

The National

April-May, 1980

Future Farmer

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f America



The new, refined Model 788-

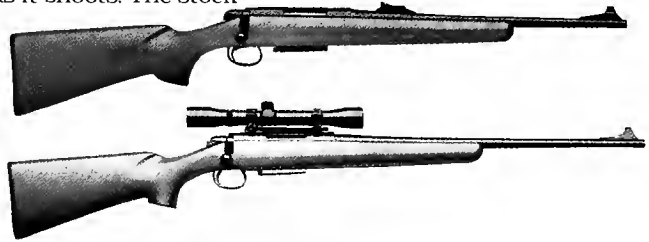
NOW THE WORKHORSE LOOKS MORE LIKE A THOROUGHbred.

The Model 788 has teamed up enviable accuracy with incredible ruggedness for a long time. Now the "workhorse" has new drawing cards. Good looks, even better handling, new barrel lengths. And a new caliber. The new 788 is so handsome you might say it looks almost as good as it shoots. The stock has been completely redesigned - traditional straight-line styling, fluted comb, fuller pistol grip and fore-end. Now there's a recessed floor plate, polished bolt, and richer satin wood finish.

This bold new rifle can be yours in five calibers, for varmints through big game. Newest among them is the 7mm-08 Remington; it makes the most of both the large capacity, necked-down 308 Win. case and the higher retained velocity/energy of the increasingly popular 7mm bullet. available in 243 Win., 7mm-08 Rem., and 308 Win., gives you "Brush Gun" handling ease in a tough, good looking package. A 24" barrel is standard with .223 Rem. and .22-250 Rem. calibers. The Model 788 still has the same tough receiver, milled from a solid billet of ordnance steel. Nine locking lugs provide great bolt strength and the remarkably fast lock time contributes to its superb accuracy.

Other features make the new Model 788 more of a workhorse. Like the standard blade-ramp front sight and adjustable V-notch rear sight. In five calibers there's an optional Tasco 4-power scope.

Take a closer look at the Model 788. The working rifle now has more class.



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FIRST IN THE FIELD



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The National
Future Farmer

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April-May, 1980

Volume 28 Number 4
ISSN 0027-9315

A Word With The Editor

Agriculture and rural America have a vital interest in the 1980 Census. Everyone must be counted to assure fair political representation and full funding for government programs. FFA members and vocational agriculture instructors can help get this job done.



In stressing the importance of the census count, National FFA Advisor Byron Rawls said, "FFA members should take the lead to see that their families are involved in the census. It's a citizenship activity to fill out the forms, a civil responsibility to return it."

Rawls added, "The census provides accurate information on the scope of agriculture in America and its importance. The census will let us all know about the complex structure of American agriculture."

There are many additional reasons why the census is important. More than 100 federal programs now guide their spending of an estimated \$50 billion annually with census statistics. Local governments rely on census information to guide them in locating schools, providing transportation facilities and public utilities for their residents, and solving many other problems. The new population figures will be used for reapportioning seats in the U.S. House of Representatives. At the state level, changes in population affect the redistricting of the legislature. All of this makes it extremely important that everyone be counted.

Every household in the nation will receive a census questionnaire in the mail on March 28. About 90 percent will be asked to mail back their completed forms. The other 10 percent, located mostly in sparsely settled areas of the West, will be asked to keep their forms and a census taker will pick them up.

In case anyone asks, completing the census form is mandatory and has been since 1790. You can reassure them, too, that federal law guarantees the privacy of individual census answers. Not even another government agency can see the answers.

"We're counting on you," says the Bureau of the Census. Let's give a hand in this important task that occurs every ten years.

Wilson Carnes

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The Cover

Working high above a client's farm, Mark Wint tightens bolts as a finishing touch to a silo repair job. Mark's mastery of his trade helped him win FFA's highest honors in the proficiency areas of agricultural mechanics and electrification. (See story Page 22.)

Cover photo by Jeffrey Tennant

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CORRESPONDENCE: Address all correspondence to: *The National FUTURE FARMER*, P.O. Box 15130, Alexandria, Virginia 22309. Offices are located at the National FFA Center at 5630 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria, Virginia 22309.

The National FUTURE FARMER is published bimonthly by the Future Farmers of America at 5630 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria, Virginia 22309. Second class postage paid at Alexandria, Virginia, and at additional mailings offices. Copyright 1980 by the Future Farmers of America.

Single subscription, \$1.00 per year in U.S. and possessions. FFA members \$1.00 paid with dues. Single copy 50¢; two-four copies 30¢ each, five or more 25¢ each. Foreign subscriptions, \$1.00 plus 50¢ extra for postage.

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Readers Report

MAILBAG

Washington, D.C.

As the recently appointed information director of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in North America I have had the pleasure of discovering *The National FUTURE FARMER* and would like to compliment you and your staff on this excellent publication.

Although the nature of *FUTURE FARMER* editorial material limits the contribution this office can offer to it, I note that the "Looking Ahead" column stresses global news of food and agriculture and hope that you will consider the enclosed short item for that space. Many briefs of this kind can be taken from FAO reports and releases and I will be sending more in the future.

If you think there is any way our organization can help you to serve the Future Farmers of America, I hope you will call on us.

*Nicholas Raymond
Information Officer*

Oxford, New York

I have been receiving the magazine for about three years and have enjoyed it, but as

you know today's FFA people are into more than farming crops and livestock.

I was wondering if you know of the new FFA members of today. This would include the horticulturist of today. These new members contribute much to the FFA and yet there is no mention of them in your magazine. I was wondering why?

Gelenda LaTourette

You are probably right in suggesting that the magazine does not give the horticulturist sufficient coverage in the magazine. However, we have received the same complaint from the dairy farmer and other areas of special interest. We hope that over a period of time all agricultural interest groups will be mentioned in some way, but mostly we are interested in the person and do not give too much emphasis to their special subject interest.—Ed.

Waverly, Nebraska

We just had to write and let you know how much we appreciated the fine article you wrote about our son Steve. We are also proud of the excellent pictures, especially the cover.

Naturally, our opinion is a little biased, but we truly feel that FFA is the most outstanding youth organization—anywhere! It has provided Steve with numerous opportunities to learn, develop, and receive recognition in a wide range of activities. Because of it, he is a better person who is better prepared to meet the challenges of the future.

Art and Marlene Althouse

Darien, Connecticut

I was told a subscription to the publication of Future Farmers of America was available at the unrealistic price of \$3 for three years! If so, please accept my order, if not, consider the enclosed a donation. Good luck in your fine work.

Antoni Tabak

Recent Board of Directors action raised the non-membership subscription price to \$2 per year effective September 1, 1980. So you are just in time.—Ed.

Black Lick, Pennsylvania

I have an idea for all the FFA chapters in the U.S. The suggestion is for all the FFA chapters in each county to get a basketball, baseball, soccer, or any other varieties of sports teams together to compete against each other. (If they want to.)

This way we could all get to know each other even better than we do now. Something like national FFA sports. Do you think it's such a crazy idea to get along with the fellow chapters around you and to get to know them better? I would appreciate your opinions.

*Manilla Deemer
Blairsville FFA*

There are many chapters already involved in all kinds of sporting events. Many involve Alumni, too. There are great possibilities in FFA areas/sections/federations or counties for chapter tournaments, field days or sports spectaculars. This kind of activity could really grow into fun activity for chapters—maybe it would never need to be a national event.—Ed.



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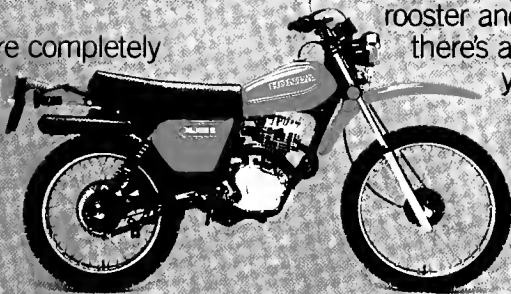
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Agriculture

LOOKING AHEAD

BILLION DOLLAR customers of U.S. farm commodities are found each year in the import markets of West Germany, Soviet Union, Canada, Netherlands, United Kingdom, South Korea and Italy. Each of these nations offers vast demand for U.S. farm products but none rank number one. Japan remains the largest single foreign customer with purchases nearing \$5 billion. The island nation buys more U.S. feed grains, wheat and soybeans than any other country.

SYNCHRONIZING ESTRUS cycles in normally cycling beef and dairy heifers is now possible with a drug called Lutalyse, recently approved by the Food and Drug Administration. Developed by The Upjohn Company and available only through veterinarians, Lutalyse contains prostaglandins, body chemicals believed to regulate many basic life processes. Benefits to cattlemen who utilize scheduled heifer breeding, attainable with the new drug, include labor and time savings when using artificial insemination because of easier herd heat detection.

FARM FACTS: U.S. farmers produced 2.2 billion bushels of soybeans and 7.6 billion bushels of corn in 1979—new records for both crops. Corn plantings are expected to increase this year, soybean acreage down by 5 to 10 percent below last season. . . . 1979 brought the second largest net farm income in history to U.S. farmers, but an expected 11 percent increase in production

costs during 1980 could result in a 20 percent decline of net income. . . . U.S. farm productivity has increased 25 percent over the past two decades, a result of sharp gains in output from nearly the same level of inputs.

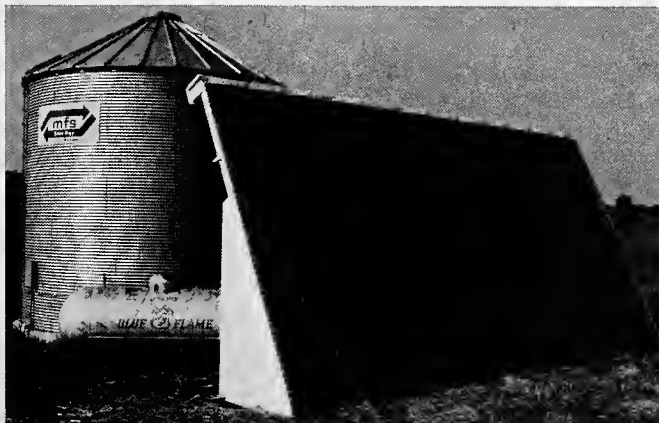
THE WORLD'S NUMBER ONE meat producer and consumer of red meats has only 11 percent of the world's cattle, 15 percent of the world's hogs and less than 2 percent of the world's sheep. Nevertheless, red meat output from the U.S. in 1979 accounted for 22 percent of the total world output and 24 percent of world consumption. U.S. red meat output last year tallied more than 50 percent above that of the Soviet Union, which ranks second in red meat production.

THE MARKET OUTLOOK for U.S. feed grains looks about as strong as before the cutoff of exports to the Soviet Union, reports the USDA. Average farm prices for feed grains are expected to be higher this year than last, with bushel prices up to \$2.45 for corn, \$2.35 for sorghum, \$2.35 for barley and \$1.40 for oats.

PEANUT BUTTER PIES, milkshakes and soup? They're on the way, say Clemson University extension scientists. Americans are currently consuming peanuts at the rate of 8.6 pounds per person per year, most of which comes in peanut butter form. The scientists say peanuts are one of nature's richest sources of protein.

POTATO SEED may someday replace seed potatoes, reports the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. Already done in China, the seeds have been successfully tested for some potato varieties in the U.S. The advantage of potato seed would be in reduced costs and handling problems. For example, two tons of seed potatoes are needed to plant a single hectare (2.47 acres) but the same planting would require less than half a pound of seed.

The first solar grain dryer built with USDA funds is operating in Jackson County, Ohio. Loan applications for these units are available at local USDA/ASCS offices.



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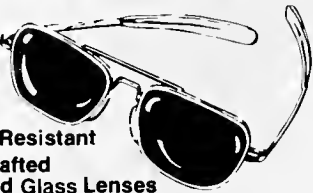
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The FFA

NEWS IN BRIEF

HOME AT LAST! National FFA Treasurer Julian Campbell, below at right, and James Warren of the National FFA Board of Directors read over the original Certificate of Incorporation papers for the Future Farmers of America. The documents, lost until recently discovered in the Suffolk, Virginia, school board office, were signed August 10, 1928, by C. H. Lane, Henry C. Groseclose and Walter S. Newman. The papers are now in the National FFA Archives.



