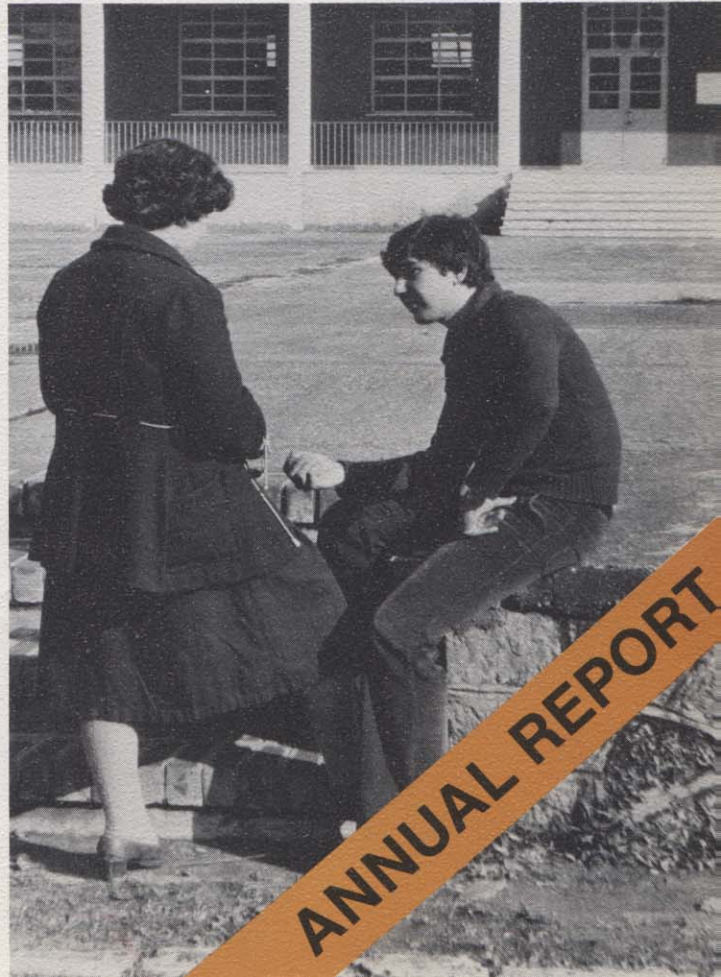


# SOWER



American  
Farm School  
Thessaloniki  
Greece  
Spring 1980  
Number 99



**ANNUAL REPORT**





Dina McCabe

Dear Friends of the Farm School:

I used to think, before I got to know the Farm School, that teaching agriculture in Greece was a stable profession compared to most. But if that was ever true, it is certainly not true at this juncture in our history.

Greece's farmers are faced with unique, once-in-a-generation challenges stemming from the country's entry into the European Economic Community and dramatic increases in the costs of fuel and fertilizer.

These challenges in turn represent challenges of unprecedented magnitude to the Farm School — to its students, its teachers, its administrators, its trustees, and very importantly, its friends and supporters both in Greece and the United States.

To compete without tariff protection against their skilled and well financed European counterparts, Greek farmers must significantly improve their efficiency, technology, and marketing skills.

The responsibility for this training of Greek men and women agriculturalists — both those of today and those of the future — falls upon the Farm School, and a small number of Greek institutions with similar goals.

We believe we are ready for the challenge. Not only have we improved our course material in more traditional areas, but we have added much new material relating to technology, to management and to the economics of agricultural enterprises. The Greek Government has been our partner and supporter in developing this increasingly important role for the Farm School in Greece's future.

Let me quote a few lines from the final verses of Bruce Lansdale's poem *METAMORPHOSIS*:

*As a memento of his recent visit to the Farm School on the occasion of its 75th anniversary, President Tsatsos of Greece was presented with an album about his day at the School. The following letter is his expression of appreciation to all of us.*

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC

25 February 1980

Dear Students and Staff of the Farm School  
Friends all,

Through the kind intervention of Mr. Stambolides, you have given my wife and me a priceless memento of our visit to you last October. We prize it highly — so personal a gift, prepared with much taste and imagination, and we thank you most heartily.

Even more, we are grateful for our own memories, intangible, but as real as the red album. We shall never forget the warmth of your welcome, and the love you expressed throughout our visit.

