "grade" herd, and as a start in acquiring a good registered herd.

His operations include the buying, feeding out, and selling of both breeding and meat cattle. This business has proven profitable both from money earned and from the opportunities to select and keep females which show their value as excellent breeding animals. He has handled, during the year, 59 cows, 13 bull calves and 14 heifers, mostly "grades". As of May 1, 1955, he had on hand 1 bull, 22 cows, and 8 calves.

Harrison has produced 11 acres of

corn and velvet beans and 5 acres of hegari for cattle feed and uses citrus wastes as supplemental feed. He rotates his cattle during the whole year, according to recommended usage, on a combination of 180 acres of native pasture and 70 acres of improved pasture consisting of Pangola and Bahia grasses and White Clover.

In addition to his personally conducted cattle business, F.F.A. and school activities, Harrison found time to attend the National F.F.A. Convention last year and to serve as Youth Manager at the Polk County Youth Fair. He has shown Reserve Grand Champions in the F.F.A. Division of the Florida State Fair and of the Imperial Eastern Brahman Show.

Feeder Steer Award

TOM M. MAXWELL, a third year vocational agriculture pupil from Quincy, Florida, is the 1954-55 State winner in the coveted F.F.A. Feeder Steer Contest.

Tom showed a pen of three Hereford steers to Grand Championship in the Youth Division of the West Florida Livestock Show in 1953-54 and again in 1954-55. His interest in his work is indicated by the fact that his 1954-55 steers gained 2.58 pounds per day, were all halter-broken, and that he won 5th place in the Showmanship Contest with one of them. He was awarded the Mayo Scholarship in 1953 for his outstanding livestock activities which included the showing of the Champion F.F.A. Steer in the West Florida Livestock Show that year.

Tom also raises poultry and corn, and has a 5 acre pasture in his supervised farming program. During the past three years Tom has made a labor income of \$1076.17 on steers alone.

In addition to his many F.F.A. activities, he is also a member of the Student Council and Honor Society in his high school, and is President of the Youth Fellowship of his church. He found that it pays to give time to spiritual things.

Farm Electrification Award

WAYNE FALLIS, age 21, in the 12th grade at Quincy High School in Quincy, and a member of the Quincy F.F.A. Chapter, is the State Farm Electrification Award winner for 1955, and received a Certificate and check for \$100.00 from the Future Farmer Foundation.

Wayne's supervised farming program this past year consisted of $\frac{1}{2}$ an acre of truck vegetables, 24 acres of corn for grain, 1 acre of sweet potatoes, 2 hogs for breeding, and 15 hogs for meat. His knowledge of electricity grew out of the necessity to do all electrical repair work around his home and on the farm, such as, ceiling fan, wiring brooder house, flood lights, reading lamp, drop cords, transformer banks, wiring garage, repair-

ing of household appliances, rewiring motor on bench saw, repairing starter on truck, as well as wiring four floodlights for the school auditorium, wiring the switch on the drill press in the school shop, disconnecting and connecting meters, wiring one dwelling house, and aiding neighbors with their necessary electrical work. He is an experienced user of all electrical equipment through this service, and now owns several hundred dollars worth of equipment.

He is a member of the Farm Bureau, F.F.A. softball team, Presbyterian Church and Jr. Adviser to Pioneers of the Church, an Eagle Scout and Junior Scout Master, apprentice Sea Scout, Member of Sunday School and Honorary Member of Civil Air Patrol, as well as electrician for the Thespian Society.

Dairy Farming Award

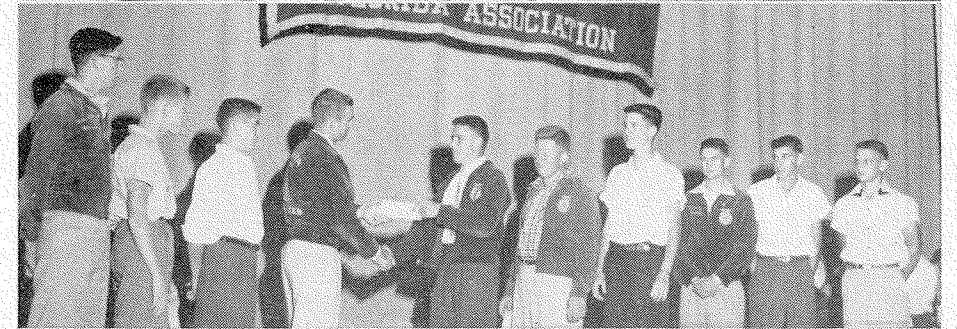
GEORGE FORD, age 19, in the 12th grade and a member of the Quincy FFA Chapter is Dairy Farmer winner for 1955.

His farming program is very outstanding and includes hogs, poultry and many acres of feed crops.

