

IOWA COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

COMMISSIONERS 1960 ANNUAL REPORT

The Iowa County Soil Conservation District Commissioners at the beginning of 1960 were: Robert Wallace-Chairman, Harold Sherman, Carter Atkinson, Howard Beyer, Treasurer and Robert Walker, Secretary. It was decided not to appoint Assistant Commissioners this year but to invite individuals and groups to our regular meetings.

Soil Conservation Service personnel at the Beginning of 1960 were as follows: Ralph Bush, Work Unit Conservationist, Darald Reed, Soil Conservationist, Albert M. Murphy, Jr., Conservationist Aid, and William Fouts, Soil Scientist. State employees were Clara Lacher, District Clerk, Ed Kinsey and Robert Wallace, Conservation Aids.

Several changes were made in personnel during 1960. Darald Reed was transferred to the State Office in January. Darwin Hoeft was transferred from Tipton, Iowa in February to assume position of Soil Conservationist vacated by Darald Reed. Albert M. Murphy, Jr. was transferred to Logan, Iowa in March. Roger Sharp, Newton, was transferred to assume position of conservationist aid vacated by Albert M. Murphy, Jr.

Clara Lacher submitted her resignation in December as District Clerk. The effective date of resignation was January 6, 1961.

The standard soil survey as completed this year. Soil scientist are now compiling maps and data of Iowa County soils which will be published in book form.

Twelve regular commissioners meetings were held in 1960. Five special meetings were held in connection with Iowa-Johnson County Conservation Field Day. During the year nine guests attended commissioners meetings.

In February Robert Walker, County Extension Director, resigned as secretary of the Iowa County Soil Conservation District (Iowa Co. S.C.D.).

A contractors meeting was held in Williamsburg with eight Contractors present.

Clara Lacher, District Clerk, was appointed as secretary of Iowa County S.C.D. in March.

Voc-ag instructors from Marengo, Williamsburg, and North English attended the commissioners meeting in March.

In April the District had its first soil and water conservation speech contest. Five Iowa County high school students were contestants with Miss Carol Bigbee winning the contest. After winning the Regional contest in Iowa City, Miss Bigbee competed in the State contest held in Davenport in September.

A Voc-ag Soil Judging Contest was held on the William Ward Farm near Marengo in May. Fifty-seven students from Marengo, and Williamsburg competed with Williamsburg winning the contest Eugene Schmidt, Williamsburg won 1st place, Donald Shutterlee, Marengo 2nd place, Mark Yearean and Richard Schaefer, Williamsburg tied for 3rd in the soil judging contest. The North English Voc-ag. Dept. had students at the contest for training in soil judging.

Three farms were selected in June to enter the Des Moines register and Tribune Soil and Water Conservation Contest. The following farmers were named as winners in the three classes:

Elwood Bros. - Owner - Operator

Marguerite Spratt - Fred White - Owner - Tenant

W. A. Kaderaveck - Ernest Gorsch - New Cooperator

Robert Wallace and Carter Atkinson attended the regional meeting of Soil Conservation District Commissioners at Maquoketa in July.

Seven Iowa County Farms girls competed in the Queen of Conservation in

in August Miss Linda Gates, Marengo, and Miss Kathryn Beran, Victor were named as Iowa County's Queens of Conservation. Each winner received a cash award and an attractive pearl necklace. The contest was co-sponsored by the Farmers Coop. Grain and Lumber Co. of Conroy and the Iowa County S.C.D.

Mr. Dale Nash, a member of the State A.S.C. Committee of Alaska, was the featured guest of the August Commissioners meeting. His very interesting presentation included our conservation work in Alaska and colored slides of the 49th state. Mr. Nash was a former Iowa County resident. The Iowa County A.S.C. committee and Extension Service were also guests at this meeting.

At a special meeting Robert Wallace resigned as chairman of the Iowa County S.C.D. Carter Atkinson was appointed as chairman. Don Eash, Parnell, was selected to complete Wallace's term which expires in 1961.

The Iowa-Johnson County Field Day was held September 8 on the Everett Winborn farm in Johnson County. The program consisted of short talks by Bill Oschwald Extension Service and Bob Nance of W.M.T. Conservation practices installed during the day were tile, terraces and concrete erosion control structure. Winner of the contour plowing match was Dick Wagner of Homestead, August Knock, Jr., Homestead placed 3rd in the plowing match.

An awards banquet was given on September 26 with approximately 60 people attending. Winners of the various soil and water conservation contests during the year were honored and presented plaques Bob Burrows, Jr. of Belle Plaine, Iowa was guest speaker.

Iowa County Bankers were sponsors of the awards banquet.

During 1960 work done by the Iowa County Conservation District office staff is as follows:

New Cooperators	46	No.
Basic Plans	36	No.

Follow Ups	83 No.
Farms Serviced	551 No.
Contour Farming	2300 Acres
Contour Strip Cropping	109 Acres
Pasture Improvement	58 Acres
Woodland Improvement	20 Acres
Wildlife Area	20 Acres
Fish Pond Stocking	15 No.
Diversions	3.6 Mi.
Grassed Waterways	44 Acres
Ponds	13 No.
Concrete Structures	5 No.
Open Drainage Ditches	6.4 Mi.
Tile	95.4 Mi.
Terraces	4 Mi.

During 1960, 446 referrals for cost share work were received from the A.S.C. office for work to be done by the S.C.S. technicians who are responsible for approval, layout, supervision and acceptance of finished work on all referrals.

Iowa County is fortunate in having several good heavy equipment operators who are devoting their time and equipment to conservation work within Iowa County. The following equipment is owned and operated by Iowa County Contractors:

Draglines	3
Backhoes	3
Bulldozers	16
Turn-a-pulls	5
Tiling Machines	6

Outlook and Suggestions for 1961

We expect to have more money appropriated this year so we will have more to work with. Weather and help permitting we plan to do the following work this year:

Cooperators	40	No.
Basic Plans	36	No.
Revised Plans	10	No.
Follow Ups	80	No.
Contouring	3,000	Acres
Strip Cropping	300	Acres
Diversions	8	Mi.
Terraces	10	Mi.
Structures	10	No.
Ponds	25	No.
Waterways	80	Acres
Tile	60	Mi.
Surface Dield Ditches	7	Mi.
Tree Planting	5	Acres

We plan to continue making local awards in connection with the Register and Tribune Soil Conservation Contest. The bankers of Iowa County help to finance this program.

Other District Activities which we hope to carry out are the F.F.A. Soil Judging Contest District Speech Contest, Queen of Conservation Contest, Minister's Tour, Board of Supervisor's Tour, Paralled terracing Demonstration, and a joint Iowa-Johnson County Contour Flowing Contest and Field Day this is to be held in Iowa County. In addition we will furnish the Soil Stewardship Sunday pamphlets to the Ministers in the District. We plan to hold some information meeting on the township basis to try to create more interest in conservation practices.

Robert Wallace's term expires this year so there will be an election to fill his office. Wallace resigned in August and Donald Eash was appointed to finish out the term. Carter Atkinson and Harold Shorman will continue in office. Howard Beyer will continue as Treasurer. Our Secretary for the coming year will be Mrs. Sharon Hagen.

We will plan to cooperate in whatever way we can to help the Iowa County Conservation Board with the county park and lake.

Don Hoing Ext Agent

NE Corner School

402 E Wash

Old Olson Eastman are
plumber

623 West Hillen St

Pioneer Plant Manager
Aug 6

(Don Hancock)

M. S. Hooper

790

West Hillen