EVERY FFA MEMBER is affected by actions of the National FFA Board of Directors. Business items considered in the first of only three 1980 meetings included acceptance of a new beef grading card for the livestock contest, a ruling that an individual may compete in only one speaking contest (either extemporaneous or prepared) above the state level in any year, approval of a WEA scholarship program and approval to continue the President's Challenge energy program another year.

GRANTS amounting to \$500 each were awarded by the Ciba-Geigy Corporation to three of the more than 400 chapters that contributed one dollar per member to the FFA Hall of Achievement. The grants, for use in establishing or improving local FFA farming/experience programs, were won in a random drawing of eligible chapters by the Wirt County FFA of Elizabeth, West Virginia; Crane FFA of Crane, Missouri, and Effingham County FFA of Springfield, Georgia.

OF THE FOUR Outstanding Young Farmers for 1979-80, as selected by the United States Jaycees, two were once active members of FFA. Competing in a field of nominees from 45 states, former members Byron Keating, 35, of Alexis, Illinois, and Harvey Moore, Jr., of Burden, Kansas, were named top young farmers in America by the Jaycees, a national leadership organization for young men with 375,000 members from nearly 9,000 communities. Nominees are judged on progress in agriculture, extent of soil and water conservation practices and contributions to community, state and nation.

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE programs in the national capital were used last year by 9 percent of all FFA chapters to improve the leadership abilities of selected chapter delegates. The year's program, with two conferences running each of eight weeks to accommodate 800 delegates, will be directed by past national officers Dee Sokolosky and Bruce Maloch. Applications for the conference were mailed in March to every FFA chapter.

NEW SUPPORTERS of FFA are coming forward—corporations with a stake, and a concern, in the futures of rural American youth. FFA Foundation Executive Director Bernie Staller says the Ford Motor Fund will sponsor an exhibit in the Hall of Achievement, Dr. Pepper is new co-sponsor of the national FFA chorus, Carnation Company Milling Division is co-sponsor of the sheep production proficiency award and Winpower Corporation of Newton, Iowa, joins as co-sponsor of the agricultural electrification proficiency award.

A PORTRAIT of the first national advisor of FFA, C. H. Lane, is now displayed in the FFA Archives. Lane's son, John, bottom at left, presented the gift to National FFA Advisor Byron Rawls on behalf of the family of the late Dr. Lane.



The National FUTURE FARMER

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thing the boys spend more time at than hunting up new 22 ideas. And that's testing 'em out in the back forty.

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this critical area with a unique inner belt. And how to prevent gunking up your gun by coating the bullet with a hard lubricant instead of a soft one.

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ENERGY ACTION:

How You Can Conserve Energy At Home

The easiest way and the best way to conserve energy is to use some common sense.

If your family's home has air conditioning, here are a few ways you can help keep your bills down without losing any of the cooling benefits.

Efficiency. Air conditioners vary considerably in efficiency and, hence, in the amount of energy used.

Don't try to cool the great outdoors. When air conditioners are on, keep windows closed. If you have storm windows, leave them closed while your air conditioner is running.

Blinds. Keep the hot sun out. Draw your blinds, shades or draperies during the day, particularly on the sunny side of your home.

Air. Take advantage of cooler air. When the outside temperature drops below the temperature inside your home—as in the evening—open your windows to let the inside heat escape.

Attics and roofs. Attics must be ventilated to relieve heat buildup caused by the sun.

Cleaning. Keep filters clean. Dirty filters will run up your cooling costs by restricting air flow.

Internal heat. Don't add extra heat. Cut down on heat-producing uses inside the home, such as unnecessary cooking, ironing, lights, television sets, and radios that are on but not being used or watched.

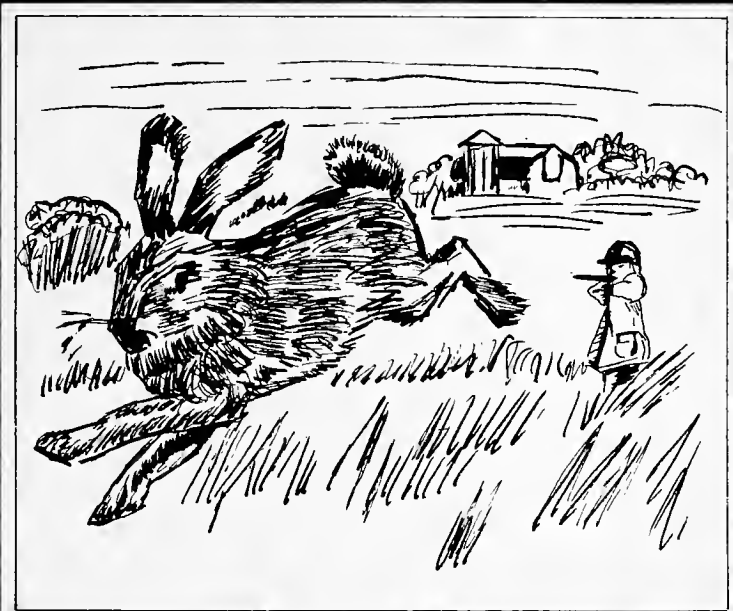
Cooling. Don't overcool. A five degree change in your thermostat setting can mean a substantial decrease in your operating costs.

Temperature. If you are a working family or plan to be away all day, raise the thermostat setting on your air conditioner by five degrees when you leave. It should only take a few minutes to recover the comfortable temperature when you return, and you will save on operating costs. Shutting the air conditioning off completely when you go to work will cause an unduly long cool-down period in the evening.

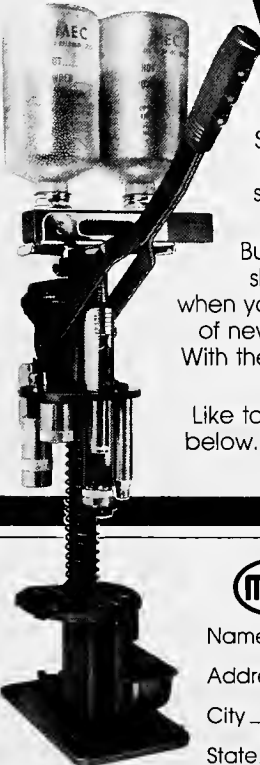
If you plan to be away until later in the evening when cooler outside air will begin to cool your house down naturally—or if you are planning to be away several days—then shut your air conditioning off when you leave.

These suggestions should help your family enjoy the summer. (From a brochure published by Virginia Electric and Power Company)

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THREE OF A KIND



Wendell Manning, left, John Sims, center, and Fred Lingo helped Oak Grove FFA into the record books.

With FFA awards galore, three Louisiana FFA members blend right in among the vastly productive farmers of the Mississippi River valley.

By Jeffrey Tennant

A RUMBLING tractor clogs traffic on the main street of Oak Grove, Louisiana. As if the machine's four rear tires aren't enough to block oncoming cars and pickups, a wide-spanned field disc occupies most of the opposite lane. On the radio, the local agri-news station blares the latest futures prices from the trading floor. In every other parking space sits a four-wheel drive truck, most with CB's. Welcome to Oak Grove. Welcome to big farm country.

Fred Lingo, Wendell Manning and John Sims, III, claim this bustling agricultural community as home. Fred graduated from Oak Grove High in May of 1978—Wendell and John are wrapping up their senior year. Even the school principal knows why the three are unique to FFA. When asked, the principal of this rather large rural school knows all about the Future Farmers. Truly, in addition to a winning football squad, FFA puts Oak Grove "on the map."

Fred, Wendell and John each won a southern region proficiency award in 1979, the first time a chapter has had three regional winners in the same year. Most chapters aspire for one state winner. But in Oak Grove, Fred climbed to the top in crop production, Wendell in forest management and John in beef produc-

tion. Quite an accomplishment—but not without diligent labor.

"I promote proficiency awards as a goal," says FFA Advisor James Welch, a 30-year veteran of agricultural education who graduated as valedictorian of Louisiana State University. "Just having the application around won't produce an award winner. There's got to be competition and inspiration among the chapter members."

An 89-member chapter with 100 percent membership among vo-ag students, Oak Grove FFA never lacks for a competitive spirit. Over the years, Oak Grove has produced five of Louisiana's eight regional proficiency winners. Many of

the members attain the State Farmer degree, many reach American Farmer. With achievers such as Fred, Wendell and John, it's obvious Welch has a philosophy of teaching that works.

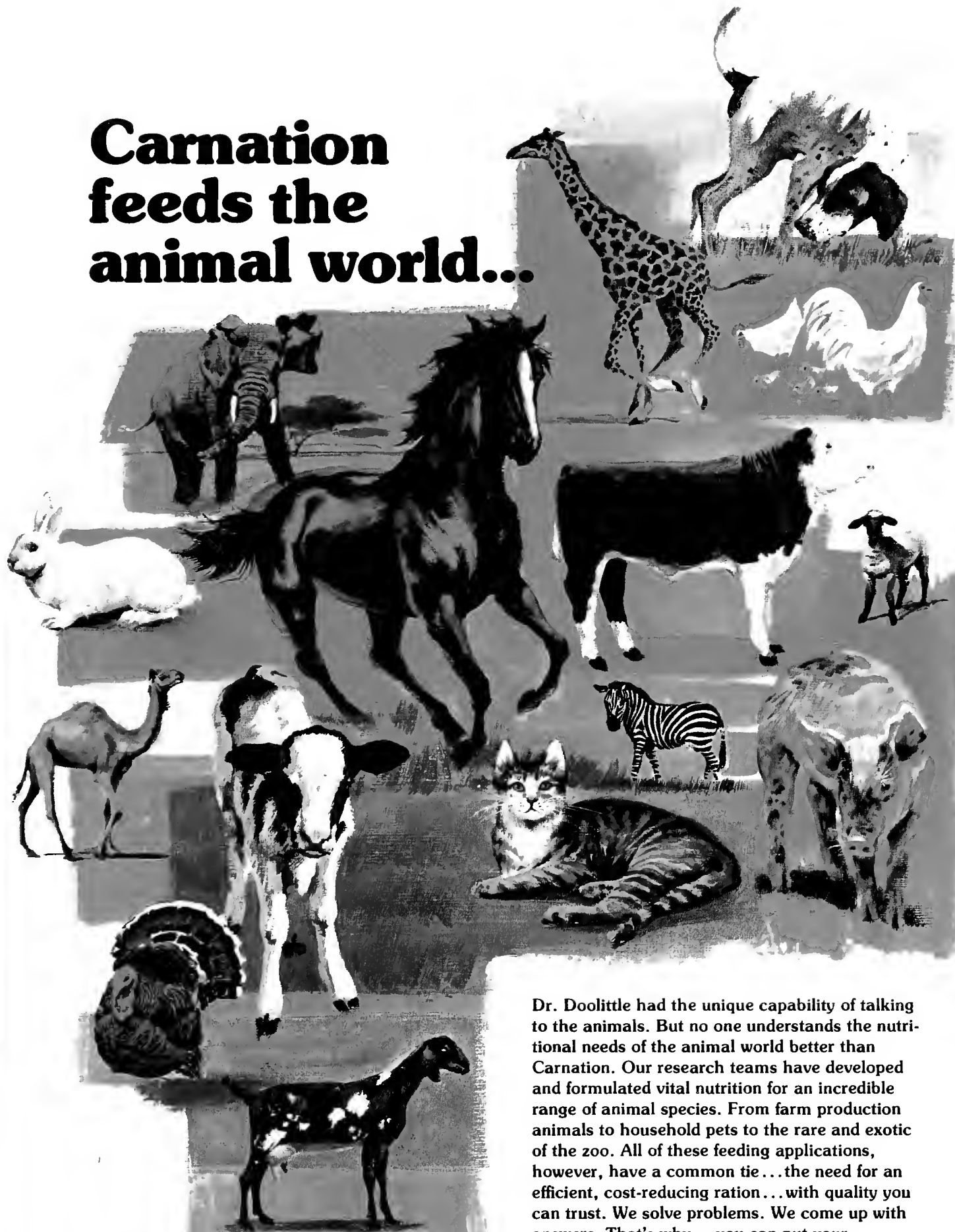
"Until I started treating award applications as a teaching tool," he says, "we didn't have much success. But now, we insist each member participate in award programs, plus we use the application forms as a way to teach agricultural finance. We don't fill out forms totally in class, but we do take it to the point that the forms become a financial statement for use in securing bank loans or reflecting a program's standing."

(Continued on Page 40)

Before hauling a load of soybeans to a distant market, Fred cleans the filter system on his Kenworth tractor-trailer rig.