My wife and I believe in the American Farm School as one of the important forces at work for the good of Greece and the Greeks. We are glad to have seen you at work and at play, and we wish you the success you so well deserve, both as individuals and as members of a remarkable team.

Faithfully yours,

As the plane takes off  
from Thessaloniki  
It flies over these three  
hundred fifty acres —  
Some call it an oasis.  
Once as I looked down,  
I thought what a tiny spot  
in a large world.  
But then I thought  
Yes, it is small  
But it is like a gem,  
A gem for what it is,  
A gem for what it does.  
Because of the boys and girls  
who are part of it,  
And the new life it  
brings to them.

Our goal is to continue to be able to bring a new life to our students, whether they be the young people in our regular program or the experienced farmers who come back for short courses in specialized fields.

With your continued help and support and affection we shall achieve this goal.

Mrs. Robert A. McCabe  
Chairman of the Board

## THE MISSION

The primary mission of the American Farm School is to provide vocational training for young Greek men and women, as well as adult farmers and their families, on a highly specialized basis. In essence, the purpose of that training is to equip them to manage agricultural enterprises or otherwise assume positions of leadership in Greek agriculture.

As in the past, the School is committed to playing a constructive role in the furtherance of understanding and friendship between the Greek and American people. The School intends to maintain its traditional identity as a non-profit educational institution with support from the private sector ensuring its independence.



# What The Farm School Is

*"I hear, I forget  
I see, I remember  
I do, I understand."*

*The American Farm School is understanding by doing. Under the expert guidance of Bruce M. Lansdale, Director since 1955, the Farm School carries on important traditions while introducing modern technology on the appropriate scale. Bruce Lansdale and his staff have answered the following questions to keep you aware of what the Farm School is:*

## **What is the American Farm School?**

It is an agricultural training center in Northern Greece offering a number of programs at the heart of which are its three-year Lyceum programs in Horticulture and Farm Machinery and a two year Scholi program in Mechanized Agriculture.

## **What other programs are there at the School?**

The School operates as a demonstration center on a 375 acre campus with fifty buildings. In addition to the Lyceum and Scholi programs, there are Short Courses for more than 1500 adults per year, a livestock distribution program, a Curriculum Development Center, and a model farm which has more than 10,000 visitors annually.

## **When was the Farm School started?**

The Farm School was started in 1904 by Dr. John Henry House and three associates. It began in one building on 50 acres of poor, uncultivated land with 13 students.

## **How do the students use their training?**

One of the School's goals is to teach its students to appreciate the



Sophie Papadopoulou and Panos Misirlis — Student Projects

dignity of manual labor. There are currently 194 students, including 50 girls, who come from all over Greece. Most of the graduates return to their villages to implement the management skills and farming methods they have learned at the School, while others take leadership positions in both the public and private sectors.

## **Who are the staff?**

All but a few of the 92 member staff are Greek. Many of them are Farm School graduates who have received advanced training in the United States. 30% of the staff live on campus.

## **What does it cost to educate a student at AFS?**

All students who attend the American Farm School need scholarship assistance, and it costs approximately 110,000 drachmas (\$3,000) for each scholarship. Students cover the additional room and board expenses either by paying a 20,000 drachma fee or by participating in the work program.

## **What is the School's relationship with the Greek government?**

The Farm School is a private and independently operated institution, yet it works closely with the Ministries of Agriculture and Education. Most of the agriculturalists in Greece have visited the School at one time or another. Not only does the Greek government provide scholarships for half the students who attend the School, it looks to

the School for leadership in introducing and developing new programs and demonstrations in agricultural education as well.