He has developed a great respect for and a belief in the future of farming. His interest has been centered in dairying for the past seven years. With encouragement from his father, W. L. Ford, a



In top photo George Ford, Quincy Chapter, State Star Dairy Farmer, 1955 and Bobby Ray Durden, top District winner in Dairy Farming holding plaques presented to them from the Southern Dairies Industries, Inc. at the 27th Annual State FFA Convention in Daytona Beach. • Bottom photo shows Jerry Barlow, Malone FFA Chapter receiving National FFA Foundation Award Check of \$100 as his chapter won the 1955 State Farm Safety Award, with E. M. Parker, Southeast Agronomist, Spencer Chemical Company, Atlanta, making the presentation for the Foundation.



In picture at top Dr. E. W. Cake, Executive Secretary, Florida Council of Farmer Cooperatives, is presenting Chapter Cooperative Awards sponsored by the Florida Council of Farmer Cooperatives. Chapter winners are: district 1, Graceville; district 2, Jasper; district 3, Williams Chapter at Live Oak; district 4, Umatilla; district 5, Sarasota; district 6, South Dade which was also declared the State Winner and will represent Florida at the Annual American Institute of Cooperation meeting at Purdue University at Lafayette, Indiana in August, 1955. James Quincey, 4th Vice-President of the Florida Association, FFA, member of the Trenton Chapter which was a national winner in this contest 3 years ago, is assisting with the presentation. • Below from left to right—Florida State Cattlemen's Association Awards are being presented at the 27th Annual State FFA Convention in Daytona Beach to Harrison Thornhill, from Winter Haven, Graig Griffin from Tavares and Don Deadwyler from Sebring, first, second and third, place winners respectively and Willard Durrance, vice-president of the Florida Ass'n., FFA and a member of the Florida Cattlemen's Association presenting State Feeder Steer Awards to Tom Maxwell, Quincy; Grant Richmond, Ft. Myers; Roland Wilcox, Havana; Jimmy Bentley, Greensboro; Carl Albritton, Wauchula; and Maxwell Johnson, Greensboro.

former Future Farmer member, he has built up a herd of fifty-three head of dairy animals, of which 32 are cows of producing ages. He also has twenty-four cows in partnership. He has sold \$1675 worth of animals and \$32,857.82 worth of dairy products in his five years in vocational agriculture instruction. His average animal milk production per cow is 775 gallons with an average butterfat of 4.8 percent.

In addition to his selection as Star State Farmer in 1954, Ford has also received the top district dairy farming award for his accomplishments in this field. He showed the grand champion dairy cows at dairy shows in Quincy, Tallahassee, and Chipley, and had the reserve champion at the Florida State Fair in Tampa. His exhibit of dairy cattle was recognized as the best among all chapter contestants at the Florida State Fair, and was awarded a beautiful trophy for this achievement from the Florida Dairy Association.

George is a member of the Florida Farm Bureau, Florida Dairy Association, and North Florida Dairy Breeders Association. He has been President of the

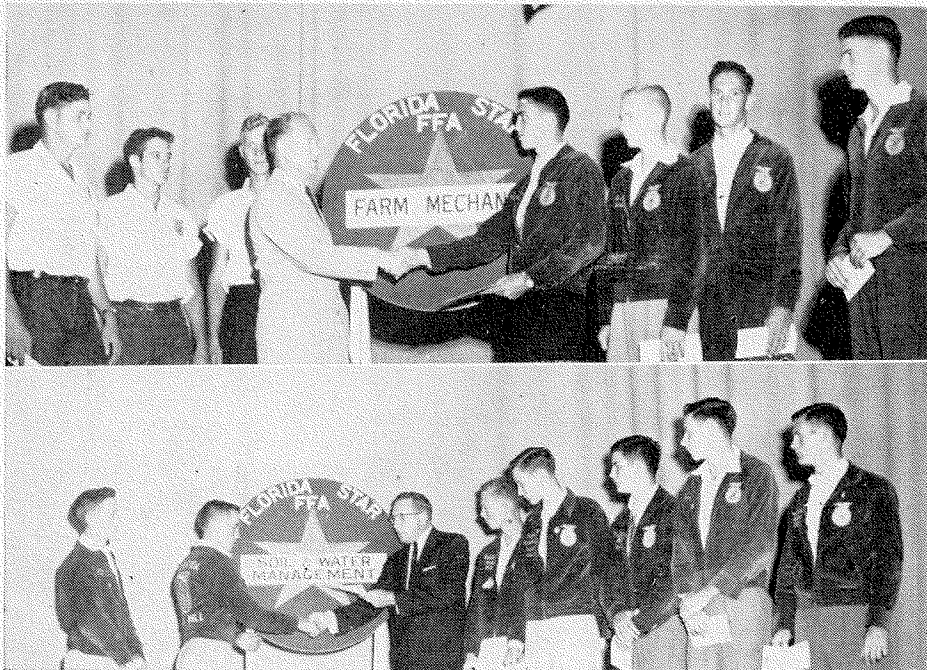
Junior Conservation Club, Vice-President of the Quincy FFA Chapter, member of the football team and church, and Honorary member of the Lions Club.