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4 And Yamaha's Autolube system relieves you of the responsibility and mess of pre-mixing the gas and oil, while maintaining the ideal oil/fuel mixture for longer engine life. There's even an oil reservoir light to tell you when it's finally time to fill 'er up.

5 The transmission, kicked into life by an automatic centrifugal clutch, has five foot-operated forward speeds, including an ultra low with

tremendous pulling power. (Although it's not recommended, a Tri Moto has been known to pull a two-ton Chevy—with the Chevy's brake on.)

6 A Capacitor Discharge Ignition means not only maximum performance and efficiency, but no breaker points to wear out or adjust.

7 The riding position on a Tri Moto is the direct result of our unique seat and frame design. The benefit is remarkable stability for a three-wheeler, even running side hill.

8 Up hill or down, the specially designed front fender keeps mud from accumulating on the underside.

9 Big, fat, cord-type tires provide amazing traction over terrain that would bog down lesser three-wheelers. They're also tougher to cut than low-pressure balloon-type tires.

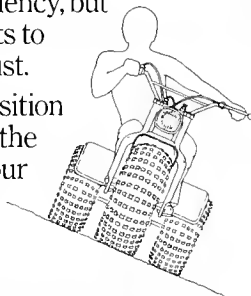
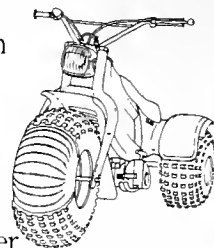
10 There's a disc brake in the rear for plenty of fade-free stopping power.

11 And an ingeniously engineered system waterproofs the air cleaner and carburetor. Just one more example of perhaps the best advantage of all.

12 It's a Yamaha.

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In Japan, national FFA officers met with Yoshizo Ikeda (seated), chairman of Mitsui Co., Ltd., one of the world's largest corporations. From left, officers Dee James, Doug Rinker, Phil Benson, Jeff Kirby, Elin Duckworth and Don Trimmer with FFA staff members Tony Hoyt and Lennie Gamage.

Touring the World for FFA

Since the inception of a goodwill tour in 1947, national FFA officers have traveled at home and abroad to express FFA's thanks to supporters.

JAPAN in February kicked off the annual Goodwill Tour of your six national officers as the team set out to complete official duties as "ambassadors" for FFA. Following travels in Japan, a tour of 20 American cities in two weeks scheduled the officers into nearly 60 visits with agribusiness firms, civic clubs, government agencies and educational centers.

A significant role of national officers since 1947, the tour serves as a means of expressing appreciation to FFA Foundation sponsors for contributions to FFA's educational awards program. In addition, the tour brings about a better understanding of FFA and vocational agriculture, and gives industry representatives a chance to meet and share ideas with young people interested in agricultural careers.

"This tour keeps a good line of communication open between the FFA and the agriculture industry," says Byron Rawls, national FFA advisor. "These national officers have an excellent opportunity to be exposed to a working industry. Combining the overseas visit to Japan with visits to our own industries illustrates to the officers just how internation-

ally important American agriculture has become."

Following their return from Japan, the officers spent National FFA WEEK in their home states visiting FFA chapters and members. Then the team journeyed to appointments with agricultural leaders in the areas of Memphis, Atlanta, Tampa, Orlando, New York, Los Angeles, Pasadena, San Francisco, Santa Anna, Oakland, Portland, Seattle and Quincy, Ill.

Prefacing the American tour, though, was an international experience for the officers sponsored by Mitsui & Co., Ltd., Japan's largest trading company. The foreign travels, the second trip sponsored by Mitsui, serve to broaden the officers' knowledge of global agriculture.

"They rolled out the red carpet for us," says Dee James, central region vice president. "I was impressed to see the American flag flying by the Japanese flag in many of the businesses and industries. We have a common cooperation with Japan and people are willing to let that cooperation be known to each other."

James also noted the importance of maintaining a close association with the Future Farmers of Japan (FFJ), an or-

ganization founded in 1950 to promote agricultural education for Japanese students. The officers, who visited with FFJ's national leaders, brought back an insight into a foreign "sister" structure of Future Farmers.

"FFJ has 'prefectures' similar to our state associations," shares National President Doug Rinker. "Local, prefecture and national contests are organized but their awards program isn't as extensive as ours."

By witnessing first-hand the FFJ and Japanese agriculture, the officers formed a different perspective on young Americans' opportunities to enter farming professionally.

"As in America," continues Rinker, "it's difficult for a Japanese young person to get involved in farming. With land selling from anywhere between \$30,000 and \$85,000 an acre, it's almost impossible for a young person to get started in farming. However, they do have ways of starting small, just like some FFA members back in the U.S."

"Their degree system isn't as intense as ours," adds Jeff Kirby, southern region vice president. "Most of the members are

(Continued on Page 45)



A football goalpost stands near the border between soybeans and school.

The Lab is the Farm

These FFA members apply classroom instruction to the operation of a productive crops farm.

BEHIND the football field of Catlin, Illinois, High School, tall plants blow in the breeze, laden with another year's crop of soybeans. For the vocational agriculture students comprising the 35-member Catlin FFA Chapter, the crop is more than profit. It's the final product of a year's worth of learning how to farm.

"The farm gives us in FFA first hand experience," says Tim Selsor, a senior agriculture student in this rural school with an enrollment of 305. "Less than half the chapter members live on farms, but we all enjoy agriculture. We hope to use the farming skills we learn here if given the opportunity to work in agriculture. We know that if you tell a farmer you want to work for him the first thing he'll say is, 'What's your background?'"

The Catlin chapter farm, with its 50 acres of corn and 6 acres of beans, has provided students with farm backgrounds for, as Tim says, "As long as I can remember." Lewis Thorpe, Catlin FFA advisor, sees to it that every member gets a chance at hands-on farm work in addition to class instruction.

"If a job applicant came from Catlin FFA," he assures, "prospective employers know they've got someone with true farming experiences. If the students don't get jobs in farming, they find out how food gets on the table. Very important. Also, the students learn basic busi-

ness principles by managing the farm, its equipment and products."

The chapter is in a 50/50 partnership agreement with the landlords of the 56 acres, so FFA members learn to deal with people and make decisions. Some activities, such as combining, are limited to seniors or chapter officers but most tasks are completed year-round by everyone.

"The agricultural business management class is similar to a farm committee," says Advisor Thorpe. "The class makes decisions on operations such as buying seed, fertilizer usage and machinery repair. The class then recommends their decision to the chapter. Once direction is given, everyone gets busy with chores such as fall plowing, soil sampling, paying bills, making crop plans in the spring, selecting seed and readying machinery. These jobs are all practical applications of classroom learning."

The chapter farm operates on a tight, well-managed budget. Some equipment is owned, including a planter, field and row cultivator, plow, disc, rotary hoe, sprayer, blade, two tractors and implements. The blade serves an off-farm purpose as well.

"We plow snow in the winter," says Ron Soderstrom, chapter president, "and gardens in the spring. We make enough money to at least buy new tractor tires."

Ron says the chapter coordinates spe-

cial arrangements for certain services with area farmers and agribusinesses. Seed is purchased from local dealers at a discount, providing the chapter sets up public display test plots and compiles information on seed performance. Combines are usually rented from area dealers, but on one occasion a farmer agreed to combine the chapter's grain in exchange for a sturdy hog trough. To pay for pre-harvest expenses, an "operating loan" is taken out by the chapter and dissolved when the grain is sold.

"When the loan is repaid," says Tim, "all bills cleared and profits split with the landlords, we'll usually clear between \$3,500 and \$4,500 profit. That money is then put back into FFA for buying inputs such as next year's seed, needed equipment or capital improvements."

Catlin FFA alumni members such as Scott Smith attest to the quality of the chapter farming program. Scott grew up in town but had a dream to farm. Working diligently through the Catlin program, he learned necessary skills that would lead him to a job farming 1,500 acres of corn, soybeans and livestock. Such a placement epitomizes the true meaning of vocational agriculture.

The Catlin program benefits even those who don't wind up farming. By teaching principles of honest trade, creating vital decision-making situations for students and returning a harvest for hard work, Catlin FFA members learn ideals that are main ingredients in the formula for success.

Catlin members examine dropped beans to assess the quality of the 1979 crop. This one averaged 37 bu./acre.



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convertible models which are available.

- 7. Structures may be moved** to a new location if necessary.
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Mark's duties take him to soaring heights, exemplified here during a silo repair job.

A Tender of Power

Farmers—tenders of soil—call on Mark Wint to maintain the vital machinery of farm production.



FARMERS in the highly productive agricultural area of southern Indiana would rather not talk to Mark Wint. At least when it comes to business. Talking to Mark Wint usually means something went wrong in the farming operation, something that crippled a usually hectic system. No, the farmer would rather not need Mark's reliable repair skills. But as in any complex world of power and machinery, farming breaks down. When it does, Mark's services are welcome indeed.

"I'm a firm believer in going out, pushing a button and watching it happen," says Mark, a Columbus East FFA member who's won both the national proficiency award in agricultural electrification and a regional award in agricultural mechanics. "I've got this fascination about getting things fixed. And I like to think I help the farmer. Because of so much automation in farming, a lack of electricity would sink about 90 percent of the farms around here."

As one of the youngest licensed electrical contractors in the state, Mark

Mark attacks a problem in the circuits of a full automated grain handling system.

The National FUTURE FARMER

divides his work time between duty for a local electrical company and assistance in his family's 250-acre corn and swine operation. Both the commercial jobs and the on-farm chores demand a well-rounded knowledge of agriculture, electricity and mechanics.

"I do varying kinds of contract work," says Mark, who turned 20 in January, "including 30 to 40 percent which is ag-related. The rest of the jobs are industrial, residential and commercial. In farmwork, we're not just repairmen. We also install machinery such as grain handling systems. Many jobs involve setting initial power service, running conduit and wiring, installing breakers and switching devices—anything to get the system going."

Mark does plumbing and mechanic work in the course of his job, too, but doesn't "like to admit it because I'm not licensed in those areas." However, his customers expect a machine to perform, and on occasion, a task above the call of duty is necessary to complete a job.

"Because of the diversity and specialization in Mark's job," says Eugene, Mark's father, "vocational agriculture and farming have provided good training experiences. He can apply those experiences to different situations. He realizes, for instance, that harvest time is very important to farmers. He knows that farmers depend on power. Troubleshooting electrical systems, repairing grain dryers and servicing generators for use in a critical power outage could save a farmer's crop from spoiling."

Mark's love for mechanics and electrification surfaced early when, as a pre-teenager, he spent summers and weekends working in his parents' farm equipment and truck dealership in Hope, Indiana. Upon his parents' decision to sell the dealership and move to the farm, Mark found his first challenge in farm electrification.

"The farm needed modernization," recalls Mark. "Doing the rewiring of the place sparked by interest in electricity. My first major job came as an eighth grader when I wired our new farm shop."

Mark says his knowledge of electrical systems came at an early age because he "just tinkered with it a while and read a little about it." But his parents disagree when Mark says his was a "hit-and-miss interest."

"At three years old," says Mark's mother, Cora, "he tagged along with electricians, pulling wire and things. He'd always fool around with pieces of cord. Got a shock now and then, too."

Mark asked for electrical bites. He also asked for, and received, an electrical code book for the Christmas after his farm re-wiring experience. Applying practical knowledge with formal proce-

dures and information, Mark could soon handle a variety of projects. In addition to shop and farmhouse rewiring, Mark wired and installed a three-phase heater system in a 16-sow farrowing house. When the family decided to expand its farming operation, Mark took charge of installing electric augers in each of five new grain bins. Installation of 400-amp service on a load center pole and wiring of lighting in portable hog houses and a pig nursery challenged Mark's expertise. Between farm chores, the busy electrician kept up in FFA activities such as troubleshooting contests, chapter office and agricultural mechanics demonstrations. Mark's all-around proficiency in agriculture earned him the Star Chapter Farmer award.

"Attention to details and aggressiveness are Mark's strengths," says FFA Advisor Timothy McNealy. Such traits also serve well in electrical tasks but also complement a directly related area—agricultural mechanics.



The electrician's inventory includes thousands of small, yet vital, parts.

"To be a farm electrician," offers Mark, "you need a broad knowledge of mechanics. Electricity is the farm's power. You need to know what's being powered."

Carpentry, masonry, plumbing, transit and welding skills developed from Mark's practical experience with electricity and exposure to vocational agriculture shop programs. Not one to let a talent lie, Mark set out to handle much of the mechanical responsibility on his home farm.