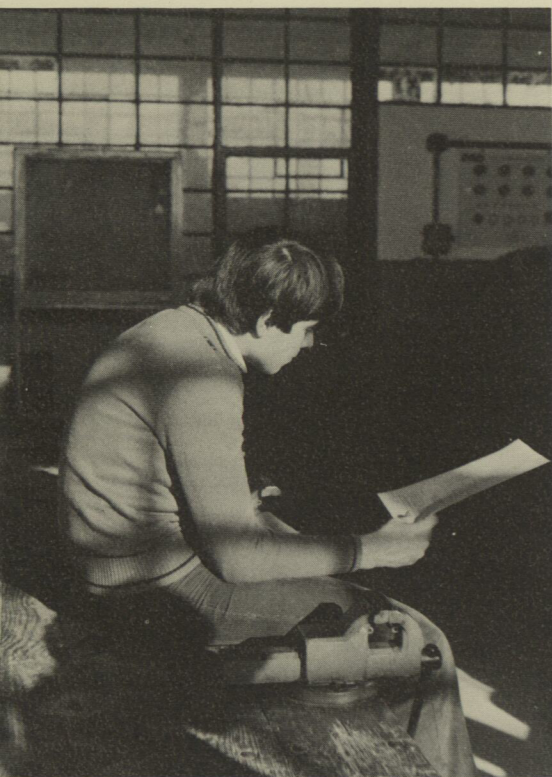
## **What are the long range plans for the School?**

Based on recommendations of a major study commissioned by the School's Trustees in the 1970's, the Farm School enters the 1980's with an increased emphasis on management training, further use of the School's production-demonstration units, expansion of student projects and audio-visual techniques, and significant growth in the Short Course programs. The School also plans to introduce a new program of Rural Economics and Management and undertake a model land development program around its campus.



Parading icon of St. Chrysostomus around campus on the Church's name day.





## What The Farm School Does :

To develop human resources for rural progress: that has been the objective of the American Farm School since its founding in 1904. An agricultural and technical training center built around a secondary school for boys and girls, this independent institution is located just outside Thessaloniki, Northern Greece's largest city.

Over the years the Farm School has developed a succession of innovative programs, and it invariably has assumed a pioneer role consistent with its unique commitment: namely, to provide young people and adults from villages all over Greece with the most modern vocational skills, thus enabling them to manage agricultural enterprises and in many cases to assume leadership positions in rural Greece.

In harmony with new vocational education legislation adopted by the Greek Parliament, two exciting programs are offered to boys and girls who have finished the now mandatory ninth grade: one, a Lyceum (or senior high school) program in Farm Machinery and Horticulture, and the other, a two-year Mechanized Farming Scholi. Special emphasis is placed on management skills, particularly important for those who will fill responsible positions in the agricultural sector as Greece enters the Common Market.

Equally exciting is the Rural Economics and Management Program that will succeed the earlier Girls School curriculum of home economics and handicrafts. The program is being designed to answer the call for modernization while maintaining important family and village strengths.

In all of these programs, with a total capacity of 250 students, full attention is given to mathematics, science, history, English and similar general studies. The educational process also takes place on the playing fields, in the dor-

## Developing Human Resources

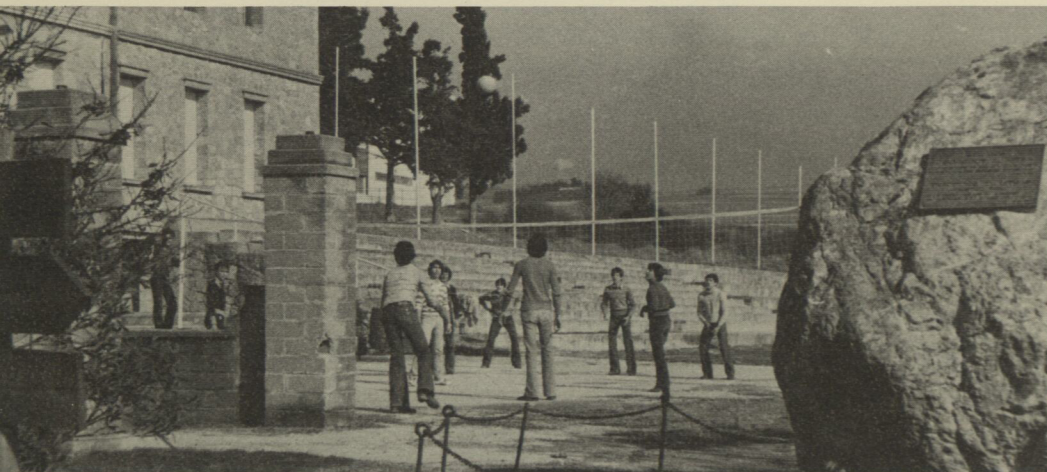
mitories, and in faculty homes. The Farm School makes a conscious effort to give all students — most of whom are away from home for the first time — a comprehensive experience which will equip them to lead successful, creative lives and to contribute significantly to progress in rural Greece.

