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NINE YEARS OF FFA PROGRESS IN
SOUTH DAKOTA -- 1944-1953

by

E. W. Gustafson

A problem submitted to the Faculty of South Dakota State
College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts in partial
fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree
of Master of Science (Plan B)

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NINE YEARS OF FFA PROGRESS IN
SOUTH DAKOTA -- 1944-1953

SECTION I

INTRODUCTION

What has the FFA of South Dakota accomplished since 1944? What effect did World War II have on the organization and what has been its growth and development since this time? Does the state FFA chapter continue to grow with the national organization? It is the purpose of this study to get at least part of the answers to these questions.

In 1945 Arlington Eddy submitted his thesis, "Fifteen Years of Future Farmer of America Progress in South Dakota 1929-1944." This study is hereby presented to add to the information already given by Mr. Eddy and to bring the history of the South Dakota FFA up-to-date.¹

A Statement of the Problem

Since World War II certain changes in the national FFA have been noted which in turn have affected state and local organizations. As an example, the creation of the National FFA Foundation has greatly increased the numbers of awards

1. Arlington Eddy, Fifteen Years of Future Farmer of America Progress in South Dakota 1929-1944.

which are obtainable not only on the national level but also on the state and local chapter levels as well. The formation of the national FFA band and chorus has been brought about since the war, and here too, we find another type of activity which was not considered prior to 1947.

Chapters have shown increased interest in extended tours, and it is felt that a statement regarding the types of trips conducted would be valuable and helpful. Also, the types of get-togethers; mixers or gatherings, which are held should be interesting and informative, therefore, a questionnaire was prepared and given to each agriculture instructor and the results tabulated. This information can be used as a guide for departments throughout the state.

The changes in the State Constitution and Program of Work should be noted. Also of interest are the revisions in the state judging contests that have been made to bring them to the level of the national contests.

The administration of the Vocational Agriculture program is greatly facilitated by organizing the departments into districts. It is well to note the arrangement of the districts and to compare those of 1945 with the present. The schools are placed in their various districts by the State Supervisor of Agriculture Education and greatly aid him in carrying out the phases of the program.

Definition of the Terms

Any reference to the Program of Work will mean the

Program of Work of the State Association, and reference to the Constitution will be to that of the State FFA Constitution. State Farmer refers only to members of the South Dakota FFA who have attained this honor. American Farmers also refer only to those South Dakota FFA members who have been granted this high honor. National Foundation award winners as well as members of the National FFA Band and Chorus refer only to the South Dakota boys who were selected for these various awards. The letters FFA have become the recognized symbols for the Future Farmers of America and will be used in this paper as such.

Sources of Information

The information for this paper was acquired through the State Department of Public Instruction, Pierre, South Dakota. They include the Minutes of Meetings of the FFA Executive Committee, the State Constitution, State Program of Work for FFA, Minutes of the South Dakota Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association, Minutes of the State Convention and through the State Reports of Vocational Agriculture Teachers.

SECTION II

CHANGES IN THE STATE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

Changes in the Program of Work

During the period of this study we find that our country was involved in a large military enterprise--World War II. During the year of 1944-45, the program of work greatly reflected the national trend and it is found that during that time activities being greatly stressed were points such as:²

1. Salvaging scrap.
2. Assisting with farm labor.
3. Repairing and reconditioning farm machinery.
4. Buying war bonds and stamps.
5. Recognition of members in the armed forces.

By comparison, the program of work for the year 1951-52 stressed the following:³

1. Increasing size of farming programs.
2. Development of leadership.
3. Encouraging supervised recreation, especially urging interchapter competition where practical.

It is only logical that the state program of work should follow along with our national effort, and this was carried out. One cannot but notice the continuance of postwar effort when he studies the program of work and its effort to provide for more and better leadership training. In this paper, it is not possible to list each change that has been made during the nine years that are covered in this study;

2. State Program of Work, FFA, 1944-45, pp. 5, 6.
3. State Program of Work, FFA, 1951-52, p. 26.

however, the changes listed give a picture of the trends of the state program. It can be stated that a steady growth has been evidenced and that the state organization has been well aware of the conditions which affected our nation's agriculture.

Changes in the Constitution

Changes in the state constitution have been very limited. During the period of World War II it seemed advisable to amend the existing constitution at the State FFA Delegate Session, April 16, 1945. The following amendments were adopted:⁴

Amend Article IV, Section C and D, paragraph 1, by striking out the words "for at least one year immediately."

Amend second paragraph of Article VII of the By-Laws to read as follows:

"In case a local department of Vocational Agriculture in which a chartered chapter of FFA is located is discontinued, the chapter so involved may be permitted to operate officially for a period not to exceed 36 months from date of the discontinuance of the department in the school concerned, providing proper supervision and guidance can be given to the chapter work by a member of a school faculty having the approval of the State Adviser. Local chapter charters must be surrendered to the State Adviser at the end of the 36-month period indicated if vocational agriculture is not in operation again at that time."

The purpose of these amendments is quite clear. The war period had greatly depleted the number of instructors available and it was necessary for the various schools to

4. State Constitution for South Dakota Association of FFA, Attached Amendments.

close their vocational agriculture departments. The state association felt a desire to continue local chapters for as long a period as possible. For those departments discontinued an extension of time from the one year to a three-year period was granted for operation of FFA chapters if proper supervision and guidance were provided.

