

REGIONAL CONFERENCE NOTES

Some items of interest from regional AATEA meetings and
conference reports

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The questions of whether to hold a national convention of collegiate FFA chapters during the National FFA Convention in Kansas City in 1963 was discussed. Collegiate chapters were reported from Kansas, Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, and North Dakota. It was moved and carried that the region does not recommend holding a national meeting of collegiate chapters.

A survey was made regarding the supply and demand for teachers. This survey showed that there would be deficits of teachers in all states except two. Salaries for beginning teachers for the coming year would range from \$5,000 to \$6,200 with an average of about \$5,600 according to estimates given.

Considerable discussion of recruiting future teachers of vocational agriculture took place as a means of meeting the above problem. Among procedures which were suggested were raising the academic grade requirements, cooperating with colleges of agriculture in recruitment efforts, the development of brochures showing what graduates in agricultural education were doing, asking each teacher to have one graduate of his Vo-Ag department enrolled in agricultural education. Meetings with guidance counselors, the use of Alpha Tau Alpha members and college teams to meet with school administrators and students were discussed as possibilities.

Sources of funds for graduate assistantships were then discussed. Iowa and Wisconsin reported securing funds from their agricultural experiment stations. Ohio and Nebraska reported limited help for teachers from commercial organizations. It was also reported that Farmers Union Elevators have provided funds for short-time scholarships for teachers of vocational agriculture in their territory and that the Sears Foundation has given limited assistance.