Farm Safety Award

JERRY BARLOW of Malone was presented \$100.00 for his chapter from the National Future Farmer Foundation as presented Future Farmer Foundation by Mr. E. M. Parker, Southeast Agronomist, Spencer Chemical Company, Atlanta.

At the beginning of school last September, the Farm Safety Committee, with Roland Mathis as Chairman, of the Malone FFA Chapter planned an interesting program for each of the chapter members for the year. Active participation by the members in making surveys, displaying safety posters, giving demonstrations to prevent accidents in the community took many hours.

The Safety Program covered transportation at school, on the farm, and on the highway. It also included: using equipment and tools, handling livestock, chemicals and flammable materials, working in the farm shop at school and at home.



At top is shown Gerald Lee Martin, Quincy, receiving \$100 Future Farmer Foundation Check and \$100 Savings Bond as the 1955 State Farm Mechanics winner. Mr. G. H. W. Schmidt, vice-president of the Florida Ford Tractor Company, donors of the Savings Bond is making the presentation. District winners also receiving \$50 Savings bonds are: district 1, Jimmy Cunningham, Tate Chapter at Gonzalez; district 2, Johnny Olive, Malone; district 3, Kenneth Mills, Suwannee Chapter at Live Oak; district 4, Joe G. Ross, Gainesville; district 5, Lee Roy Turner, Brandon and district 6, Marion Robertson, Indian River Chapter at Vero Beach. • Bottom photo shows Eldred Hollingsworth, Walnut Hill Chapter receiving State Star Soil and Water Management Award from Mr. J. P. O'Donnell, District Manager of the International Harvester Company who presented him with a \$100 check from the National Future Farmer Foundation and \$100 Savings Bond from the International Harvester Dealers of Florida. District award winners are Burnett Steele, Baker, Payton Bembry, Jr., Jasper, Claude Crapps, Suwannee Chapter at Live Oak; Donald Hutchinson, Groveland; Dorian Williamson, Brandon and Shelby Farr, Sebring, receiving \$50 Savings Bonds from International Harvester Dealers of Florida.

Farm Mechanics Award

GERALD LEE MARTIN, age 17, in the 12th grade, a member of the Quincy FFA Chapter of the Quincy High School was the State Farm Mechanics Award Winner.

He became interested in Farm Mechanics when he enrolled in vocational agriculture in 1951 and has worked many extra hours in a farm machinery and farm shop in the community. In the past few years, he has learned to operate many power machines, service tractors and motors and make repairs that were needed on farm machinery. He has constructed a table saw for his shop, built benches and cabinets, and assisted his father in building and wiring their home, along with a farm shop.

His investment in tools and equipment exceeds \$500 plus a partnership in a truck, trailer, skill saw, drill press, and power saw.

His project program included poultry (meat) hogs, (meat), corn for grain, peanuts and vegetables.

Gerald was a member of the Chapter quartet, softball team, the school bas-

ketball team and Glee Club and is a member of the Church.

Soil and Water Management Award

TOP STATE winner of the Soil and Water Management Award for 1955 was Eldred Hollingsworth, 17 year old junior in the Walnut Hill High School, who has been a member of his local chapter for three years. During this time, he has made plans with his father, vocational agricultural teacher, and Soil Conservation Service Technician, for a progressive Soil and Water Management program for the entire home farm.

The practices carried out on the home farm and on the other farms have been through the recommendation of the Soil Conservation Service Technician. Some of these items are: planting cover crops, establishing permanent pasture on a hillside, grassing water ways, and application of lime. On other farms, vetch and clover were established, pines were planted on eroded land, and he co-operated with the neighbors in furthering the SCS water plan for the com-

munity.

He developed a rotating grazing program, constructed 15 miles of firelines, constructed 10 miles of new fence and repaired the old fence, installed an electric watering system for the pasture, and seeded needed grass range with improved grass and performed practices that would maintain and restore his range.

In conserving and obtaining efficient use of water to increase production, he leveled land, ditched 3 ponds in improving the drainage, planned spillways, sub-soiled 15 acres of crop land, put in a header to stop a gully from further erosion and constructed a farm pond. He drained wet lands by increasing his ditching system and clearing old ditches, planted 95,000 pine seedlings, pruned and thinned about 60 acres, plowed and maintained about 10 miles of firelines, and removed diseased and hardwood trees, to permit better land use in conserving soil and establishing and managing the farm woodland.

In the community, a lake and park were developed and he assisted the wildlife officer in an educational program and helped to restore game birds, in the development and conservation of desirable wild life and fish.

His project program, during his first year of vocational agriculture, included 1 cow, 5 hogs, 1 beef animal, and 5 acres of soybeans. Through the guidance of his teacher and planning in his sophomore year, he had 3 acres of cucumbers, 1 acre of cotton, 2 acres of soybeans, 1 hog, 2 acres of wheat, and 1 acre of corn. His program increased for his Junior year to 5 acres of cucumbers, 3 acres of cotton, 5 acres of soybeans, 5 acres of corn, 2½ acres of Irish potatoes and 1 sow.