During the State Convention, April 19 and 20, 1952, held at Brookings, South Dakota, the constitution was brought up-to-date to correspond to the national FFA constitution. To the list of officers of the state association was added the office of Sentinel. The requirements for State Farmer were changed to read, "and have a satisfactory scholarship record certified by the local school superintendent or principal," rather than, "be in the upper 40% of the class in scholarship in all school subjects during the entire period of secondary-school instruction completed at the time of application for the State Farmer Degree."⁵

This same change was made in the corresponding clauses in the requirements for American Farmer Degree applicants.

At the State FFA Convention in 1953 the following amendments to the constitution were adopted:⁶

1. Constitution, Article V, Section C, Requirement for Chapter Farmer Degree, Paragraph 7, changed from \$25 to \$50.

2. Constitution, Article V, Section D, Requirement for State Farmer Degree, Paragraph 6, changed from \$250 to \$500.

5. State Constitution, South Dakota Association of FFA, p. 5.

6. State Constitution, South Dakota Association of FFA, Supplement of 1953.

3. Constitution, Article V, Section E, Requirement for American Farmer Degree, Paragraph 3, changed from \$500 to \$1,000.

Another change in the constitution provided for those members who were in good standing at the time of induction into the Armed Forces of the United States of America, and who wished to remain in the FFA. This change provides that an individual may maintain his membership in the organization until his twenty-fifth birthday, instead of his twenty-first birthday as applies to those who are not called into military service.

Changes in the State Judging Contests

The state FFA judging contests were dispensed with in 1944 and again in 1945 due to the war and to transportation difficulties which included such things as gas rationing, tires, and the like. They were reopened in 1946. The public speaking contest was held in conjunction with the state delegate convention in 1944 and 1945.

The contests held in 1946 were: Dairy-Cattle Judging, Crops Judging, Livestock Judging, Poultry Judging, Cream-Grading, Farm Mechanics, Meat Judging and Speech.

These contests have continued as such with minor changes. In 1948 it was felt that the poultry contest should consist of a team of three members instead of two, and that change was instituted that year. The poultry contest was brought up to date to correspond to the national contest and has continued as such.

At the State Agriculture Teachers' Conference in August 1952, it was decided to change the cream-grading

contest to the more complete dairy-products judging contest. This required a definite change in the contest procedure and rules. During the fall of 1952 judging schools were carried on by members of the Dairy Husbandry Department of South Dakota State College to acquaint the vocational agriculture teachers with the new contest. This contest as outlined was held for the first time in April 1953 in conjunction with the other state FFA judging contests.

SECTION III

STATE LEVEL CONTESTS AND AWARDS

State Contests

There are many awards which the FFA provides through the state organization. The most rewarding of these is the winning of a first place in any of the state FFA judging contests which are held in April of each year at South Dakota State College. The contests were held in their entirety for the first time after World War II in 1946.

A table showing the results of these contests during the years of this study is as follows:

Year	Contest	Winner
1946	Dairy	Madison-Eastern
	Livestock	Milbank
	Poultry	Wessington Springs
	Crops	Webster
	Cream Grading	Webster
	Farm Mechanics	Platte
	Meats	Madison-Eastern
	Speech	Platte
1947	Dairy	Milbank
	Livestock	Milbank
	Poultry	Groton
	Crops	Miller
	Cream Grading	Groton
	Farm Mechanics	Sisseton
	Meats	Brookings
	Speech	Milbank
1948	Dairy	Rutland
	Livestock	Platte
	Poultry	Groton
	Crops	Miller
	Cream Grading	Dell Rapids
	Farm Mechanics	Gregory
	Meats	Miller
	Speech	Madison-Eastern

Year	Contest	Winner
1949	Dairy	Huron
	Livestock	Huron
	Poultry	Egan
	Crops	Madison-Beadle
	Cream Grading	Canton
	Farm Mechanics	Lennox
	Meats	Miller
	Speech	Tyndall
1950	Dairy	Miller
	Livestock	Alcester
	Poultry	Chester
	Crops	Miller
	Cream Grading	Marion
	Farm Mechanics	Sisseton
	Meats	Madison-Beadle
	Speech	Watertown
1951	Dairy	Lennox
	Livestock	Egan
	Poultry	Brookings
	Crops	Webster
	Cream Grading	Gettysburg
	Farm Mechanics	Watertown
	Meats	Brookings
	Speech	Marion
1952	Dairy	Rutland
	Livestock	Milbank
	Poultry	Madison-Beadle
	Crops	Webster
	Cream Grading	Sturgis
	Farm Mechanics	Groton
	Meats	Madison-Beadle
	Speech	Doland
1953	Dairy	Elk Point
	Livestock	Clark
	Poultry	Madison-Beadle
	Crops	Brookings
	Dairy Products	Bridgewater
	Farm Mechanics	Barnard
	Meats	Madison-Beadle
	Speech	Marion

As indicated in Section II, the only contest held during 1944 and again in 1945 was the public speaking contest with Madison-Eastern winning in 1944 and Platte in 1945.