"Every farmer needs some knowledge of mechanics and electricity," he says. "You can keep operating costs down by doing your own labor, and you save

'down time' by getting things fixed quickly. If our combine went, I might not be able to fix it completely but I could get it going long enough to finish the job or get it to a shop. Besides, Dad says if you work on it yourself, you treat it better, too."

Mark says ability to repair isn't the only asset to the farmer with mechanical know-how. "It's a lot cheaper to build than buy," he claims, using as an example a self-built 7-row anhydrous ammonia applicator. "For the tractor-drawn applicator, I laid out a drawing, bought the steel and constructed it from scratch." He's also built a livestock carrier, two-wheel trailer and a wood splitter. Mark's maintenance and repair of the family's six trucks and three tractors also saves money and time. However, Mark advises caution when attempting to "do-it-yourself."

"People that don't know anything about electricity and claim they do cause a lot of trouble," he asserts. "Three of the most common problem areas in electrical maintenance are improper fuse selection, overhead wires, and overloaded circuits. If people would just keep an eye on nearby wires, never replace a blown fuse with a larger watt fuse and add new circuits when needed, many damaging mistakes could be avoided."

Mark says electricity will be just as vital for his younger brother and sister, Jim and Karen, as it is now. "Farmers will continue to search for more labor-saving devices, more automation," he proposes. "As the price of gas and oil continues to rise, more electric power will be used. Even nuclear facilities will use electrical devices to transmit their power. Solar energy? Since you only get sun for half a day, the energy must be stored somehow. Why not an electrical storage device?"

Such belief in his chosen field has called public attention to Mark. Public Service Indiana, the state's major electrical utility company, often calls on Mark to mediate public service programs with FFA and rural communities. Last year, as a result of his competence and concern for his nation, the young electrician took a seat on the National Food and Energy Council.

Even with all his accomplishments, Mark looks forward to completion of an ambitious personal goal. "I want to branch out on my own," he says, "and start an ag-related business, working on jobs from houses to farrowing barns, from feedlots to grain handling systems. Electricity's here to stay."

And so is Mark Wint—a skillful serviceman tending to the power, dedicated to greasing the wheels and firing the engines of a fast-moving American agriculture.

Moore First In FFA

thusiasm for agriculture. History would prove her as a trend-setter, evidenced by increasing numbers of girls who have since enrolled in the South Panola vocational agriculture program. Arlene set a good example by maintaining a strong supervised project for FFA.

"I had worked up to 15 sows during my freshman year at Pope," she recalls, explaining part of the farming program that would help form her list of "firsts." "Daddy gave my sister Carol and I some gilts while I was in Pope school. Carol eventually went away to college, so I took over the feeding and rental obligations to Dad. It was good experience, because I also helped out in farming crops and 150 head of commercial cows. By my sophomore year at South Panola I had added five sows and several bred gilts, all Landrace crosses."

Busy with her blossoming farm operation, plus helping in the family's grocery and feed store, Arlene limited her involvement in FFA activities. As fate would have it, a decision to decline a chance for chapter sweetheart would spark Arlene's interest in FFA.

"Instead of sweetheart, I ran for Mississippi Farm Machinery Queen," she says. "I met a state officer at the event, and also saw some FFA contests going on. I became inspired to get more involved in FFA—began to wish I'd had it in the ninth grade, too."

Motivated to participate, Arlene attended her first FFA federation meetings during her junior year. One of those meetings held a surprise in store.

"At one of the first meetings," she recalls, "someone nominated me for federation sentinel. I didn't go to the meeting with an office in mind. I don't even know why I was nominated but I got the office. I enjoyed it, and served as chapter

(Continued on Page 30)

The National FUTURE FARMER



The American Farmer key above Arlene's name resulted from dedication to a goal.

ARLENE Moore could be called the "first lady" of the Mississippi FFA Association. Looking back over her high school years in agriculture and FFA, the 19-year-old native of tiny Pope, Mississippi, can claim a host of "firsts." Ironically, many of her accomplishments were achieved because, in one respect, she was last.

"I'm the youngest of four girls and a boy," Arlene shares, referring to Carol, Margaret, Jane and Hal. "They are all talented in different respects, and I always felt pressured by them. I wanted to be a success at something, too. I thought from the start I could prove myself in FFA."

Raised by father, James, and mother, Mildred, on a productive spread of cotton, soybeans and cattle, Arlene set out to make her mark in FFA. Since the community school at Pope offered only grades one through nine, Arlene enrolled

in South Panola High School in nearby Batesville for her sophomore year. It was here during three years in FFA and vocational agriculture that Arlene would achieve her list of "firsts." Some came with unexpected surprises.

"My school counselor tried to talk me out of taking agriculture," she says, remembering the registration that would usher the first few girls into South Panola vocational agriculture classes. "I was told I didn't want to take a place that a boy could have. I wanted an agriculture class, though, and talked the counselor into agreeing. With agriculture came FFA."

The counselor wouldn't be the last person to comment about Arlene's interest in agriculture. Her schoolmates found the situation intriguing as well, and Arlene says, "The girls gave me more trouble than guys about being in FFA." But teasing couldn't dampen Arlene's en-

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and cracked two ribs
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And even more comfortable on the street.

Nice thing is, they still squeeze the dickens out of every drop of gas.



Moore

(Continued from Page 26)

vice president after that year. As a chapter officer, I went to the state convention, met a national officer and set my sites on a state office."

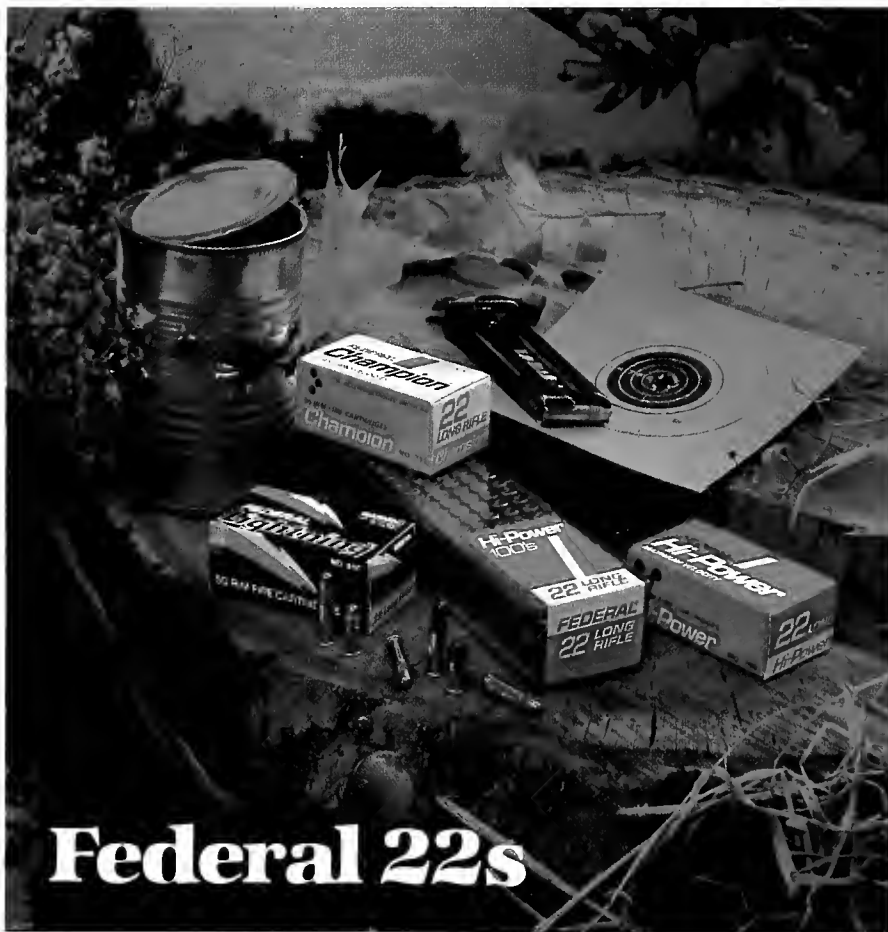
With the ambition to become a state officer, Arlene knew she must earn the State Farmer degree. To do so, she built her farming program to 20 sows by the end of her senior year. Much of the hogs' fed grain was grown on the family operation, where Arlene helped farm 450 acres of soybeans, 450 acres of cotton, 30

acres of corn and 50 acres of hay. Using rotation crops of winter wheat and ten acres of soybeans, Arlene supplemented her ground corn feed mix. As a result of careful management, the hogs littered well and showed good weight gains. For her efforts, the aspiring officer candidate won the state swine production proficiency award.

Following a senior year that included competition in the national farm management contest at the National FFA Convention, Arlene ran for state office during the state convention. She felt sure of receiving the State Farmer degree, but didn't know another "first" would be in store.



The Moores' feed store keeps Arlene busy in between studies and chores.



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"The night they were to name the State Star Farmer," she recalls, still showing excitement about the occasion, "they kept showing several slides of my operation. It was my parents' anniversary, and they were there with me. I kept wishing by some chance I'd be chosen. I can't describe my feeling when they announced my name as state star."

Not only did Arlene become the state's first female Star Farmer, the convention delegates elected her to state office as sentinel—a post held only by males since the association's beginning.

As state officer and freshman student of agricultural communications at Mississippi State University, Arlene maintained her farming operation with the help of her family. She also embarked on an agribusiness venture with older sister, Carol.

"When Carol came back to teach agriculture at South Panola," says Arlene, explaining a situation that created a three-teacher department with Guy Walker and Billy Smith, "we started a commercial greenhouse operation with hopes of selling plants in the spring, including hydroponic tomatoes. The tomatoes weren't feasible for this area, though, so we used the greenhouse for sprigging bermuda grass. Now we plant the grass we need for pasture and sell the rest."

Arlene used her agribusiness experience and farming operation to attain yet another first in Mississippi. During FFA's fiftieth anniversary convention, Arlene received the American Farmer degree, fulfilling yet another goal in her FFA career. And, as an appropriate finish to a story of Arlene Moore, here's a riddle. Guess who became Mississippi's first female life member of FFA Alumni? Ask anyone in Pope. They'll be glad to tell you.



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WALKING TALL

FFA members with handicaps face and overcome added challenges in their strife for farming success.

By Gary Bye

IT might take Rodney McGowan a little longer to do his chores than another FFA member his age. However, the finished product is the same; a well groomed, well trained lamb and a satisfied showman.

Rodney is slower because he does his chores from a wheel chair. Crippled by multiple sclerosis, Rodney has lost the use of his legs and has only limited use of his hands.

Understandably, he takes special pride in his accomplishments. At the same time he feels special kinship toward the FFA members in his chapter who help him reach his goals. Rodney does most of the feeding and training of his lamb at home. To exercise the lamb, he ties it to his wheel chair and lets the lamb pull him around. Yet, Rodney is at a disadvantage in the showring.

"Other members can squat down to move their animals while they are showing," says Rodney, the determined showman. "I have to have someone help me lead the lamb, but I'm there to show that it is my project."

Rodney and other handicapped mem-

bers of the Bakersfield South High School FFA Chapter in California have little difficulty in finding help. "We're kind of like a big family," says FFA Advisor Bill Kelly. "When someone needs help, our members are eager to come to their aid. We all respect their willingness to try."

Bakersfield South High is the only high school in the school district to accept handicapped students. The school's flat campus and progressive administration prompted the acceptance.

"We probably have six or seven handicapped students each year in our FFA chapter," says Kelly. "It is good for our other students. They find out our handicapped students are perfectly normal except for their physical difficulties."

Rodney, a junior and a B-student in ag class has shown lambs for three years and plans to raise a steer next year. The move in projects has meant trips to the bank for a project loan. It has also meant making a deal with his younger sister.

"I agreed to help her pick out and feed her lamb if she would help with my steer," he says.

Since the fairground is only a few miles away from the school, there is little difficulty in getting Rodney to and from the county fair where his lambs are shown. The show lasts seven days.

Rodney says his favorite part of the fair is the stock show and sale. Base price for lambs at the fair is \$3 per pound so Rodney has been able to realize a profit of \$200 to \$300 each year.

Since he and his sister live alone with their working mother, Rodney says the profits are well used by the family. "My mother has done a lot for me, so I feel pretty good when I can help out with the money."

Rodney says his mother worries about the danger of his working with animals but is proud of his efforts. "She usually trusts my judgement," he says.