Though Eldred has been a very active FFA member, he has maintained an excellent scholastic record, playing football, been a class officer, a member of the school annual staff, and in the school play. He is also active in the REA, Perdido Conservation district, and his Sunday School and Church.

Our immediate future as Americans may depend upon the living we make, but the future of America depends upon the life we live and the services we render.

The Cover

(Continued from page 3)

Havana (5th), Arvid Johnson of Groveland (6th), and Box McLean of Brandon (3rd), all Vice-Presidents; Colin Williamson of High Springs (President); and Willard Durrance of Wauchula (1st), James Quincey of Trenton (4th), and Jack Smith of Poplar Springs (2nd), also Vice-Presidents.

Star State Farmer

(Continued from page 12)

Executive Committee of the Chapter, and at present State President of the Florida Association, FFA. He was president of his 8th, 9th, 11th, and 12th grade classes as well as Vice-President of the 10th grade; President and Vice-President of the Beta Club; Vice-President of the Student Council and Glee Club while in the 10th grade; Alternate Captain and Captain of the Basketball Team for 3 years, named to the Northwest Florida Star Team, and Florida State All Star Team in 1954-55; President of his Sunday School Class; participated in tours, and attended Florida Forestry Camp, where he was named an outstanding camper.

Aplin plans on devoting his time this year to his farm and as State President.



Wayne Fallis, Quincy Chapter, receiving the Future Farmer Foundation \$100 check. District winners receiving \$50 checks from the Tampa Electric Company, the Florida Power and Light Company and the Florida Power Corporation: district 1, Robert Edward Raines, Gonzalez; district 2, Billy Young, Jasper; district 3, John L. Allison, Williams Chapter at Live Oak; district 5, Lee Roy Turner, Wimauma; and district 6, Rickey Jones, Sebring. Presentation was made by J. H. Keele, Sales Promotion Manager, Florida Power and Light Company, Miami.

Quincy FFA Chapter Wins State Chapter Award for Fifth Time

EACH YEAR all F.F.A. Chapters plan a program of work with the goals which they hope to achieve during that year. On the basis of work accomplished during that year, one F.F.A. Chapter is chosen as the best in the State. A brief report of the accomplishments of the Quincy Chapter which placed it as the top Future Farmer Organization in Florida for the fifth consecutive year.

At the W. Florida Fat Cattle Show and Sale, the members showed 10 steers with the following results: 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th, in showmanship, 3rd in class A, 1st and 2nd in class B, Grand Champion FFA pen of 3, and still others placed high in the gain-in-weight contest. The chapter also won first place in the grass and legume identification contest with one member being selected as high individual in the contest.

At the West Florida Dairy Show in Chipley, George Ford showed the Grand and Reserve Champion registered Jerseys in the FFA division. At the Quincy Tobacco Festival, George showed the Grand and Reserve Champion Jersey cow and bull of the entire show plus first place winners in 4 classes.

The livestock judging team entered four shows, winning 6th place at Quincy, 3rd at Chipley, 19th at Ocala, and 25th at the State Fair in Tampa.

Community services of the chapter and its members would be too numerous to list, but included in this activity were assistance to needy families, surveys of the farms and homes, conservation of resources, demonstrations of improved farming practices and county and state exhibits.

The Quincy Chapter went through the

elimination contests which are the sub-district and the district and reached the State level in 13 contests—with 5 first place winners—Chapter Contest, Star State Farmer, Farm Mechanics, Feeder Steer, and Soil and Water Management—3 second place winners—Public Speaking, Quartet, and Dairy Farming—2 fifth place winners—String Band and Harmonica—received district award in 2 contests—Scrapbook and Farm Electrification—placed 2nd in the District in the Ban-

quet chick contest—and had an application in the Farm Safety Contest, but was unable to compete because they were State winners the year before. One of our members also received the area leadership award.

Publicity about the chapter and members included over 87 articles for newspapers, 19 magazine articles, 8 radio programs, with members participating in 21 Civic Club and public programs, and 28 livestock and educational exhibits.

The members of the Quincy Chapter average 3.06 productive enterprises, 5.98 improvement projects, 10.66 supplementary farm jobs, and the learning of 17 new farm, skills. From the productive

VOCATIONAL AG. TV PROGRAMS COMMENCED

The vocational agriculture teachers in Central Florida attended a TV Clinic in Orlando, the latter part of June, conducted by Mr. H. E. Moreland of the Library School at Florida State University in Tallahassee. They accepted the offering of Station WDBO-TV in Orlando to present a 15-minute show on vocational agriculture each Saturday, starting August 20. The time of these programs will be 12:00 noon, until daylight saving time is discontinued. Then it will be at 1:00 p.m. During the Clinic, they selected subjects to be presented. The first seven programs will be as follows:

Date	Subject	School	Teacher
Aug. 20—	Introduction to Voc. Ag. Program,	Boone (Orlando)	Henley
Aug. 27—	Grades of Market Beef	Winter Haven	Harrell
Sept. 3—	Soil Conservation	Sanford	West
Sept. 10—	Culling Hens	Groveland	Campbell
Sept. 17—	Beef Cattle Judging	Kissimmee	Perry
Sept. 24—	Fire Prevention Week	DeLand	Fagan
Oct. 1—	Planting a Fall Garden	Winter Garden	Hargrave

Each quarter of the magazine will carry the listing of the programs.

as well as Presidents of other youth organizations in Florida, to attend their State Convention. Those present this year were as follows: Joe Butner, Bartow, President of D.C.T. Clubs in Florida; Lemmy Wilson from Tennessee, Jackie Marsh from South Carolina, Paul Yarbrough from Georgia, Jim Hogan from Oklahoma, David Miller from Virginia, and Denton O'Dell from Mississippi. Each was called to the platform and spoke briefly to the delegates.

Glenn Wade, Jr., former member of the Bushnell Chapter, was presented a \$125.00 J. F. Williams Memorial Scholarship by Mr. Wood. Glenn is a senior in Vocational Agricultural Education at the University of Florida, and a member of the Collegiate Chapter.

Bill Gunter, Live Oak, National F.F.A. President and Honored Guest of the Convention, then addressed the convention delegates and guests, (See page 10). Bill then introduced his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William D. Gunter and sisters Marilyn and Harriet.

Gene Mixon, Bradenton, Past State President of the State Association for 1953-54 was given a rousing welcome before speaking briefly to the delegates, and the Session closed with the official closing ceremony.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

State Farmer Degrees were conferred on 120 Future Farmers by the State Officers, after the Fifth Session opened with the official opening ceremony. (This list is on page 2).

Greetings from Mr. J. C. Huskisson, Manager of the Florida State Fair Association, Tampa, were read by the President and the delegation agreed to send a telegram expressing their regrets that he had been ill and unable to attend the convention and wishing for him an early recovery.

State Farmer Degrees were also presented to Lewis Brannon and Robert McKnight of the J. F. Williams Chapter at Live Oak and John M. Howard of Lake Butler, who were unable to attend the convention in 1954.

The five candidates for 1955-56 State President were each given two minutes to present their qualifications prior to the balloting for President, in which Payton Bembry, Jr. of Jasper and Terry Johnson of Quincy were eliminated. The run-off between William T. Aplin of Paxton, Danny Cowart of Bushnell, and Richard Kelly of Inverness was to be held the next day—William and Richard were tied for second place on the ballot.

Past State Officers William Timmons, Vice President in 1953-54; Eugene Mixon, and Bill Gunter were recognized.

After a splendid performance of the Dramatization of the F.F.A. Creed by the Fort Pierce Chapter under the able guidance of their Chapter Adviser, Mr. M.

B. Jordan, Mr. C. Blakey, who is in charge of Safety and Inspection for the American Fire & Casualty Company, Orlando, presented the following in behalf of the National Safety Council. "Each year, the National Conference for Farm Safety reviews the records submitted by the U. S. Office of Education in the National Future Farmers of America Farm Safety Program and selects from among them those deserving of recognition by the National Safety Council. This year the Fort Pierce Chapter was one of the four F.F.A. Chapters in the United States so honored and was awarded the National Safety Council's famed Certificate of Commendation for noteworthy service to farm safety." The award was accepted by Stanton Richardson, a member of the Chapter.

Recommendations of other Committees were submitted during the remainder of the Convention and were approved though some were changed by motions from the floor. These were mimeographed and will be distributed to all teachers of vocational agriculture in Florida.

Session closed with the official ceremony to prepare for the annual fish fry sponsored by the Florida Ford Tractor Company. Over 500 Future Farmers, Advisers and guests, met on the beach at "Beach Rest", at 5:30 p.m., for this event and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone present in spite of the rain.

WEDNESDAY EVENING

At 8:00 p.m., a special talent program, arranged by Messrs. J. Edward Langley and Don Storms, Sr., Co-Ordinator of Agricultural Education in Hillsborough County, was presented in the Band Shell on the beach, with over 3000 Future Farmers and guests in attendance. Mr. Langley was Master of Ceremonies for a full and entertaining program. The Jay and Plant City String Bands played; Delmo Higdon of Groveland sang to his own accompaniment of the guitar as did Donald "Duck" Smith of Wauchula; the Alachua Quarter sang; Kenneth Moore of Alachua gave his State winning Public Speech; and all the District Sweethearts as well as Carol Cole of Ocala and Judy James the 1954 State Sweetheart entertained with their special talents.

After some special introductions, Mr. Langley sang the Official F.F.A. Song of the Florida Association, which was written especially for them by Mrs. Janice C. Northrop. The program closed with the audience joining Mr. Langley in singing the "Star Spangled Banner." It was indeed impressive with the American Flag unfurling in the background.