Competition has always given incentive for individuals and groups to improve themselves. Whenever students are

brought together from all over the State to compete with one another, they also exchange ideas, meet new faces and get a better understanding of the problems which confront a great State such as ours, with its different types of farming and farm practices. Perhaps as much or most of the value derived from these contests lies in these associations, and, although we recognize the winners here, we should certainly not leave the impression that this is the primary purpose for holding them.

State Farmers

Requirements for State Farmers remained the same during the war as in the past, these are: The candidate must have earned \$250.00, at least 2/3 of which was acquired through his productive projects; he must have attained the degree of Chapter Farmer; and he must have completed or be in his third year of vocational agriculture in high school.

It follows quite naturally that the number of State Farmers would be small while there were comparatively few chapters. However, as new departments were opened, the number of boys who were granted the degree of State Farmer increased. When one considers that the National Constitution limits the number who can attain this degree to two percent of the active FFA members of the state, the growth in numbers for South Dakota is remarkable.

State Farmers take a just pride in their achievements. At the time of the state FFA convention, these boys are presented their certificates of achievement plus the State Farmer pins. There is a dignity to the presentation with

its significance of achievement which impresses all who observe and partake in the proceedings. It is a signal honor for a student of agriculture to be awarded this degree.

A list of the State Farmers for South Dakota from 1840 through 1883 is included in the appendices as Appendix B.

SECTION IV

AWARDS WITH NATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

National Foundation Winners

Beginning with the 1946 school year, an innovation, the FFA awards were made possible; and the National FFA Foundation was organized. Although the organization is a story in itself, it might be well to refresh ourselves on it at this time.

A group of businessmen, manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, etc., had expressed a desire to contribute to the FFA. It was felt that the organization should not lend itself as an advertising agency, therefore, the National Foundation was set up. These business people could contribute to the foundation, and the foundation in turn would use the money as the board of trustees should direct.

Through the National Foundation, not only were cash awards on a national basis made possible, but also, on the state level. It is well to mention that on a local chapter level, awards in the form of medals are also possible.

One cannot help but notice that ~~these~~ state awards have not always been given. In order for a student to be eligible for such an award, he must make a proper application, have it signed by the instructor and either the school superintendent or principal and then submit it to the State Supervisor for competition with other applicants throughout the state. If there are no applicants for an

award, such as Star Dairy Farmer, naturally none is given.

For the above there is one award, State Star Farmer, that is selected from the applicants for State Farmer for that year. This boy, although making a report, does not make a specific application for State Star Farmer.

Following is a list of FFA Foundation award winners for South Dakota from 1945 through 1953:

Year	Contest or Award	Winner	Amount
1945	Public Speaking	Gordon E. Beck, Platte	\$100.00
1946	Public Speaking	Gordon E. Beck, Platte	100.00
	Farm Mechanics	James M. Pufahl, Milbank	100.00
	Star State Farmer	Ira W. Cashman, Wessington Springs	100.00
	State Initiated Project	Milbank Chapter	44.74
		Canton Chapter	44.74
1947	Public Speaking	William Busk, Milbank	100.00
	Farm Mechanics	Duane Winquist, Milbank	100.00
	Star State Farmer	William Busk, Milbank	100.00
	Electrification	Lewis Pearson, Sisseton	100.00
	State Initiated Project	Volga Chapter	59.21
		Madison-Eastern Chapter	59.21
1948	Public Speaking	John Gross, Madison	100.00
	Farm Mechanics	Donald Peterson, Canton	100.00
	Star Farmer	Melvin McCulloch, Milbank	100.00
	Electrification	Derald Reade, Canton	100.00
	State Initiated Project	Brookings Chapter	63.61
		Volga Chapter	63.61
1949	Public Speaking	LeRoy Rehurek, Tyndall	100.00
	Farm Mechanics	Glenn E. Lang, Brookings	100.00
	Star Farmer	Darrell Davis, Milbank	100.00
	Electrification	Eugene Ingebrigtson, Canton	100.00
	Star Dairy Farmer	John C. DeHoogh, Marion	100.00
	State Initiated Project	Volga Chapter	65.45
		Madison-Eastern Chapter	65.45
	Soil and Water Management	Roland Schwanke, Watertown	100.00

Year	Contest or Award	Winner	Amount
1950	Public Speaking	Palmer Bergh, Watertown	\$100.00
	Star Farmer	Thomas Adler, Milbank	100.00
	Star Dairy Farmer	Maynard Hanneman, Madison	100.00
	Farm Mechanics	Gene Zoellner, Groton	100.00
	State Initiated	Madison-Eastern Chapter	74.92
	Project	Clark Chapter	74.82
1951	Public Speaking	Arthur DeHooch, Marion	100.00
	Star Farmer	Clair Welbon, Madison	100.00
	Farm Mechanics	Clifford Schott, Groton	100.00
	Farm Safety	Lennox-Sundstrom Chapter	100.00
	State Initiated	Brookings Chapter	80.17
	Project	Clark Chapter	80.17
1952	Public Speaking	Donald Mendel, Doland	100.00
	Star Farmer	Harold Wookey, Clark	100.00
	Farm Safety	Huron Chapter	100.00
	Farm Mechanics	Dale Hagen, Alcester	100.00
	Star Dairy Farmer	Harold Kleinhans, Alcester	100.00
	Soil and Water	Ray Stukel, Gregory	100.00
	Management		
	State Initiated	Brookings Chapter	83.70
	Project	Clark Chapter	83.70
1953	Public Speaking	Walter Ortman, Marion	100.00
	Star Farmer	Lowell Gisselbeck, Watertown	100.00
	Farm Mechanics	William Mertens, Milbank	100.00
	Electrification	LaMar Marquardt, Watertown	100.00
	Star Dairy Farmer	Jack Walter, Groton	100.00
	Soil and Water	Duane Jewell, Gregory	100.00
	Management		
	Improving	Madison-Beadle Chapter	219.69
	Agriculture and	Clark Chapter	219.69
	Leadership		