As part of its long-time commitment to continuing education, the School touches the lives of many adult farmers and their families through a variety of extension courses. Thousands of Greek farmers come to the School annually for training in advanced farming methods and related administrative techniques. Serving both the regular school programs and the short courses are a number of agricultural production projects on the 375 acre, 50 building campus. These projects range from poultry raising and calf development units to models in organizational and management procedures.

Among the Farm School's other special offerings is GREEK SUMMER, a popular six-week program for American youth. It is designed

to give high school age participants an unusual opportunity to learn something about Greece while living and working at the School and in a rural village nearby. By way of GREEK SUMMER and related activities for visitors abroad, the School plays a constructive role in the promotion of understanding between Greek and American people.

For over three-quarters of a century the American Farm School has been a model of bi-cultural cooperation and international assistance. With its traditional commitment enhanced by responsive new programs and with the ever-increasing support of those who endorse its mission, the School looks forward to a future of even greater distinction in the decade of the 1980's.



Director Bruce Lansdale greets Graduate Peter Toundjis.



Greek Summer participants learn Greek cooking

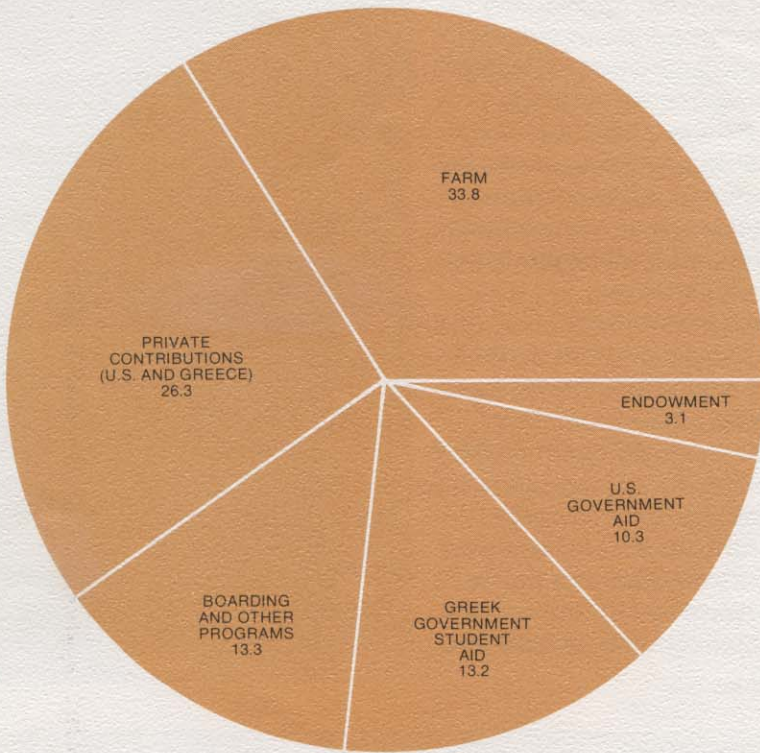


The American Farm School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to the students at the School.



