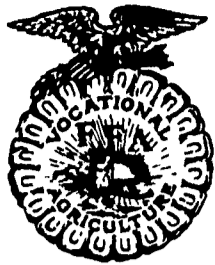


From Local Ag Teachers:



# Thoughts in Passing



Gerald Phillips

The article this week was prepared by Gerald Phillips, teacher of agriculture at Pequea Valley High School.

For Tomorrows Agriculture - this was the

theme selected this past year at the National FFA Convention to depict to Americans the purpose and meaning of the Future Farmers of America Organization. National FFA

Week is celebrated each year during the week of the birthday of our first President, George Washington. Like President Washington, we too are concerned about the future of our great country, and its Heritage as an International Guardian.

The FFA is constantly striving to prepare and improve its members for the challenges facing them in tomorrows agriculture. Boys and girls alike are given insight into the vast problem facing farming and agribusiness through classroom study and FFA Chapter activities and contests. Vocational agriculture does not limit itself to production agriculture (farming) as so many people have been lead to believe. A student may

select to concentrate in any of several areas such as Farm Mechanics, Agricultural Supplies and Sales, Ornamental Horticulture, Natural Resources, and Wildlife and Conservation. Agriculture is not just for the farm-oriented student. In fact a survey has shown that less than half of the graduating seniors will be able to find employment in farming, leaving a great majority to obtain careers in farm related businesses or to further their education at the college level. The Future Farmers of America is amply aware of this trend away from Production

Agriculture for its members and is increasing the opportunity for other students to gain recognition by their endeavors in the farm-related areas. The Star-Agri-Businessman of America is one of the best examples along with the many forms of recognition that are offered on the county and state levels.

But that still leaves unanswered the question "Is the FFA for me?", asked so often by Junior High students who will be soon making their course selections for their Senior High program of study. To me that answer is a definite YES!! In Vocational Agriculture and through the FFA a student learns not only fundamentals of Agriculture but fundamentals of living as well. Public speaking, Parliamentary Procedure and the various contests prepare students to face similiar decision-making confrontations in later life. A feeling of working with others toward a common goal, be it a television program, a Farm Show demonstration, or whatever gives a student the idea of belonging and contributing. How many of our High School students spend all four years without the opportunity to give of themselves for the betterment of others? You won't find that situation in the FFA. This is an organization made up of people, each one working for a better tomorrow for his fellow students and community.

The FFA is often the number one organization in a school system, we feel it is at our school. The feeling of pride in membership to such an organization can do wonders for students. And it

## 4-H County Council To Meet

The Lancaster 4-H County Council will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 20 at 7:30 P.M. at the Farm and Home Center, Lancaster.

The evening's program is "Do You or Don't You Know About the 4-H National Awards Program." Ann Hoover, Millersville State College, former York County 4-H member and National Award Winner, will be the guest speaker. She will discuss her trip to National 4-H Club Congress. A slide presentation and sample blue forms will give details to members on how to apply for the National Awards Program.

All interested Lancaster County 4-H members are urged to attend whether a County Council member or not. Refreshments and a question and answer period will conclude the meeting.

### Short Hair?

Shaved heads are the fashion for many men living in Afghanistan villages. The men, who believe a bare skull is healthful, cover their shaved heads with deftly wound turbans.

is not a closed organization like so many others. Anyone can enroll in Vocational Agriculture and become members of the FFA.

For Tomorrows Agriculture - that is the goal of the FFA - to improve that phase of American life so that everyone can benefit. It is an enormous task, one which the FFA is willing to meet head-on. Wouldn't it be great to be a part of that challenge!

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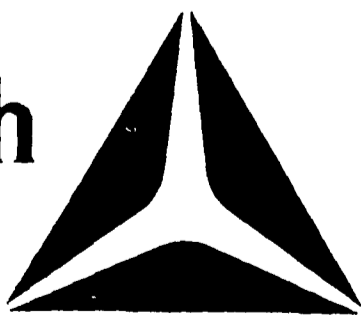
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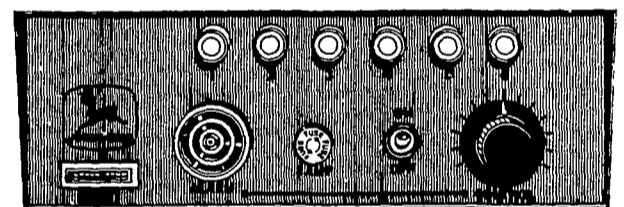
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