SECTION V

NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION

Delegates

The FFA continued as an active organization throughout the war years. Although travel had to be curtailed and it was inadvisable to attempt to hold a convention where large delegations from each state would be in attendance, still its work was carried on. During these years only, the official delegates from the various States, Puerto Rico, and Hawaii were in attendance. The convention continued to be held in Kansas City, Missouri in the fall of each year.

The State FFA, under the direction of Mr. H. E. Urton, Pierre, South Dakota, continued as an active organization and sent its official delegates each year. In 1946 travel restrictions were lifted and it was again possible to send large delegations. Whenever there is such a meeting with the magnitude of the National FFA, it is inadvisable to permit all persons in attendance to conduct the business of the organization. To make it function more smoothly, official delegates from each state act on the business of the convention. Each state and territorial possession that has an association is permitted to have two official delegates to represent that particular area.

In South Dakota the usual practice has been to have the state president and one other state officer as official delegates. These boys are provided funds from the state association to help them with their expenses. Their duties

include attendance at all delegate sessions, represent the South Dakota chapter to the best of their ability, and make their official reports of that convention at the following state FFA convention.

Following is a list of the Delegates to the National Conventions during the years of this study:

1945	Dewain Englund William Suller	Milbank Brookings
1946	Francis Van Sambeek Lloyd Minor	Milbank Brookings
1947	Gordon Beck John Collins	Platte Brookings
1948	Lawrence Lutz Melvin McCulloch	Webster Milbank
1949	Clifford Stevens Darrel Dean	Milbank Miller
1950	Robert Fauman Roland Schwanke	Clark Watertown
1951	Roger Anderson Clarence Hoffman	Alcester Leola
1952	Loren Engel Lawrence Carson	Brookings Madison-Beadle
1953	Lowell Gisselbeck Mark Keffeler	Watertown Sturgis

Chorus and Band Members

In 1947 a National FFA Band was organized and performed for the first time at the National Convention that year. Its success stimulated the development of the National FFA Chorus in 1948. It was the intention of the FFA to draw from its large membership the best talent possible, to bring them to Kansas City, Missouri for a few days prior to the national convention and to have them furnish part of the entertainment for that convention.

The group immediately earned and won the respect and admiration of all who have been privileged to attend these conventions. It has been a wonder and an inspiration to hear them sing and play as one large, well-trained musical association.

From the beginning of these groups within the national organization, the South Dakota FFA has contributed members. These boys are selected by their local chapters, through recommendation of the music instructor in the local schools. These applications are submitted to the state adviser who in turn submits them for final screening on a national level. From these applications the directors of the band and chorus make their final selections.

Each boy who has taken part in either of these musical groups must feel a just pride in accomplishment, for certainly he has participated with a fine group of young men from every part of the Nation.

Following is a list of the South Dakota members of the National FFA Chorus and the National FFA Band and the names of the schools they represented:

South Dakota Members of National FFA Chorus

1948	Fred Eisland	Canton
	Arthur DeHoogh	Marion
	Darrell Cummings	Platte
1949	Lyle De Haan	Platte
	Eldron Valness	Sisseton
1950	Roger Anderson	Alcester
	Dwight Knutson	Platte
	Robert Carlson	Alcester
	Arthur DeHoogh	Marion

1951	Ronald Schallenkamp	Bridgewater
	(Accompanist)	
	Warren Skinner	Miller
	Falmer Bergh	Watertown
	Clair Wilbon	Madison
	James Johnson	Miller
1952	Clinton Tschetter	Huron
	Roger Pearson	Sisseton
	Eugene Simon	Hoven
	Jim Nugent	Madison
	Harold Steinback	Brookings
1953	Everett Knutsen	Centerville
	Roger Pearson	Sisseton
	Tommy Rogers	Miller
	Robert Slunecka	Miller

South Dakota Members of National FFA Band

1947	Darrel Cummings	Platte
1948	Eugene Kleinjan	Volga
	Thomas Adler	Milbark
	Lyle De Haan	Platte
1949	Neil Hellsabeck	Clark
	Thomas Long	Geddes
	Phillip Little	Watertown
	Allen Stearns	Canton
1950	Curtis Fauth	Bridgewater
	Faril Reeve	Brookings
	Gene Ninnemann	Platte
	Dale Peterson	Clark
1951	Dean Robinson	Miller
	LeRoy Wangsness	Miller
1952	Eldon Hohwieler	Chester
	Bernard Helfter	Doland
1953	Curtis Brudos	Sisseton
	Larry Leighton	Rutland

American Farmers

The highest degree that a boy can attain in the FFA is that of American Farmer. It might be well to review some of the qualifications for this degree. Ben Nelson, in his study of Future Farmers of America who were awarded the

Degree of American Farmer, has thoroughly covered the qualifications.⁷

The young man must have completed three years of vocational agriculture; he must already be a State Farmer; from his productive projects he must have earned and saved or profitable invested into farming, \$500.00; and he must have been out of school at least one year. The young man must be an active member of the FFA and must show a definite aptitude for farming.