# Contributions and Planned Giving

## 1978-79 Revenues

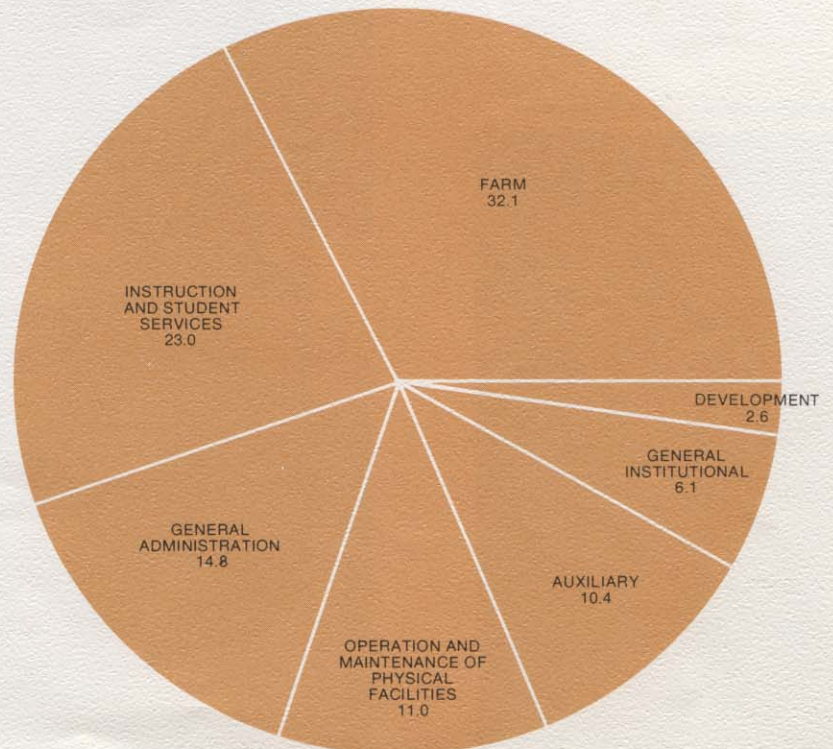


Contributions to the Farm School are deductible for income tax purposes.

For those who are interested in remembering the School in their wills, the following form is suggested: "I give and bequeath to the American Farm School, incorporated in 1904 under the laws of the State of New York, having an office at 380 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10017, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for its uses and purposes."

Information regarding other planned giving opportunities, such as unitrusts and pooled income funds which allow the donor to retain income during his/her lifetime while making a tax-deductible capital gift to the Farm School, is available. Please write to: Office of the Trustees, 380 Madison Ave., NY, NY, 10017.

## 1978-79 Expenditures





**CURRENT FUNDS BALANCE SHEET  
AUGUST 31, 1979**

ASSETS

● <i>Unrestricted</i>		\$ 66,389
Cash .....		49,268
Short-term investments .....		450,206
Accounts and Grants Receivable .....		272,666
Inventories .....		<u>838,529</u>
<i>Total unrestricted assets</i> .....		
● <i>Restricted</i>		89,332
Cash .....		170,986
Grants Receivable .....		<u>260,318</u>
<i>Total restricted assets</i> .....		
<i>Total current fund assets</i>		<u><u>1,098,847</u></u>

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES

● <i>Unrestricted</i>		\$ 180,696
Accounts payable and accrued expenses .....		189,780
Bank loans .....		10,705
Reserve for severance indemnity .....		<u>381,181</u>
<i>Total unrestricted liabilities</i> .....		
Fund balance .....		457,348
<i>Total unrestricted liabilities and fund balance</i> .....		<u>838,529</u>
● <i>Restricted</i>		4,789
Accounts payable .....		255,529
Fund balances .....		<u>260,318</u>
<i>Total restricted liabilities and fund balance</i> .....		
<i>Total current fund liabilities and fund balances</i>		<u><u>\$1,098,847</u></u>

**CURRENT FUNDS AND EXPENDITURES  
YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1979**

REVENUES AND SUPPORT

● Private Gifts and Grants (U.S. and Greece) .....		\$ 613,564
● Government Grants		
Greece .....	\$309,298	
United States .....	<u>242,010</u>	551,308
● Endowment and other income .....		72,625
● Auxiliary Enterprises		
Farm and related activities .....		789,196
Boarding and other programs .....		309,993
<i>Total Revenue and Support</i>		<u><u>2,336,686</u></u>

EXPENDITURES

● Instruction .....		354,277
● Operation and Maintenance of Plant .....		251,373
● General Administration (Greece and New York) .....		338,155
● Development (Greece and New York) .....		59,798
● General Institutional .....		138,340
● Student Aid (boarding, infirmary and other costs) .....		171,487
● Auxiliary Enterprises		
Farm and related activities .....		733,970
Other .....		237,356
<i>Total Expenditures</i>		<u><u>\$2,284,756</u></u>

NOTE: A copy of the latest annual financial report filed with the New York State Board of Social Welfare may be obtained upon request in writing to: New York State Board of Social Welfare, Office Tower, Empire State Plaza, Albany, N.Y. 12223, or American Farm School, 380 Madison Ave., N.Y., N.Y. 10017.



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# SOWER

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