THURSDAY MORNING

The Sixth Session opened with a few selections by State Harmonica Champion Ernest Hendrick of Fort Meade, followed

by a Devotional by Reverend Rankin Shrewsbury, First Congregational Church, Daytona Beach. President Williamson called the meeting to order, with all officers at their stations taking part in the official opening ceremony.

The three candidates for State President were given five minutes each for campaign speeches, after which a ballot was taken and resulted in a run-off necessary between William T. Aplin and Danny Cowart.

Chilean Nitrate Educational Bureau Leadership awards were presented to William T. Aplin of Paxton, Danny Raymond Cowart of Bushnell and Dorian Williamson of Brandon, Area Star Farmers in Florida for 1955, by Mr. J. F. Bazemore, their State Educational Manager from Orlando. Each was awarded \$75.00 to attend the National F.F.A. Convention in Kansas City, Missouri, in October 1955.

President Williamson introduced Honorable Thomas D. Bailey, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, stating that he is the Chief State School Officer, an Honorary State Farmer Member of the Florida Association, F.F.A. as well as an Honorary American Farmer member of the National Organization, F.F.A., is very much interested in the F.F.A. and shows it on many occasions that we do not hear about. After speaking briefly, he presented a Certificate and check for \$100.00 from the Future Farmers of America Foundation to William T. Aplin of Paxton, the Star State Farmer for 1955, and Mr. Grover Henley, Staff Photographer for the *Florida Times-Union*, presented him with the Florida Times-Union trophy. William's Mother was not able to attend the convention but looks forward to her being there next year.

The two remaining candidates were each allowed to campaign for two minutes before the final ballot was taken for State President. William T. Aplin was elected President of the Florida Association, F.F.A. for 1955-56.

The Nominating Committee's selections for State Vice Presidents were approved for the following: 1st—Bobby Joe Senn, Paxton; 2nd—Richard Kelly, Inverness; 3rd—Terry Lee Martin, Newberry; 4th—Bobby Eugene Tyre, Blountstown; 5th—Danny Cowart, Bushnell; 6th—James Nolan, North Miami. Nominations from the floor were made for the following: 1st—Jerry Smith of Poplar Springs, Bert Steele of Baker; 2nd—Melvin Vernon, Jr. of Hillsborough at Tampa, Dorian Williamson of Brandon; 3rd—Glennier Clyatt of Lake Butler; 4th—Terry Johnson of Quincy, Billy Young of Jasper; 5th—no opposition; and 6th—James Usher of Pahokee, Kenneth Cooley of Miami-Jackson.

Each candidate for Vice President campaigned for two minutes and the meeting

adjourned with the official ceremony.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

The Seventh Session was called to order by the President.

Vice Presidents elected on the first ballot were: Jerry Smith of Poplar Springs—1st; Richard Kelly of Inverness—2nd; Terry Martin of Newberry—3rd; Danny Cowart of Bushnell—5th; and Kenneth Cooley of Miami-Jackson—6th; with a run-off necessary between Bobby Eugene Tyre of Blountstown and Terry Johnson of Quincy for 4th. Bobby Eugene Tyre was elected.

Scholarships from the Florida Bankers Association were presented to Bodie Jack Smith of Jay, Terry Johnson of Quincy, Richard Gaudio of Groveland, Melvin Vernon, Jr. of Hillsborough in Tampa, and Jackie Pepper of Wauchula, by Mr. Douglas Oswald.

The Quincy Chapter, as State winner of the Scrapbook contest, received \$25.00 and a Pennant. Other District winners were Graceville, Suwannee at Live Oak, Orlando-Edgewater, Bartow, and Pompano, each receiving \$10.00. These awards, sponsored by the Florida Association, were presented by Mr. Lou Marsh, Manager of the Daytona Beach Chamber of Commerce. Judges were: Mr. Robert N. Morris, Agricultural Representative of the First National Bank in Tampa, and Mr. S. C. Means, Miami, Area Supervisor of Instructional Farm Program.

National President Bill Gunter briefed the delegates on the Official Fund-Raising Calendar which had been approved by the National Meeting of Student Officers and Board of Directors in Washington, and the National Future Farmer Magazine. The delegates approved the Official Calendar and that a fund be established from money received from the Official F.F.A. Fund-raising Calendar to be used to pay for subscriptions to the National Future Farmer Magazine for members who cannot pay for it otherwise.

The delegates approved unanimously in recommending Past State President Eugene Mixon of the Bradenton Chapter for National Officer. Since becoming a Future Farmer, he has made an outstanding record as a member of the Future Farmers of America. His interest in agriculture as a vocation has been evident since his first contacts with the F.F.A. He has developed a fine farming program through a combination of his own interests, the assistance of his parents and his vocational agriculture and F.F.A. activities. His achievements as State President of the F.F.A. set a high standard of work, sincerity, loyalty and devotion to duty. Eugene is very active in the management and operation of his citrus and cattle production in partnership with his father and brother. He plans to continue farming. Gene is applying for his American Farmer Degree this year.