During the years of this study, the problem of earning \$500.00 has been a very small obstacle, however, the state association is limited to the number of applicants it can submit to the national office by the rule that it is allowed but one American Farmer for each one thousand active FFA members or major fraction thereof.

This rule has made the selection very difficult in that there have been years when more boys have been eligible than the number restricted by it, and the committee has had to screen some of the applicants to conform to that number.

For a number of years South Dakota was permitted only one American Farmer due to its limited enrollment. By 1949 the organization had grown to permit two and in 1953, the South Dakota FFA submitted three boys for approval as American Farmers.

It may seem that the National FFA has been rather strict

7. B. T. Nelson, A Study of Future Farmers of America Who Were Awarded the American Farmer Degree from the South Dakota Association During the Years of 1930-1950, Inclusive, pp. 7, 8.

on this matter, but when one realizes the high regard with which this honor is held, it is well to maintain high standards in keeping with it. Only by making and adhering to standards of high quality can there be developed men of high integrity.

A list of American Farmers for South Dakota since 1945 is as follows:

1945	Virgil Thiele	Milbank
1946	William Buller	Brookings
1947	Francis Van Sambeek	Milbank
1948	Loyd Minor	Brookings
1949	William Busk Lawrence Lutz	Milbank Webster
1950	Jay Wein Darrel Dean	Webster Miller
1951	Darrel Warkenthien Darrell Davis	Clark Milbank
1952	Tom Adler Clifford Schott	Milbank Groton
1953	Roger Anderson Everett D. Hanson Raymond Stukel	Alcester Clark Gregory

SECTION VI

SOCIAL GATHERINGS AND TRIPS

A feature of the FFA which one must not fail to consider when discussing the program, is the type or types of social gatherings and trips that have been carried on by the chapters throughout the state. An over-all picture of these gatherings seem quite in order at this time. In order to obtain the necessary data a questionnaire was given each vocational agriculture teacher in the state and a total of fifty-five replies was received. A sample of the questionnaire is included in the appendices as Appendix A. Table I is a compilation of this questionnaire.

TABLE I
SOCIAL GATHERINGS AND TRIPS FOR SCHOOL YEAR 1951-52

ITEM	NUMBER
Social Gatherings:	
Father-Son Banquets	20
Parents-Son Banquets	17
Father-Son Mixers	11
Parents-Son Mixers	5
Eighth Grade Night	2
FFA - FHA Picnic	1
FFA - FHA Party	4
Freshman Father's Meeting	1
Parents-Freshman	2
Parent Night	2
Fun Night	1
Trips:	
Types	
Fishing Trips	6
Visit other Departments	1
Summer Tour	18
Who Attended	
All Members	8
Juniors and Seniors	10
Seniors	7

The table quite clearly indicates that banquets, whether father-and-son or parent-and-son, are still a very popular type of social event. The total of thirty-seven of this type of gathering represents a large portion of the departments who returned the questionnaire. Of the fifty-five returns, only one indicated no social gatherings whatsoever. Forty-two indicated that their departments held either a banquet of the types indicated on the table, or a mixer. Nine showed that they held two types of social gatherings, while three departments held three during the year.

Mixers of the father-and-son type are apparently the most popular, with a total of eleven indicating that this type had been held by their departments during the year. Other types of mixers are quite varied, but they do indicate a desire on the part of local chapters to provide an opportunity for young people to develop their social attitudes. Mixers provide an informal atmosphere that makes for greater freedom of expression; perhaps it is this feature which has seemingly made them so popular in recent years.

The answers to the questions concerning trips are of interest. It is quite apparent that the summer tour is the first choice with eighteen replies indicating that their chapter indulged in this activity. Fishing trips were second with six reporting, while one chapter made a visit to another department, making a total of twenty-five trips taken during the year of 1951-52.

The personnel that participated in these trips showed a remarkable balance with eight departments indicating that all chapter members attended, ten took their juniors and seniors, while seven limited the trips to their seniors. When one analyzes this, it is apparent that the majority of the chapters feel that the trips should be limited to their older members, especially their junior and senior students or just to the seniors. It is possible that a limit on transportation makes it desirable to take the smaller groups.

SECTION VII

DISTRICTING OF SOUTH DAKOTA

The problem of arranging the South Dakota schools into districts that make for a workable unit, has been a somewhat difficult one. The size of the state, and at some times, limited numbers of departments and distance one from another, have made changes inevitable.

The absence of instructors was the greatest factor in the closing of departments during World War II. As men became available, departments were reopened increasing the number to seventy-one in 1953. When one considers that this is a comparatively rapid growth from twenty-eight departments in 1944, it must be realized that certain changes would be necessary.