With regard to the FFA, Rodney says his activities have helped him learn responsibility. He grins as wide as any FFA member when he says he is proud to be part of the organization.

Likewise the FFA is proud to have members with the courage and ambition of Rodney McGowan.

Lupe Munoz, left, and Rodney listen with a friend as Advisor Kelly judges a show lamb.



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A Commitment To Lead

From farm lad to state leader, Governor Jim Hunt has lived up to the challenge of the FFA motto.

INSIDE the capitol building of North Carolina, Governor Jim Hunt busily completes the orders of the day on a crowded schedule. The state congress expects him anytime, letters from constituents pour in, phone calls relay to the governor's office from a staff of secretaries—all routine for this former Future Farmer.

Governor Hunt grew accustomed to the whirlwind world of top leadership before entering professional politics as a public servant. A native of, as he puts it, "the little community of Rock Ridge," the farm boy went on to become North Carolina's state FFA president and Star Farmer. The following year, in 1956, Hunt received his American Farmer degree, a well-earned symbol of honor for an enterprising young man.

"I grew up on a dairy and tobacco farm," says Hunt, relating tales of his youth from his spacious office. "I worked in the tobacco but my FFA project was dairy farming. My enterprise began around the sixth grade with the first registered calf I bought. Every summer, when I earned money, I'd put it back into registered purebred Holstein heifers. Pasture and hay made the project a fairly integrated one."

As a boy, Jim lived and worked on land that had been in the Hunt family for some 200 years. But as fate would have it, the land would play a part in Jim's decision to leave the farm and seek success elsewhere.

"We lived on a 120-acre farm," he remembers, tracing his path back to Rock Ridge. "We couldn't expand because land was so expensive. Even if we'd had the money, nobody would sell. If we'd had more land around my home I would've stayed in production agriculture, I'm sure of it. Not having that, though, I sought an alternative."

That alternative became an education in dairy husbandry and agricultural education at both the University of North Carolina and North Carolina State. Armed with a good education in agriculture, Hunt continued his leadership by challenging himself with open-minded ambitions and personal commitment.

"I recall goals of wanting to use my talents the best I could to make my state and community better," he says. "You never know what the future will hold. I became interested in political leadership because I saw it was the way you got roads paved, good farm policy made and supported. I committed myself to following the political route. But, not unlike a farmer, a political officer has to be independent. There's nothing like being your own boss and making your own decisions."

Hunt believes commitment, faith and belief are three important ingredients for the individual interested in pursuing a life in farming. If one possesses those three qualities, along with drive and desire, Hunt says an individual can "take the plunge" into farm entrepreneurship.

Governor Hunt "talks FFA" with North Carolina FFA Executive Secretary C. L. Keels, far right, and Jeffrey Tennant of The National FUTURE FARMER.



Governor Jim Hunt

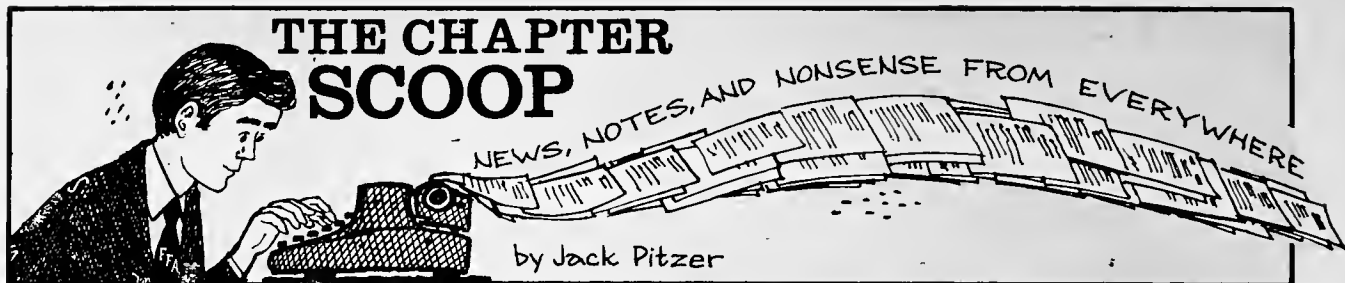
"Production agriculture is an exciting life," he says. "But it carries burdens. There's great risk. I like the excitement of taking a risk, plotting your own course and accumulating profits if you're lucky and good. I think that's one of the things FFA offers to everybody—a competitive spirit. Future Farmers are taught to give it a try, believe in agriculture and learn from mistakes."

"In FFA you learn several things that apply regardless of whether you eventually farm for a living. One is, you learn to work. You learn to be a capitalist, an entrepreneur, and you receive practical experience. Capitalism becomes more than just a theory. You see the system work, and that's good for America's free enterprise system."

As governor, Hunt is interested in seeing well-rounded students graduate from North Carolina schools, students who will eventually impact on public policy and government. FFA, he says, can play a vital role in character development.

"Everybody who goes into FFA gets leadership training," says the governor. "Leadership is the most scarce commodity in the world, in terms of public, private and economic leadership. FFA is the best leadership training organization that exists, without question. Invite top officials and school administrators to the National FFA Convention. Dare them to come; they'll find out it's the greatest week a boy or girl ever spends."

From a small farm in Rock Ridge to the governor's mansion, Governor Hunt has watched for opportunity and reached for his goals. Along the way, he must've kept in mind the FFA motto. No doubt he's developed "those qualities of leadership which a Future Farmer should possess."



THE CHAPTER SCOOP

NEWS, NOTES, AND NONSENSE FROM EVERYWHERE

by Jack Pitzer

Philadelphia, W. B. Saul, PA, Chapter has an 18-cow dairy herd.

Of the seven *Salisbury*, MO, delegates to National Convention, only one "failed to come home with a cowboy hat." (Best buy for a hat in Kansas City every year during convention is the FFA Supply Service who orders them just for their convention sales booth.)

Oshkosh West, WI, Chapter Queen **Jackie Clark** and a past queen **Julie Bloedow** suggested to the chapter some criteria for selection; 1.) Be an active FFA member for one year or more, 2.) Be available for local and county fairs to pass out trophies, 3.) Have a willingness to work with young people.

At a recent *Artesia*, NM, Chapter meeting they called for a report from their national delegates.

Reporter **Tom Weber** sends word of *Normal*, IL, FFA cutting, splitting and selling firewood and earning \$700.

After such a successful season for the *Crowley*, LA, advisor is planning a cochon de lait (whatever that is) according to **Troy Leger**, reporter.

"With the money we made from our annual fruit sale, we purchased a greenhouse." *Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln*, WI, FFA.

After two years as second place, *Oakland*, OR, finally topped the state soil judging contest. All four team members placed in the top ten with **Rick Pepiot** as top in the contest.

Lots of news about gilt or pig or calf or heifer chains getting started in chapters. **Tina Cartee** has the Duroc gilt for *Middletown*, MD. Brookville, OH, bought a gilt **Roger Mahan** is raising.

From their five bee hives, *Wethersfield*, IL, FFA got 125 pounds of honey and earned a net of \$138.00.

They printed some money en route to the National Convention? The *Hobson*, MT, delegates stopped at the Denver Mint and got to run the press.

Wamego, KS, FFA Alumni provides ice cold water (in a bulk milk tank with a spigot on one end) for folks who go through the Children's Barnyard.

Parents and community folks were invited to look over the new shop and "ag home" for *Winfield*, KS.

Safety committee of *Mountain Grove*, MO, gave public service announcements over the radio. Then conducted a call-in quiz for prizes donated by local stores.

Nineteen of *Brimfield*, IL, Chapter members made the first semester honor roll and ten of them made the "A" list. The chapter scholarship committee awarded the scholars FFA pencils.

And in *Purdy*, MO, 21 of the 54 members made the honor roll.

They made straw wreaths to raise funds for *Soquel*, CA, Chapter.

They've got new signs on the edge of town thanks to *LeGrand*, IA, FFA with room for Lions and other civic groups.

Waterman, IL, Chapter placed third in their heat with their demolition derby car at the DeKalb County Fair. Car was assembled and painted by members and driven by Advisor **Lynch**.

The Production Credit Association of *Finley*, ND, presented those colorful FFA Student Handbooks to the Greenhands.

Safety committee of *Sarasota*, FL, has a spot on agenda of every chapter meeting to keep members alert to safety.

Brockway, PA, reports having invited President Jimmy Carter to their annual banquet but he will not be able to attend.

Only a half a point kept the *Varnado*, LA, parliamentary procedure team out of first place in their area contest.

No problem with it raining during picnics in *Webbers Falls*, OK. FFA organized a BOAC effort to build a shelter in the park and got financial support from several other civic groups.

Jody Whitaker, president of *Saco*, MT, FFA is also chapter sweetheart. And so were her older sisters Ginger and Beth.

During the holidays, *Murray County*, GA, visited a nursing home and took the FFA string band to entertain.

Plant sales bring in needed funds for lots of chapters including *El Cajon*, CA. They built a 20x40-foot shade house for plants for future sales.

A wild game dinner was evening kick-off for degree advancements night of *Sutherland*, NE, Chapter. Members contributed the game and cooked the meal.

Gretna, VA, Junior Chapter took the top \$50 prize in a holiday parade in their town to welcome old Santa.

Objective of fall cookout of *Franklin County*, GA, Junior Chapter is a game of football. Then eat hot dogs 'til you can eat no more.

Southside FFA gave a cowboy luncheon for their faculty in San Antonio, TX.

Extra service of *Newalla*, OK, FFA run clinic for rabies and distemper shots was mobile unit for folks who couldn't bring in their pets.

A local Homelite dealer gave *Douglas*, OR, a chainsaw to use. According to the chapter, it's part of a national plan where dealers give chapters a saw to use. (Sounds like plans used for driver ed cars.)

Parents were special guests at Greenhand ceremony of *Woodlake*, CA, FFA and was a good program addition.

James Holub, *North Linn*, IA, earned himself a \$1,000 scholarship as participant in the Quaker Oats Company oats improvement project for '79.

The two soft drink machines operated by *Ozark*, MO, FFA have sold 10,400 cans of pop since school started.

About 20 members of *Fairbanks*, OH, are forming a meat cooperative.

A benefit bean supper and basketball game between *Anadarko*, OK, actives and alumni raises money for livestock show premiums.

Placentia, CA; *Chelsea*, MI; *State College*, PA; *Housatonic Valley*, CT; *Waurika*, OK; *Henderson County*, KY; *Loudonville*, OH; *Parker*, AZ; *Hillsboro*, OR; *Marysville*, CA; *Ogemaw Heights*, MI; *Alex*, OK; *Wallowa*, OR; *Amanda-Clearcreek*, OH; *Keota*, OK; *Elmore City*, OK; *Bradenton*, FL; and *Zanesville*, OH are some of the chapters who also submitted Scoop news that was not used. Most often the unused items are duplicates of other items. Also many are such routine items in a chapter that they do not stimulate new chapter ideas.

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Small private planes, used mainly for planting the Lingos' farmland, sit in the combination hangar/machine shed near the private airstrip. A family owned backhoe for use in the rice fields complements an inventory of four-wheel drive tractors, combines with bulldozer-type tracks, planters, land levelers, tractor-trailer trucks and every implement needed for the care of high-quality grains.

During five FFA years and an increase in net worth approaching half a million dollars, Fred garnered Star Greenhand, Star Chapter Farmer and Star State Farmer awards. "My experiences in vocational agriculture," he says, "are required many times and cannot be replaced. I farm my portion of our operation the way I deem necessary and I draw on principles learned in vocational agriculture."

Because the Lingo operation deals in crops that provide seed for other farmers, Fred developed skills in both farming and marketing. However, even Fred's wide experiences in crops farming didn't keep him from learning in the proficiency award program.

Advisor Welch says Fred and John both felt a good chance at winning state awards. John, who prefers to be called "Jay," is a two-time state proficiency winner in both beef and swine production. He verifies his advisor's comments, but not without explaining the reason for his confidence.

"The emphasis on farm management in agriculture class helps a great deal," says Jay, a farmer of purebred Shorthorns and a 95-sow herd of Duroc and Poland China hogs. "Understanding the finances behind a farming program enables you to give others, such as proficiency award judges, a good picture of your operation. I know a lot about my projects. That's helped me win."

Jay's working knowledge of feeding, health maintenance, judging and hay production proves his proficiency in beef production. His FFA advisors say Jay continues to learn by participating in state and national shows and sales. Contact with cattlemen, swine producers and agricultural leaders, along with vo-ag studies, serves to push Jay closer to his goal of farm and ranch owner/operator.