Several retiring Officers made their individual reports to the delegates—Emory Weatherly of Havana, 5th, Bob McLean of Brandon, 3rd, and Jack Smith of Poplar Springs, 2nd, all Vice Presidents. Bob introduced his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John E. McLean previous to his report.

Judy James, Winter Haven, State F. F.A. Sweetheart for 1954, gave some special entertainment, preceding the presentation of the Farm Electrification awards by Mr. J. H. Keele Sales Promotion Manager, Florida Power & Light Company of Miami. To the State Winner, Wayne Fallis of Quincy, a Certificate and check for \$100.00 from the Future Farmer Foundation; and to each of the District winners a \$50.00 Savings Bond from the Florida Power & Light Company of Miami, Florida Power Corporation of St. Petersburg, and Tampa Electric Company of Tampa, Robert Edward Raines of Tate at Gonzalez, Billy Young of Jasper, John L. Allison of Williams at Live Oak, Lee Roy Turner of Wimauma, and Rickey Jones of Sebring, after which the meeting adjourned with the official closing ceremony.

THURSDAY EVENING

The Eighth Session of the convention was called to order by the President after several selections by the Plant City State Champion String Band. The meeting opened with the official opening ceremony.

The top three Chapters in the State Chapter contest were presented their awards by Mr. James E. Gorman and will be entered in National Competition. Top was Quincy, who received \$40.00 and a Gold Plaque, second—Suwannee at Live Oak, who received \$25.00 and a Silver Plaque, and third—Williams at Live Oak, who received \$15.00 and a Bronze Plaque.

Bob McLean, 3rd Vice President, as Master of Ceremony, introduced the judges after Miss Joan Van Arsdall of the Sheely Chapter at Lake City, was selected as the State F.F.A. Sweetheart of the Florida Association, for 1955-56. They were Honorable Doyle Conner, Representative from Bradford County, Starke; Honorable John Shipp, Representative from Jackson County, Marianna; and Mr. Lewis Tucker, Assistant Managing Editor of Progressive Farmer Magazine, Birmingham, Alabama. Joan was crowned by Judy and Doyle presented her with a trophy and to the Chapter a Pennant, from the Florida Association, F.F.A. The cash awards, sponsored by the Belk-Lindsey Stores of Florida, were presented by Mr. Gorman—\$100.00 to the State Sweetheart and \$20.00 to each of the other contestants, who were: Rebecca Simpson of Milton, Jean Ragan of Madison, Ann Smith of Ocala, Annette Young of Bartow, and Sylvia Sears of Arcadia.

The meeting adjourned with group singing of "Let Me Call You Sweetheart."

FRIDAY MORNING

The Ninth and final Session of the convention was called to order following some entertainment by the Plant City State Champion String Band. A program of group singing was led by Mr. J. Edward Langley and the Devotional Service was given by Reverend Norman Bennett, Jr. of the Calvary Baptist Church of Daytona Beach.

Certificates of Merit were presented to Mrs. Anna E. Wood, Evanston, Mother of the State Adviser, and to Mrs. Virginia F. Dorsey, Tallahassee, State F.F.A. Convention Secretary.

The Honorable Nathan Mayo, State Commissioner of Agriculture, addressed the convention delegates and guests and presented a special plaque to J. Lester Poucher, former member of the Largo Chapter, Honorable Doyle E. Conner, a former member of the Bradford Chapter at Starke, both having served as National President of the F.F.A., and William D. (Bill) Gunter, Jr., from Suwannee Chapter at Live Oak, the present National President. The plaques were F.F.A. Achievement awards from the State Department of Agriculture in honor of their outstanding achievements in agriculture and leadership.

For his cooperation, interest and support of the Florida Future Farmers, the delegates of the convention unanimously approved a motion to endorse Honorable Nathan Mayo to receive the Honorary American Farmer Degree at the National Convention this year.

Mr. J. P. O'Donnell, District Manager of the International Harvester Company, Jacksonville, presented the awards to the winners of the Soil & Water Management Contest. The State winner, Eldred Hollingsworth of Walnut Hill received a Certificate and check for \$100.00 from the Future Farmer Foundation and a \$100.00 Savings Bond from the International Harvester Dealers of Florida. To the District winners were given \$50.00 Savings Bonds for the first place and \$25.00 Savings Bonds for second place, also from the International Harvester Dealers of Florida. These winners in their respective placing by District were as follows: Burnett Steele of Baker, Billy Gindl of Tate at Gonzalez, Payton Bembry, Jr. of Jasper, Bradley Monroe of Quincy, P. C. Crapps, III of Suwannee at Live Oak, Hugh Kirby of Sheely at Lake City, Donald Hutchinson of Groveland, Richard Lilly, Jr. of Melrose, Philip Brown of Bartow, Dorian Williamson of Brandon, Shelby Farr of Sebring, and Randy Knight of Vero Beach.