In 1944 there were only five districts--I, II, III, IV, and VI. It is noted that district V was omitted, in order to keep these districts functioning as efficiently as possible and to keep the schools grouped within their own areas and realizing that there would be future growth and development; district V was left free to function when departments in it were reopened.

The following comparison of the districts in South Dakota for the years of 1944 and 1953 are presented. The growth in numbers of departments has been steady and points to a continued and increased interest in vocational agriculture.

Districts in 1944

District I

Milbank
Roslyn
Webster
Clark

District III

Alcester
Beresford
Canton
Parker

District II

Brookings
Chester
Dell Rapids
Madison-Eastern
Madison-Orland
Egan
Rutland
Miller
Wessington Springs

District IV

Burke
Winner
Armour
Platte

District VI

Lemmon
Gettysburg
Newell

Districts in 1953

District I

Clark
New Effington
Sisseton
Watertown
Wilmot
Bryant

Willow Lake
Webster
Roslyn
Milbank
Waubay
Waverly

District II

Colman
Garretson
Madison-Orland
Flandreau
Dell Rapids
Brookings
Lake Preston

Chester
Egan
Madison-Beadle
Volga
Rutland
Elkton

District III

Bridgewater
Marion
Elk Point
Parker
Hudson
Salem

Centerville
Beresford
Canton
Lennox
Alcester
Humboldt

District IV

Wagner
Tyndall
Platte
Geddes
Winner

Scotland
Parkston
Burke
Gregory

District V

Newell
White River
New Underwood
Lemmon
McIntosh

Philip
Sturgis
Martin
Buffalo

District VI

Foven
Redfield
Huron
Gettysburg
Wolsey

Wessington Springs
Letcher
Miller
DeSmet

District VII

Leola
Croton
Britton
Bristol

Ipswich
Doland
Barnard

SECTION VIII

SUMMARY

It has been the purpose of this study to bring the history of the FFA in South Dakota up-to-date. An endeavor has been made to show that the state association has kept in step with the national organization through amending its constitution, and also by including in the program of work those phases which will best serve the national and state interests.

The study made by Arlington Eddy could not show the developments of the National FFA Foundation. Although it is not the purpose of this paper to review the workings of the Foundation, the writer has shown some of its merits and has listed the awards presented to the members within the state. No attempt has been made in this study to show the foundation awards on a local-chapter level, however, mention of these is made to emphasize the fact that the Foundation operates on local levels as well as state and national. Members of local chapters may be awarded Star Farmer, Farm Mechanics, and other awards and receive a medal from the National Foundation for them.

The results of the survey made in regard to banquets and mixers tend to show that the local chapters recognize the need for social development and are not ignoring this phase of education. The writer is especially impressed with the number and kind of mixers. There has been a development in this direction, especially as FFA chapters become so large that a banquet does not provide facilities

for the people who are interested in attending.

The trips taken by local chapters have indicated a desire to provide wholesome and educational recreation. In discussions with a number of the instructors throughout the state, the writer has concluded that many of these trips require a great deal of preparation, especially those to places such as Yellowstone National Park, Canada, or the like. It is interesting to note that certain chapters have followed a similar pattern year after year.

The growth of the FFA during the years of this study has been progressive. As reflected by the numbers who have received the State Farmer awards, there has been a gradual growth. Each vocational agriculture department had an FFA chapter in 1953. This speaks well for the organization and indicates its acceptance as a real and live institution. There has been no lowering of the standards for State Farmer and the 1954 State Farmers will be required to meet the new regulations as adopted by the state convention in 1953.

On a national level, the organization has continued to exercise its rights and privileges. There have been delegates to the national convention at Kansas City each year. The American Farmer applicants have fulfilled the requirements and have been in good standing nationally.

The National FFA Band and Chorus have had members from South Dakota and these boys have performed in a commendable manner. All this has aided in the growth and development of the state association, and one cannot but be led to believe it has done much to promote the FFA in the State as

well as in the Nation.

The various departments are organized into districts to facilitate matters as to local problems and conditions. At times the districts have had to be spread out due to the few departments, even so they have been active functioning organizations. The comparison of schools in districts in 1944 with 1953 emphasizes the great growth that has taken place.

The writer feels that a history of the FFA of South Dakota will help the organization to grow. It is the purpose of this study to show its growth and development for the period from 1944 through 1953. It should help to answer the question, "What has the FFA done in South Dakota?" This evidence points to its continued growth and success. FFA has contributed to South Dakota, and, most certainly, South Dakota has contributed to the FFA.

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APPENDICES

QUESTIONNAIRE ON PFA GATHERINGS AND TRIPS

For School Year 1951-52*

I. What types of gatherings have your department conducted?

Banquets:

Father and Son _____

Parents and Son _____

Others (List)

Mixers:

Father and Son _____

Parents and Son _____

II. What trips has your department taken:

Kinds of trips:

Who Attended?

All Members _____

Juniors and Seniors _____

Seniors _____

Others (List)

*This questionnaire was submitted to the Vocational Agriculture Teachers at the 1952 Annual Conference for Vocational Agriculture Teachers, Brookings, South Dakota, August 1952.