"The proficiency award program has long-range benefits," John reminds. "For instance, by winning the regional award, I proved I had good stock. I sold some cows because of it. Also, my important records wouldn't be as complete had it not been for the program."

"I wouldn't have kept records at all," admits 17-year-old Wendell, a chapter officer and current Louisiana FFA state president. "I agree with Jay and Fred, though, that keeping good records is

Three of a Kind

(Continued from Page 16)

Fred Lingo is the cause of much classroom inspiration. Fred's first-place state proficiency awards in outdoor recreation, soil and water management, and fish and wildlife management all preceded his regional win in crop production. His ultimate goal? Star Farmer of America.

"Mr. Welch and Mr. Doshier (once a co-teacher) can teach you anything,"

avows 20-year-old Fred, a partner on a 2,500-acre family farm of rice and soybeans. "They made me look forward to filling out the proficiency award applications. I enjoyed being compared to the rest of my state, the region and nationally. I wouldn't trade my blue banners from winning state for anything. It's rewarding to know you're judged best in your home state."

In an area where the average farm of 350-400 acres would sell for at least \$2,500 per acre, Fred's family has amassed a wealth of land and equipment.

Fred, Wendell and John review their winning proficiency award applications with FFA Advisor Welch, far right, and assistant teacher Richard Strong.



important to any FFA member's success with proficiency awards. Try to learn all you can about your proficiency area, plus strive for roles in leadership and chapter activities. All three are important in a winning application."

Not one to give untried advice, Wendell has involved himself heavily in both his agricultural project and FFA opportunities. In addition to state officer, his achievements in FFA include national FFA chorus and the top state proficiency award in agricultural electrification. He's worked in FFA public speaking, parliamentary procedure and numerous judging teams.

Proficiency awards, though, aren't won on leadership alone. Wendell, unlike Fred and John, is not engaged in production farming. Living near town, Wendell developed his project out of sheer determination.

"I didn't think I'd win state, much less regional," Wendell says of his forestry proficiency awards. "I don't think my operation was big enough. I think one reason I won is because the project served as a learning experience to prepare me for a career in teaching agriculture or in soil conservation."

Wendell's project began as a forestry management venture. Selling fuel wood and fence posts kept him busy, but unsatisfied. Working with Advisor Welch, Wendell soon developed his own program by planting and tending 2,400 pine seedlings on four acres. Eventually, Wendell says, the plot will be sold for pulpwood or sawlogs. Similarly, 2,000 Christmas trees obtained from the soil conservation service have been planted as another crop for future years.

"All three boys are an inspiration to the

chapter," says their advisor. "They've kept good records, set goals and worked well with their parents and teachers. And they've learned one important thing—how to sell themselves. Belief in yourself is important if you want to excel in competition."

Well-spoken words from a man who came to believe in his chapter's ability to produce proficiency winners. Winners such as Fred, Jay and Wendell—three of a kind.

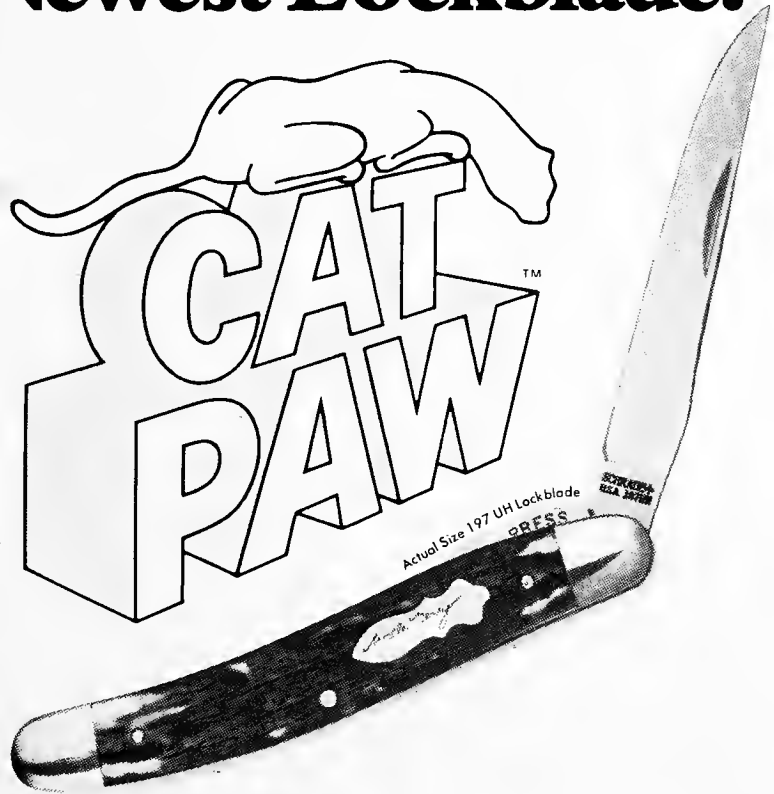
Wendell's loblolly pine seedlings will one day yield sawlogs and pulp.



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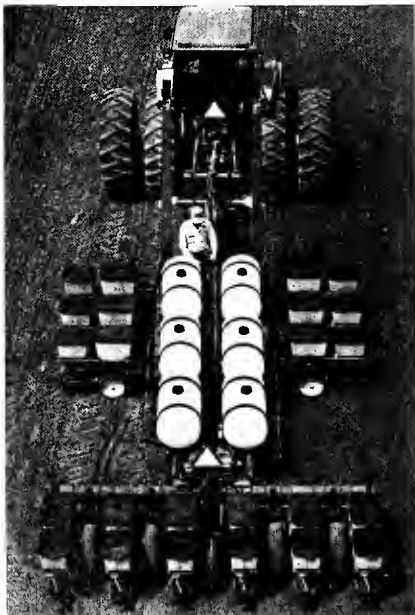
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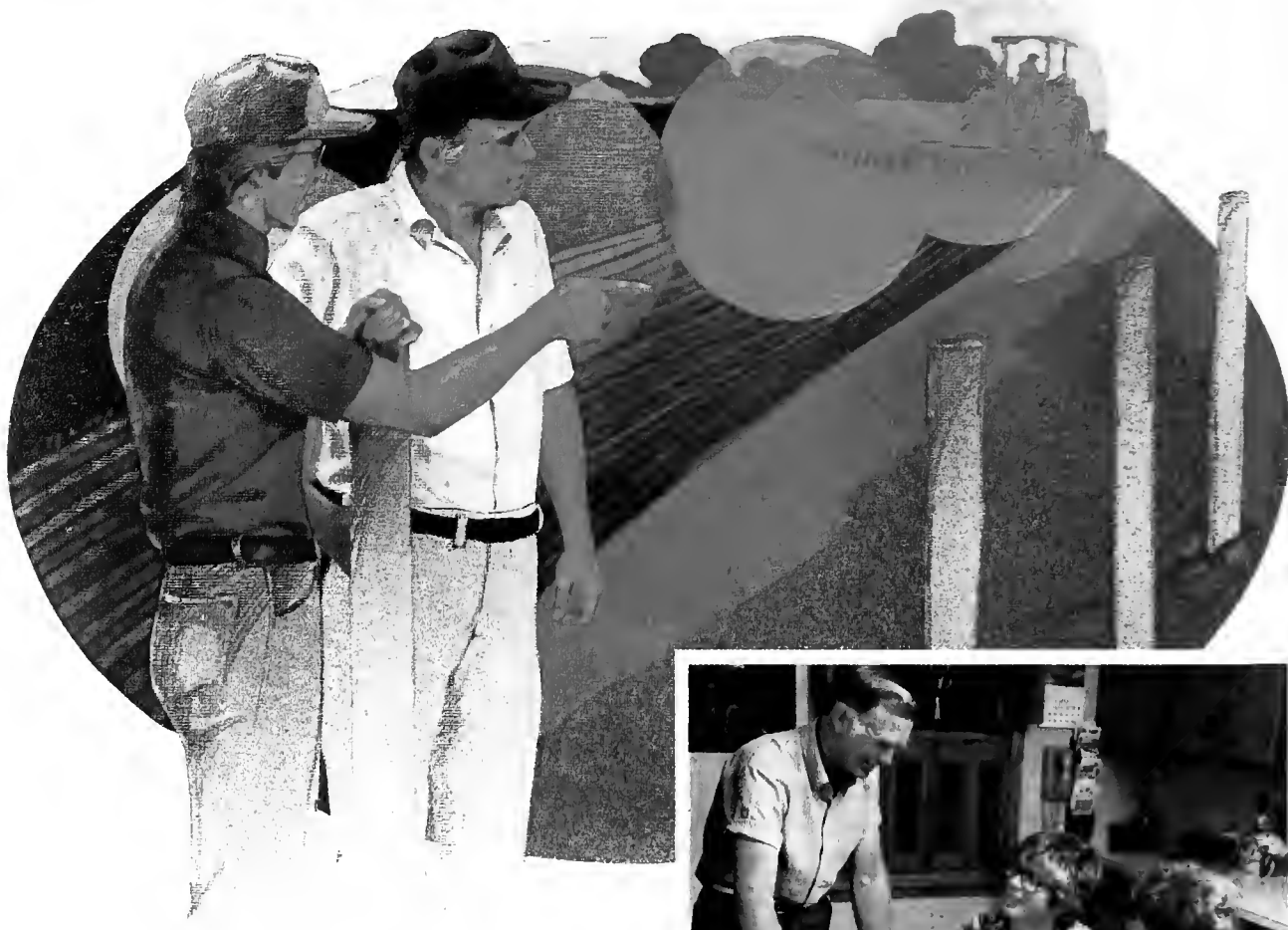
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The next time you're looking for financing to realize a long-range goal, see the people at your Federal Land Bank Association. They're your dependable source of credit for the long pull.



The Land Bank

Touring for FFA

(Continued from Page 19)

between the ages of 16 and 19, and obtain their degrees from what knowledge they learn through activities. They have four degrees, too, but a written test determines their advancement in degree."

Phil Benson suggests the major difference in FFA and FFJ is the makeup of membership. "They have a way of channeling students to either academic or agricultural schools," says the national secretary. "Once students are in agricultural training, membership in FFJ is not optional. Local dues are about 50 cents per member per year."

With opportunities to spend an evening with a Japanese farm family, the officers closely observed the island nation's native culture.

"I stayed on a beef cattle operation," says Don Trimmer, eastern region vice president. "It was small by our standards, with five or six head, but we still communicated well about farming. The size of farms in Japan averages only about 3.2 acres so the farm structure is very different. The cost of land is very expensive, and there's hardly any available. Much of Japan's farming industry is subsidized by the government."

"It's a crowded country," adds Elin Duckworth, western region vice president, "but they fully utilize the space they have. They know how to produce and are proud of their product. I'm impressed with their efficiency and positive attitude."

FFA program specialists Lennie Gamage and Tony Hoyt accompanied the officers on the trip. Gamage concludes, "Mitsui did their best to impress upon us that they couldn't exist as a company without free markets and open trade. They stressed that Japan needs access to American farm products."

An insight into foreign trade, the FFJ and the importance of America's agriculture—good lessons for six FFA members who represent the nation's Future Farmers of America.

STUDENT JOBS



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April-May, 1980

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IN ACTION

SNOWMOBILE SAFETY SNOWBALLED INTO A FUN EVENING

The Brimfield, Illinois, FFA Chapter held its first annual Snowmobile Night on November 26, 1979. This FFA fund-raising project helped familiarize the community with local FFA members but also provided an enjoyable evening for snowmobilers to learn about safety.

The night started off with a snowmobile safety seminar presented by Doug Summers, the safety specialist for GROWMARK, Inc. He gave a film presentation which outlined the hazards of snowmobile riding and the various ways to prevent careless accidents.

After the safety program was completed, the scene shifted to the snowmobile raffle. The raffle consisted of 150 tickets with a \$25 donation given for each ticket. Each one was drawn from a wheel and the holder of the last ticket drawn was the winner of the snowmobile.

Winner of the raffle received a John Deer "Sportfire" which the chapter had bought, with a discount, from Streitmatter's Implement.

The evening was topped off with refreshments of pork barbeque made from a whole hog roasted earlier in the day.

Jeff Maher, the chapter's president, and David Streitmatter, vice-president, organized the seminar and Brad Hibbert, treasurer, kept up-to-date records of each day's ticket sales. Alan Kellstadt and Chuck Rickey were the leading ticket sellers.