The delegates approved several motions—that the Champion String Band and new and old State Officers be sent to the National Convention, that there be an area elimination for the Public Speaking contest, that the time of the conven-

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tion for next year be referred to the executive committee for their decision, and that the Chapters of the Florida Association and judges in contests be required to strictly follow the rules and regulations as listed in the Contests and Awards Bulletin. Also, that the State Association recommend to the National Organization that the Office of Chaplain be established as one of the regular offices in the Local, State and National Organization; and that a station, emblem and regular part in the opening and closing ceremonies be given this office. This would be an amendment to Article VIII.

On behalf of the Florida Association, F.F.A., a box of candy was presented to Miss Jo Anne Malone for her assistance during the convention. The officers presented dress and sport shirts to Messrs. Wood and Cox, for their untiring efforts.

The new State Sweetheart and State Champion String Band entertained just before the rest of the retiring officers made their individual reports. First was Arvid Johnson of Groveland, who also introduced his parents Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Johnson; James Quincey of Trenton; Willard Durrance of Wauchula, who also introduced his parents Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Durrance; and last but not least the State President, Colin Williamson of High Springs, whose father, Steve Williamson, brother and family were present.

The new Officers of the Florida Association, Future Farmers of America, for 1955-56, were officially installed with the appropriate Future Farmer Ceremony and escorted to their respective stations by the retiring officers. Retiring President Colin Williamson turned the gavel over to President William "Tucker" Aplin, who then took over the chair. President Aplin talked to the delegation very briefly and presented outgoing President Williamson with a gavel.

The State Adviser, Mr. H. E. Wood, presented each of the retiring officers with a Past State Officer's pin and after a few announcements, the 27th Annual State Convention of the Florida Association, Future Farmers of America, was declared closed by President Aplin.

A most enjoyable climax to a very eventful week was the International Harvester Company of Jacksonville luncheon for the 1954-55 and 1955-56 State Officers, several Past State Presidents and special guests, members of the Supervisory Staff, and guests, at the Princess Issena Hotel.

Gunter

(Continued from page 11)

think that you will agree. I think that in addition you and I must learn to take places of leadership in our rural communities and throughout the nation. I realize that we can't all be great leaders or public speakers, but we can develop



Mrs. Anna E. Wood, Evanston, mother of H. E. Wood, State Adviser, Florida FFA being presented with a certificate of merit by Colin Williamson, president, Jack Smith, Willard Durrance and Bob McLean, vice-presidents of the Florida Association at the 27th Convention.

the abilities that we have through FFA public speaking, parliamentary procedure, officer training, committee assignments, participation in state and National Conventions and other similar activities. My local advisor told our chapter on one occasion that we FFA members would never use all the hidden abilities each of us had, but were not aware of. This statement shocked me because, like you, I didn't want any talents the Heavenly Father had given to me to go to waste. Yet, sometimes I think that we Future Farmers, myself included, could dig deeper in search of the things we do best—our individual leadership traits—and work harder to fully develop them.

I will never forget what was a thrilling story to me of how Jay Wright, this year's national vice-president representing the Pacific Region, took advantage of his opportunities in leadership through the FFA. One day, Jay and his older brother Kay, who was an American Farmer in 1943, were riding the range on their ranch when Kay turned in the saddle and said, "Jay, I want you to do something for me". Jay could tell by the look on his older brother's face that he was serious in the request, so he answered, "I'll try to do anything you ask." Then Kay said, "I want you to enter the FFA Public Speaking Contest this year." Jay was shaken by this request because, as he put it, "I couldn't imagine this bashful boy from Alamo, Nevada giving a speech before a group of people." But he had given his word, so he put his best into the task. The first year Jay won his chapter contest and placed second in the district.

The following year, he tried even harder and placed third in his state. Jay didn't win the top award in speaking, but that's not important. The important thing is that he worked hard and is still working to improve his leadership abilities.

I don't want you to think that to be a successful Future Farmer you must win a top award or be an officer, because there aren't enough first prizes, offices, or other high awards to go around to every successful member. In my book, you are successful if you do the best job you can with what you have—win or lose. But remember this, that to those who set their goals highest and work hardest, go the greatest benefits.

A wise old Chinese philosopher once said that a journey of a thousand miles begins with but a single step. Every chapter meeting you attend, every committee on which you serve, every project which you complete will take you step by step nearer to the State Farmer Degree and finally to that high award of American Farmer. My days as an active member of the FFA will close following our National Convention this October. Remember, that someday you too will be leaving our organization. So, let it mean as much as possible to you now by taking advantage of the opportunities. Set your goals high, then if you don't reach all of them, you still will have gained much from having tried.

Let me share with you these lines from a poem by Edgar A. Guest that sum up this challenge that faces each of us.

"You are the fellow who has to decide
Whether you'll do it or toss it aside
You are the fellow who makes up your
mind

Whether you'll lead or linger behind.
Whether you'll try for a goal that is far
or be contented to stay where you are
Take it or leave it
Here's something to do.
Just think it over,
It's all up to you."

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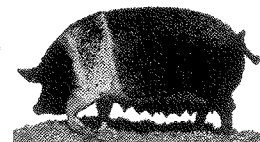
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