STATE FARMER DEGREE AWARDS BY YEARS

1946	Carsten M. Bergheim	Madison-Eastern
	Wallace Fawbush	Madison-Eastern
	Ardell Hanneman	Madison-Eastern
	Gene Kasten	Parker
	Rodney Hall	Parker
	Duane McMillan	Wessington Springs
	Harold Krog	Wessington Springs
	Thomas Walgecker	Lemmon
	Kenneth Kuehl	Canton
	Richard Durland	Brookings
	Marvin Berkland	Brookings
	Dewain Englund	Milbank
	Willard DeWilde	Milbank
	Myron Schwandt	Milbank
	Clifford Paulson	Alcester
1946	Loyd Minor	Brookings
	Lyle Allison	Brookings
	Cecil Richter	Madison-Eastern
	George Vanhove	Madison-Eastern
	Peter Hoidal	Madison-Eastern
	Ernest Dahl	Madison-Eastern
	James Adler	Milbank
	Francis Van Sambeek	Milbank
	Francis Chaloupka	Milbank
	Lorrin Schwartz	Canton
	Merlin Sletvold	Canton
	Willard Ambur	Canton
	Bernard Madden	Wessington Springs
	Ira Cashman	Wessington Springs
1947	John Collins	Brookings
	Russell Reeter	Brookings
	Kenneth Wyman	Brookings
	Darrell Roggow	Burke
	Walter Aasheim	Canton
	Clin Eie	Canton
	Duane A. Ellis	Canton
	Donald M. Peterson	Canton
	Kendall Wookey	Clark
	Donald Smith	Clark
	Oliver Amdahl	Egan
	Arthur C. Downs	Madison-Eastern
	Robert O. Owens	Madison-Eastern
	Robert H. Vanhove	Madison-Eastern
	William Busk	Milbank
	Gordon W. Johnson	Milbank
	William Vissers	Milbank
	Gordon Ellsworth Beck	Platte

SOUTH DAKOTA FARMERS--

1948	Maurice Ahern	Brookings
	Paul Bergman	Brookings
	Gene Austin	Canton
	Jack A. Funn	Canton
	Marvin Hallberg	Clark
	Perry Shirk	Clark
	LeRoy Temple	Clark
	Walter Ellefson	Egan
	Gene Patn	Madison-Beadle
	Lehonte Wiese	Madison-Beadle
	Melvin McCulloch	Milbank
	Duane Winguist	Milbank
	Dennis Redeem	Milbank
	Wallace Johnson	Killer
	Frederick Hibbison	Miller
	Robert Keene	Newell
	Lawrence Lutz	Webster
	Jerold Eierschback	Webster
	LeRoy Grieve	Wessington Springs
1949	Harold Furtz	Brookings
	Robert Durland	Brookings
	Roger Telkamp	Brookings
	Glenn Lang	Brookings
	Frederick Eiesland	Canton
	Roger Iverson	Canton
	Loren Hanson	Clark
	Alvin T. Abeln	Groton
	Keith Zoellner	Groton
	Darrell Nack	Groton
	Allen Schornack	Groton
	Bob Olson	Madison-Beadle
	Kenneth Doering	Madison-Beadle
	Donald Erickson	Madison-Beadle
	Clifford Stevens	Milbank
	Darrel Davis	Milbank
	Leo Lange	Milbank
	David Boice	Milbank
	Darrel Dean	Miller
	Fred Petersen	Parker
	Eugene Kleinjan	Volga
	Jay Wein	Webster
	Elvin Eie	Canton
1950	Robert Schumacher	Alcester
	Arnold Sveeggen	Alcester
	Roger Johnson	Alcester
	Sherhold Anderson	Alcester
	Dwaine Minor	Brookings
	Rodney Foster	Brookings
	Allen Stearns	Canton
	John Sorum	Canton
	Charles Burney	Canton

SOUTH DAKOTA FARMERS --

1950	Harold Johnson	Clark
(cont.)	Robert Bauman	Clark
	Darrel Warkentien	Clark
	Richard Carey	Gettysburg
	Kieth Manfull	Gettysburg
	James Lake	Gettysburg
	Joe Sperl	Gregory
	Don Peterson	Gregory
	Richard Christensen	Gregory
	Gene Zoellner	Groton
	David Suelzt	Groton
	Glen Lengling	Groton
	Ramon Larsen	Groton
	Maurice Skie	Lennox
	Roger Klinghagen	Lennox
	James Schrepel	Madison-Eastern
	Darlowe Koepke	Milbank
	Leon Schliesman	Milbank
	Leonard Angerhofer	Milbank
	Thomas Adler	Milbank
	Ralph Zieger	Miller
	Art Miessner	Miller
	Delwyn Dearborn	Miller
	Don Mason	Platte
	Roland Schwanke	Watertown
	Carlyle Naessig	Webster
	Lyle Berg	Webster
	Waynard Whitmyre	Webster
	Loren Wagner	Webster
1951	Roger Anderson	Alcester
	Jack Dolan	Beresford
	James Hunt	Bridgewater
	Berge Hansen	Brookings
	Duane Hartman	Brookings
	Orville Heesch	Brookings
	Roland Olson	Brookings
	Richard Kuehl	Canton
	Glenn Moen	Canton
	Curtis Renli	Canton
	Charles Alverson	Chester
	Ival Myers	Chester
	Jerry Bowden	Clark
	Donald Larson	Clark
	Marlin Seiler	Clark
	Boyd Headrick	Egan
	Wesley Van Daalen	Egan
	Robert Griese	Gettysburg
	Gerald Jones	Gettysburg
	LeRoy Walker	Gregory
	LeRoy Bahr	Groton
	Clifford Schott	Groton