Over all, the Brimfield Chapter felt their program was a success as a fund raiser, a good way to affect safety in their community and a way for farmers and folks in agriculture to relax. (Tim Claybaugh, Secretary)

FFA MONDAY NIGHT AT MOVIES

This winter the members of the Zillah, Washington, FFA have been busy organizing a film festival. The festival provides something for the public in the area to enjoy on Monday nights without having to travel very far. We wanted to have something as a community service and yet make a profit.

The Earnings and Savings Committee took surveys to find out which movies would be preferred. The committee then figured out what they could afford and

how they would budget it out. Some of the movies that were decided on were "Smokey and the Bandit," "Hooper," "Brian's Song," "Don't Raise the Bridge Lower the Water," "White Lightning," and "The Deep."

These movies were then scheduled to the different Mondays. It was decided that the showings would cost from \$1.50 to \$2.50 depending on if you were an FFA member or a non-member. The movies would start at 6:30 p.m. and go until 8:30 p.m. They are shown at the school classitorium which seats around 500 people and has a 12-foot high by 25-foot long screen.

Since we started showing the movies around Halloween time, we started with a "fright night" which featured "Count Dracula" and "Night of the Living Dead."

The festival ran through November and was suspended in December because of all the school and holiday activities. It was started up again in January.

So far the Zillah FFA has found the film festival to be a profitable activity which we found could be a future earning activity.

TWO PROMINENT MEN FROM MISSISSIPPI



State FFA President Joey Jennings, left, was one of the guest speakers at the state Farm Bureau convention along with well-known Senator John Stennis.

FROM FEEDLOT TO FRIENDSHIP

This year Rifle, Colorado, FFA gave a unique gift to the local nursing home during the holidays. Amidst the cookies, Christmas tree, and such, the FFA donated a half of beef.

The chapter had purchased nine heif-

ers, then fed them over the summer. Some were sold in the fall and the rest butchered by members themselves.

Chapter President Gail Bilyeu said members learned a lot by experiencing the total process.

After butchering, the chapter sells the beef to pay off the original loan to buy the heifers. This is the first year FFA has given some of the fresh beef to the home.

THEIR MONEY WAS USED

As part of their Building Our American Communities program, Stafford, Virginia, FFA has contributed \$1,190 to Mary Washington Hospital in nearby Fredericksburg for the purchase of medical equipment.

In accepting the gift, the hospital president praised the effort saying that it was the largest sum ever donated by a student group.

The medical equipment donated was chosen by the FFA from a list the hospital prepared of needed items. The group selected pediatric defibrillation paddles,



A hospital nurse demonstrated how the new equipment paid for by FFA will be used by the hospital staff. FFA members Mike Taylor, Kim Craver, left, then Advisor Hall and hospital staff member William Adams, were on hand for the demonstration.

an oxygen analyzer, a rotating tourniquet and an automatic blood pressure cuff.

The 64-member FFA chapter raised the money through several projects including a gospel concert, bake sale, raffle and aluminum drive and by soliciting from area businesses and organizations.

The presentation was made at the hospital by FFA officers Donna Henley, James Howell, Mike Taylor, Kim Craver and by faculty advisors Rusty W. Hall and Barbara G. Bayless.

(Continued on Page 49)

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| IH 1480 | 3101 sq. in. | 6420 sq. in. | 208 bu. | 1.9 bu./sec. |
| TR95 | 4882 sq. in.* | 6250 sq. in. | 240 bu. | 1.5 bu./sec. |



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FFA → IN ACTION

(Continued from Page 46)

SUMMER WORK EXPERIENCE OPEN TO FFA MEMBERS IN NEVADA

Would you like to spend your summer on a cattle ranch in Nevada? Well, you can. The Ruby Mountain FFA Chapter is sponsoring a Building Our American Communities project designed to help provide work experience for students from all over the United States and to help ease labor shortages during the haying season in the Elko area.

Last summer the program was a success (you may have noticed an article like this inviting you to come to Elko last year in *The National FUTURE FARMER*). However, due to the short deadline we gave then, few students from outside the Elko area were able to participate. One of

the students that was able to participate in the program was Malayna Burns of Puyallup, Washington. Malayna was stationed at the Blaine Sharp ranch in Ruby Valley, which is approximately 50 miles southeast of Elko. During her stay in Elko, Malayna was taught to drive a tractor, a stack retriever and a swather. After learning these skills, she found that the work was not so hard as it looked, but that the operation of the vehicles was much harder than it seemed. She also found the work to be rewarding and enjoyed her stay. She plans to return to work again next summer. Malayna's only previous work experience was at McDonald's and at a diesel truck stop. Along with the employment opportunities of the summer, Malayna was able to attend several activities sponsored by the Ruby Mountain Chapter.

If you enjoy hard but rewarding work and want a chance to meet FFA members from other chapters, we encourage you to participate in this program. The only



This FFA member, from Washington State, worked during the haying season in Elko, Nevada, as part of a work experience program organized by the Elko FFA in order to get enough hay labor for local ranches.

thing necessary for this summer job besides a willingness to work is the transportation. Your room and food are all taken care of by the owner of the ranch where you are assigned. If you are interested in this program, please send for an application. Due to the long process involved, it would be wise to send for

(Continued on Page 50)

HE KEEPS HIS MACHINERY RUNNIN' GOOD

Keeping a riding lawn mower in top notch mechanical condition is of prime importance to Danny Hammontree of the Pickens County, Georgia, FFA Chapter. He believes in keeping the grass neatly trimmed, but his favorite mower has the blade removed. It is his mode of transportation over the farmstead, and especially from the house to his shops where he does most of his mechanics work. Danny is a victim of muscular dystrophy and walking comes extremely slow and difficult.

Danny's mechanical skills and abilities earned him the title of state winner in Agricultural Mechanics for 1979. He constructed two shops—one small tool room storage with a work bench for small appliance and tool repairs, the other for construction, repair and maintenance of larger farm equipment and machinery. Although his Dad helped with the labor in construction of these two facilities,

Danny furnished the money to buy the materials. He has also purchased the equipment for the shop, such as hand tools, power saws, drill press, metal and wood vises.

Mechanical projects carried out by Danny include re-building a rubber-tired farm wagon, replacing all wooden parts and painting, constructing mineral feeding boxes with roof covers, building a cattle squeeze gate, repairing and repainting hay rake, manure spreader and hay baler.

He constructed a 2-foot by 3-foot metal grill guard for the farm tractor, using a hand-operated hack saw to cut all of the angle iron and steel rods. Danny regularly tunes up and services the tractors, lawn mowers, power saws and other small engines.

Young Hammontree graduated from Pickens County High School in Jasper, Georgia, in June of 1979. His principal, Mr. Arthur Cragg, says, "Danny is an inspiration to everyone that knows him. He asks for no favors. In fact, he makes

some of us feel ashamed that we accomplish so little."

Danny's family produces broilers and beef cattle. Their poultry houses accommodate 42,000 birds at a time—or more than 200,000 chickens annually. Litter from the chicken houses is spread on fescue pastures. The rainfall in the northeast Georgia hill country combines with these fertilized fields to produce delicious grazing for a beef herd. These factors, coupled with good management practices on Danny's part earned him the chapter award in Beef Proficiency while in high school.

The next goal for this determined young man is to receive the American Farmer degree. He and his current chapter advisor, Mr. J. E. Barnes, along with T. E. Queen, who taught Danny vocational agriculture are already working on the application.

One of his dreams is to attend the National FFA Convention. Knowing Danny—he'll find a way! (J. E. Dunn, State Executive Secretary)

For some FFA members the lawn mower is just a symbol of hard work on hot summer days, but maybe to have a riding model wouldn't be so bad. But for Danny Hammontree that riding mower is his way to get around the farmstead.



His main interests are farm mechanics and therefore Danny has built shops that let him work on farm machinery and larger equipment as well as a shop for smaller equipment. Danny has also bought his own supply of necessary tools.





Alumni and Foundation sponsored camp attracted 200 members in Illinois. Campers participated in learnabout sessions during the week-long event.

FFA section president, did an outstanding job in serving as camp directors and stressing the theme throughout the week.

Members learned more about themselves and the FFA through seven different learnabouts conducted by past and present state officers, alumni personnel and FFA advisors. These seven areas were: effective meetings and impressive banquets; chapter programs, public speaking and personal communications; working with alumni; program of activities; foundation awards and individual degrees and offices; and personal development.

Besides the learnabout sessions, there were several general sessions in which the campers heard inspirational speeches. Plans are already being made for the 1980 Summer Leadership Camp. The goal next year is to have every chapter in the state send a participant. (Noreen Nelson, State Reporter)

SUPER SALE

The 22nd annual Seneca Club Calf Sale, sponsored by the Seneca, Illinois, FFA set an all-time record for this sale. The 72 steer calves sold averaged \$622.22 per head for a total sale of \$44,800.

Twenty-eight breeders from the upper

half of Illinois brought fine cattle in excellent sale condition. The cattle were evaluated by a large enthusiastic crowd.

Chapter members Paul Hogue and Randy Herman were general chairmen and sale manager was Richard Dunn, assisted by Sherwood Jackson and Al Twardowski. The clerks were Loraine Jackson and Bernice Dunn.

The food stand was prepared and manned by the Seneca FFA members with Jo Beck as committee chairperson.

YIELD AND WIN

The Oshkosh West, Wisconsin, FFA planted 27 different varieties of corn for testing. The fields were worked by FFA students with leased machinery. The fields were given 15 pounds of actual nitrogen in the form of urea and 6-24-24. Bladex and Sutan mixed with the fertilizer was used for excellent weed control. Counter insecticide was used with fair results.

The high yield was 135.5 bushel by Trojan (S18). The corn was planted with a population of 24,000. The yield was measured by weighing from the combine. Dave Clark did the combining for the test plots. The Yoder Farms and FFA students planted the test plot in the spring. Some of the yields and varieties were:

| | Yield | Moisture |
|-----------------------|-------|----------|
| Pride (2269) | 108.2 | 28.8 |
| Northrup King (R328) | 116.9 | 32.7 |
| Acco (PX20) | 110.6 | 31.1 |
| Golden Harvest (2355) | 115.8 | 26.2 |

The corn test plots are another project the FFA undertakes to allow students to "learn by doing." They also plant 25 acres of winter wheat and 25 acres of corn. The needed money is borrowed from the Production Credit Association of Omro. (From "Down The Furrow" Chapter Newsletter.)

YOU CAN TOO

J. C. Hollis, right, state FFA advisor and member of the National FFA Board of Directors, is pleased to explain his gardening success to Randy Stubbs, Wetumpka High School FFA president for 1979. Advisor Hollis lives on a small city lot in Montgomery, yet he filled a freezer and had vegetables for his friends from a plot 30 feet by 100 feet. He advocates his garden experience proves any member can find some kind of supervised practice program to experience learning by doing.





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MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION
(Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)

1. Title of publication: The National FUTURE FARMER. (Correction to statement appearing in February-March, 1980 issue, page 44, line 10. B2 and line C.)

10. Extent and nature of circulation:

| | Average No. Copies Each Issue During Last 12 Mo. | Single Issue Nearest To Filing Date |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| B. Paid circulation | | |
| 1. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales | None | |
| 2. Mail subscriptions | 519,614 | 515,123 |
| C. Total paid circulation | 519,614 | 515,123 |

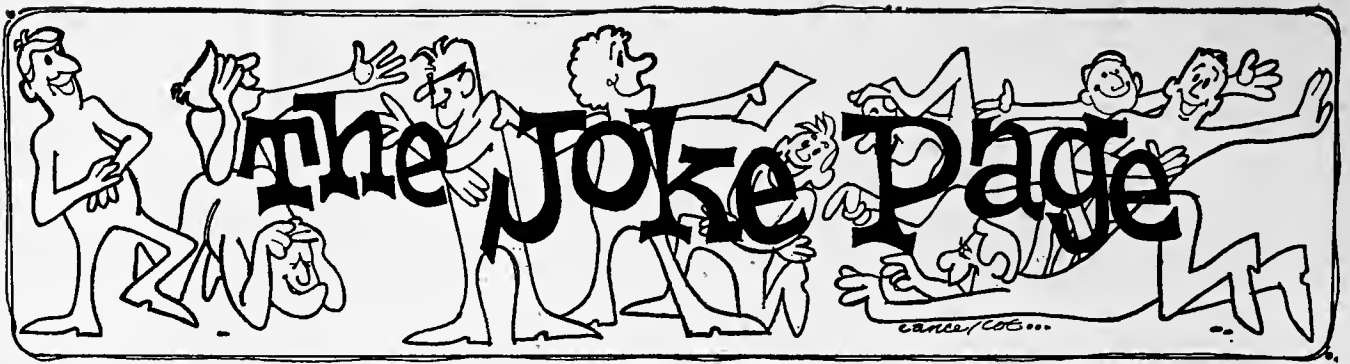
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WILSON W. CARNES, Editor

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A man was on his way to visit friends and the path led through the swamp.