SOUTH DAKOTA FARMERS --

1951	LeRoy Friedrichsen	Huron
(cont.)	Ervin Krutzfeldt	Huron
	Don Kuger	Lennox
	Billy Symens	Lennox
	Clarence Hoffman	Leola
	Maynard Hanneman	Madison-Eastern
	Mike Thomas	Madison-Eastern
	Clair Welbon	Madison-Eastern
	Deane Anderson	Milbank
	Floyd Born	Milbank
	Russell Lowe	Milbank
	Lyle McMulloch	Milbank
	Ervin Moser	Milbank
	Delmar Fawcett	Miller
	Herbert Hines	Miller
	John Ranek, Jr.	Tyndall
	John Tevedahl	Volga
	Falmer Bergh	Watertown
	Rollo Stoltenburg	Watertown
	Marvin Bury	Webster
	Robert Duxbury	Wessington
	James Swanson	Wessington Springs
1952	Merton Turner	Alcester
	V. Dean Johnson	Alcester
	Dale Hagen	Alcester
	Gordon Severson	Beresford
	Loys Justice	Brookings
	Ivan R. Hanson	Brookings
	Loren Engel	Brookings
	Eldon Hohwieler	Chester
	Orin McConniel	Canton
	James H. VanderSluis	Canton
	Ross Wayne French	Canton
	Harold Wookey	Clark
	Dale Petersen	Clark
	Everett Hanson	Clark
	Dale Wookey	Clark
	Deane M. Antoine	Flandreau
	Dwayne Nelson	Gettysburg
	Max K. Neyhart	Gettysburg
	Larry R. Schutterle	Gettysburg
	Jerry Houck	Gettysburg
	Ray Stukel	Gregory
	Merle A. Hanson	Gregory
	Robert Luedeke	Groton
	Richard Seeman	Huron
	Clinton Tschetter	Huron
	Robert Smidt	Lennox
	Arlyn Fodness	Lennox
	Roger Poppenga	Lennox

SOUTH DAKOTA FARMERS --

1952	Lawrence Carson	Madison-Beadle
(cont.)	James F. Nugent	Madison-Beadle
	Raymond Becker	Marion
	Donald Van Veen	Milbank
	Roger Redeen	Milbank
	Warren Skinner	Milbank
	Thomas Hines	Miller
	Robert Fawcett	Miller
	Elmer Gray	Flatte
	Richard Jackson	Redfield
	Eugene Littel	Redfield
	Maynard Anderson	Sisseton
	Dennis Peterson	Sisseton
	Dick Jones	Sturgis
	Duane Wosje	Volga
	Richard Larson	Volga
	Carroll Hackbart	Watertown
	Joseph Murphy	Watertown
	Richard Rausch	Watertown
1953	Richard D. Lundgren	Alcester
	Roger Herbrandson	Alcester
	Roger Harter	Bridgewater
	Norman K. Peterson	Brookings
	Donald Elverud	Brookings
	Larry S. Barnett	Brookings
	Larry J. Oliver	Burke
	Jim Mathiesen	Canton
	David W. Eiesland	Canton
	William Engel	Canton
	Robert Mitchell	Canton
	Jerry O. Kirkeby	Clark
	Norman H. Steen	Clark
	Archie Remmer	Clark
	Kenneth Moore	Egan
	Duane Austin	Elk Point
	Raymond V. Abraham	Elk Point
	Robert L. Chamberlin	Flandreau
	Theodore N. Swanson	Gettysburg
	D. Jay Dooley	Gregory
	Duane Jewell	Gregory
	Jack Walter	Groton
	Curtis Sombke	Groton
	Alvin Bahr	Groton
	Leland R. Jost	Hoven
	Benard Straatmeyer	Lennox
	Wesley Bonnet	Leola
	Merlin M. Fauth	Leola
	Harley H. Hoffman	Leola
	Franklin Black	Madison-Beadle
	Norman W. Fischer	Madison-Beadle
	Paul Isaac Engbrecht	Marion

SOUTH DAKOTA FARMERS --

1953	William Fanning	Martin
(cont.)	Jim Angerhofer	Milbank
	August A. Peterson	Milbank
	Kenneth George Reiners	Milbank
	Russell Clarence Lange	Milbank
	William Mertens	Milbank
	Roderick M. Wendt	Milbank
	Dean Robinson	Miller
	Lawrence DeJong	Platte
	Kenneth Mason	Platte
	Clifford Lee Hagen	Redfield
	John S. Bottum	Redfield
	LeRoy Demaray	Rutland
	Wayne Dahl	Rutland
	Dean Wallace Greseth	Sisseton
	Mark Keffeler	Sturgis
	Darrell Lee Krull	Watertown
	Lowell Gisselbeck	Watertown