"Say," he asked a man along the way, "is it true that an alligator won't hurt you if you carry a torch?"

The man answered, "Well, it all depends on how fast you carry it."

Thomas LaMance
Modesto, California



"If he were a building, he'd be condemned."

A sportsman went to a hunting lodge and bagged a record number of birds, aided by a dog named "Salesman." The following year he returned and asked for Salesman again.

"That hound ain't no durn good anymore," the handler said.

"What happened?" cried the sportsman. "Was he injured?"

"No, some fool came down here and called him 'Sales Manager' all week. Now he just sits on his tail and barks."

Linda Willadsen
Van Buren, Arkansas

A customer complained that the new barber was driving him crazy with his incessant chatter.

The proprietor observed mildly, "According to the constitution of the United States, he's got a right to talk."

"That may be," admitted the customer, "but the United States has a constitution that can stand it. Mine can't."

Thomas LaMance
Modesto, California

Tim: "Why isn't Santa coming back to the city next year?"

Jim: "When he stopped last year and got back up the chimney, two of his reindeer were missing and his sleigh was on blocks."

Brian Snyder
Jewell, Ohio

A fellow went into the post office and asked for a dollar's worth of stamps.

"What denomination?" asked the clerk.

"Well," came the reply, "I didn't know it would ever come to this, but if the nosy government must know, I'm a Methodist."

Susan Keith
Centerville, Ohio

Slim: "Did you hear about the city yokel who locked his keys in his car?"

Jim: "No, what happened?"

Slim: "He couldn't get his family out for almost two hours."

Mike Kelley
Winfield, Kansas

Did you hear about the man who gave up elephant hunting? He got tired of carrying the decoys.

Jimmy Burnside
Denham Springs, Louisiana

Little Bobby was taken downtown shopping on his first trip by his 16-year-old sister. The department store escalator amazed him. After trying it out several times he said, "Sis, what happens when the basement is full of steps?"

Brian Smith
Flintstone, Maryland

Jill: "What's your crazy cousin's latest dumb invention?"

Jack: "Sandpaper suspenders for people with itchy backs."

Steve Fleury
Pineville, Louisiana

Two men discussing their status in life. "I started out on the theory the world had an opening for me," one said.

"And have you found it?"

"Yes," he replied, "I'm in the hole."

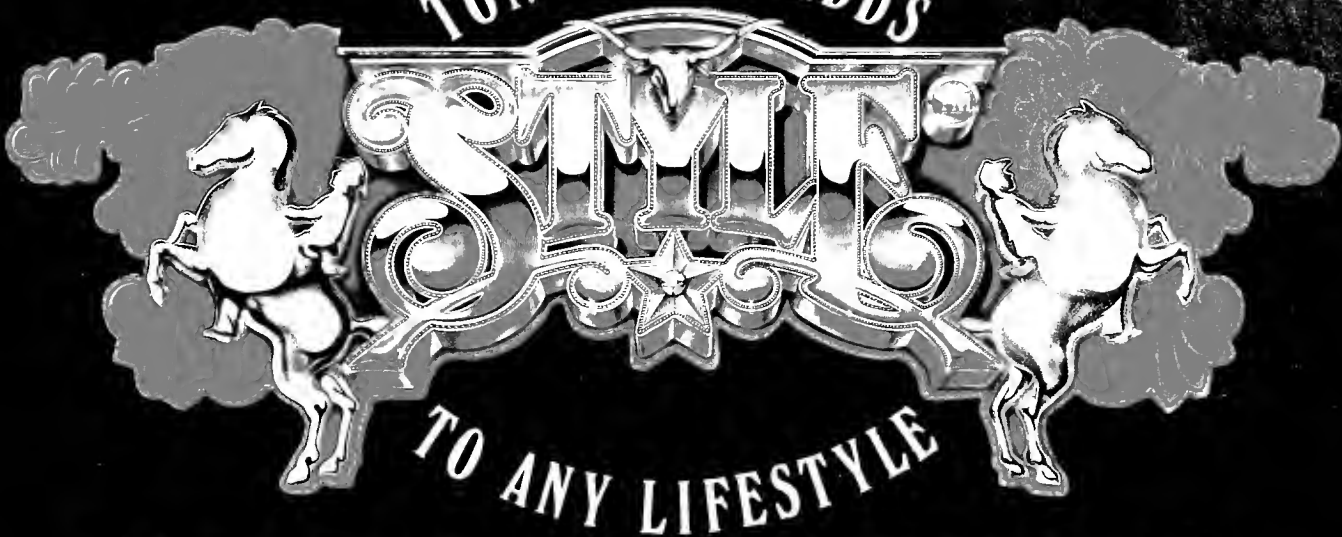
Chuck Sukut
Sisseton, South Dakota

Charlie, the Greenhand

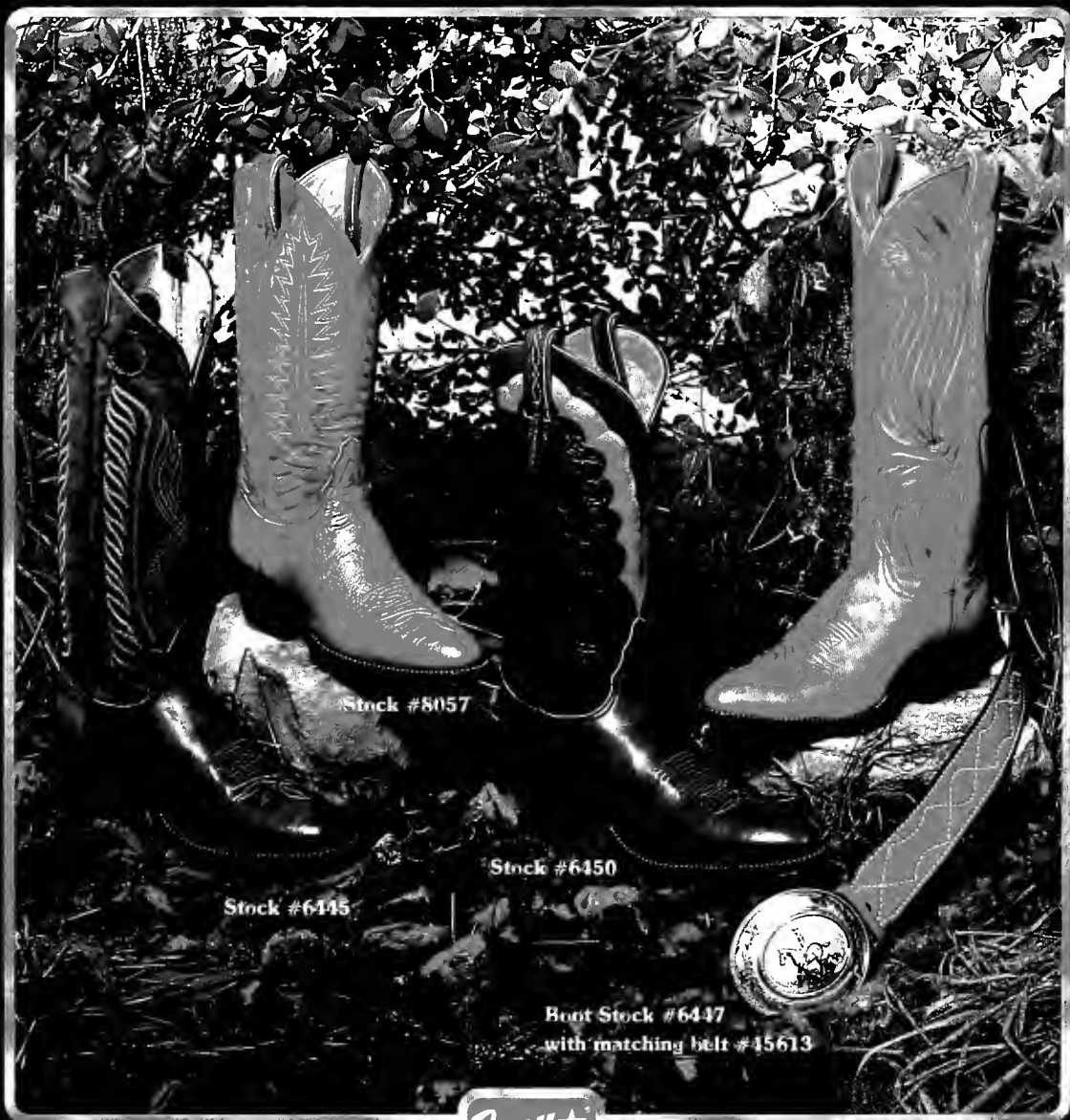


"Charlie, turn down the radio, the neighbors are complaining."

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Recipe: Cut rabbits into serving size pieces; soak young rabbits 1 to 2 hrs. in salt water — 12 to 18 hrs. for older rabbits — 1 tsp. salt per qt. of water; after soaking, wrap meat in damp cloth and store overnight in cold place; butter a casserole dish and add a layer of rabbit pieces; sprinkle with ½ tsp. salt, fresh ground pepper to taste, ½ tsp. ground thyme and 3 large bay leaves; add 5 slices cut bacon; repeat layering until ingredients are used up; pour 1 cup water over casserole, cover and bake at 350° until tender — 1 to 2 hrs. depending on age; remove cover and sprinkle 1 cup seasoned bread crumbs over casserole; bake 30 min. and serve.

THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO MAKE SHENANDOAH VALLEY RABBIT CASSEROLE.

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There are rabbits. And there are rabbits. But there are no rabbits quite like the ones down in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley.

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ingredients.

After all, what you get out of a recipe depends on what you put into it. It's true with cooking, and it's true with guns.

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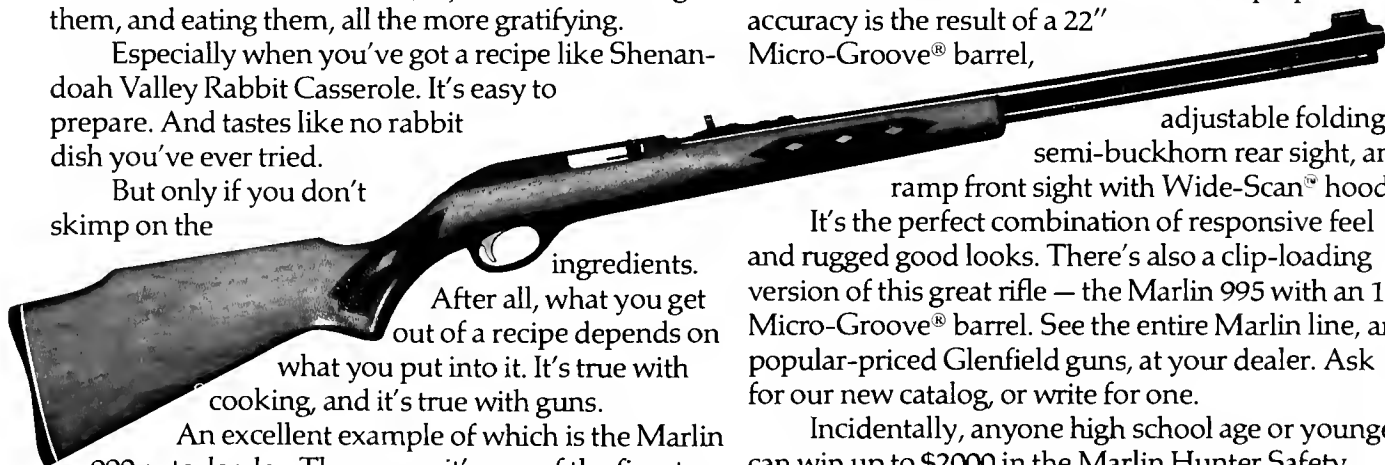
you squeeze off up to 18 Long Rifle shots as fast as you can pull the trigger.

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