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DIRECTOR OF EXTENSION

KENNETH OWEN, DES MOINES
SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

FRANK H. MENDELL, DES MOINES
U. S. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

WILLIAM H. GREINER, DIRECTOR
STATE HOUSE, DES MOINES

State Soil Conservation Committee

STATE HOUSE

DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

September 13, 1965

Eileen Miller, Clerk
Hardin County Soil Conservation District
Post Office Building
Eldora, Iowa

Dear Eileen:

As you undoubtedly know, Mr. Dean Kelsey has been named the Outstanding District Commissioner in your region for the 1965 "Outstanding District Commissioner" Contest. *Region 3*

One of the co-sponsors of this contest, The Wallaces Farmer, wishes to include a brief article about each of the regional winners in their next issue. They have sufficient written material for this article but would like to use a photo of each of the regional winners, as well.

We are wondering if it would be possible for you to secure a head and shoulders photo of Mr. Kelsey for us.

The photo will have to be in the hands of Mr. Al Bull no later than September 18; therefore, your prompt attention in this matter would be greatly appreciated. Due to the rush, any size snap shot or Polaroid photo will suffice.

Please identify the person in the photo and send it directly to Mr. Al Bull, Wallaces Farmer, 1912 Grand, Box 1317, Des Moines, Iowa.

Thank you for your prompt assistance in this matter.

Sincerely yours,



Duane Bennink, Assistant Director
State Soil Conservation Committee

DB:bjl

July 6, 1965

Dean Kelsey
Iowa Falls, Iowa

Dear Dean,

Will you look over this narrative of your activities as a District commissioner? This narrative was written in 1960 so it will need updating.

We will have to get together the end of this week to re-write it. I thought by sending it up it would give you a little time to prepare.

I'll have to be in Iowa Falls at the ASCS office Friday morning for a defense meeting. If it would be convenient with you, I'll plan to stop at your place after dinner.

See you about 1:30 P.M. Friday.

Respectfully yours,

Chuck

CMC:em

September 16, 1965

Mr. Al Bull
Wallaces Farmer
Des Moines, Iowa

Dear Mr. Bull,

Attached is a photo of Dean Kelsey, Iowa Falls, Outstanding District
Commissioner of Region 3.

Sincerely yours,

Eileen Miller, Clerk
Hardin Soil Conservation District

Hardin District nominates Dean Kelsey, Iowa Falls as outstanding commissioner of Region ~~5~~ ³ 1960

Elected commissioner in March of 1955, Dean is an active promoter of the District. Dean, who is ~~37~~ ⁴² years of age has served as Chairman the past ~~3~~ ^{+ 2} years. Dean represented Hardin District at the Annual Conference in Cedar Rapids in 1958 and Mason City in 1959 and has served as Master of Ceremonies at the ~~past three~~ ^{Four} annual meetings and banquets.

Kelsey has played an active part in organizing and conducting the District Queen of the Furrow contest, speech contest, soil judging contest and assisting in conservation tours.

Dean owns and operates a 240 acre farm south east of Iowa Falls. One of the first plans in the District, cooperater number 3, work was initiated with Dean's father C.J. Kelsey. C.J. Kelsey was active in organization of the district and served as one of the first commissioners in Hardin District.

Some of the earliest terraces constructed in the District were constructed on the Kelsey farm. During the 1930's through assistance of the Civilian Conservation Camp 1850' terraces were constructed. *Additional terraces were constructed in 1960*

Several field trials have been conducted on the farm. Earlier trials of reed canarygrass and brome grass plantings were made. In 1956 a field trial of native grasses for erosion control was established.

In the spring of 1958 7000 Austrian, red and white pines were planted in a 7 acre area. In addition 4000 multiflora roses were planted bordering the tree planting project. 500 multiflora roses were planted in 1959. *In 1960 He planted another 2000 trees.*

More terraces are planned for construction this fall and a gully and flood control structure of earthen fill is being designed with construction planned for 1961. *Plant Recreation* The structure will controll a 229 acre area and in addition will be a permanent storage area to serve as a farm pond.

Kelsey's livestock operation includes ~~100~~ ⁶⁰ ewes and lambs, ~~25~~ ²⁵ sows with farrowing and 50 ~~beat~~ ^{beat} cows and calves spring and fall and a feeder cattle program.

The Kelsey family participates in numerous outside activities. Mrs. Kelsey

Has been

Pres.

~~is active~~ as a L-H leader and is ^{and} chairman of the women's District Auxiliary of Soil Conservation District Commissioners. The Kelsey family is active in the First Methodist Church at Iowa Falls. The Kelsey's have three children, Mary, Charles, and Marjorie.

other are active

Dean's activities include township membership chairman of the Hardin County Farm Bureau, ASC township nominating committee and the ASC election board, and ~~previous~~ school director of Glenwood District. *Iowa River - - - Iowa*

Falls Police Department

Dean does some contracting of conservation work with his D-6 in addition to its use in farming operations. ~~He also does part time auto and tractor repair during the winter months and in evenings.~~

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1946

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To: Iowa Soil Conservation District Commissioners

The Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners in cooperation with Wallaces Farmer of Des Moines are again sponsoring the Outstanding District Commissioner Contest for 1969.

Eligibility:

All Commissioners who have not been regional winners as well as past Commissioners whose term has expired since the 1968 Annual Conference for Commissioners.

Exclusion:

Commissioners who are Officers and Directors of the Iowa Association.

Rules:

Each Soil Conservation District should send a nomination to their regional director by no later than July 1, 1969.

The narrative of not more than 400 words listing his accomplishments should accompany the nomination and contain the following information:

1. Age
2. Length of time as a Commissioner
3. Size of farm. His conservation, livestock and grain program
4. Size of family and their accomplishments
5. Duties performed as a Commissioner
6. Other activities

The regional winners will be announced at the July meeting.

A State winner will be selected from the nine regional winners. All nine regional winners will be presented a plaque by Wallaces Farmer at the Annual Conference, Monday evening, September 22, 1969, Hotel Savory, Des Moines, Iowa.

May 10, 1968

To: Iowa Soil Conservation District Commissioners

Dear Commissioners:

The Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners in cooperation with Wallaces Farmer are again sponsoring the Outstanding District Commissioners Contest.

Eligibility:

Commissioners who have not been previous regional winners and are not members of the State Association Board of Directors are eligible as well as past commissioners whose term has expired since the Annual State Conference in 1967.

Rules:

Each Soil Conservation District should send a nomination to their regional director by no later than July 1, 1968. The nomination should be accompanied by a narrative of not more than 400 words listing the Commissioner's Accomplishments, and contain the following information:

1. His age.
2. Length of time as a Commissioner.
3. Size of Farm. His livestock, grain, and conservation program.
4. Size of family and their accomplishments.
5. Other activities.
6. Duties performed as a Commissioner.
7. Member of the State and National Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners.

From the nine Regional winners, one will be selected as Iowa Outstanding District Commissioner for 1968.

Plaques for all will be awarded by Wallaces Farmer during the State Conference to be held at Hotel Hanford in Mason City, September 15, 16, and 17, 1968.

Your Regional Director is: Earl Weber

Sincerely yours,



Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners

Box 1471 • Des Moines 6, Iowa

PRESIDENT
HARRY T. HORAK
R3, Vinton

VICE PRESIDENT
ERVIN J. J. KOOS
Shelby

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HAROLD HIGGINS
R1, Traer

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Region 3
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Region 6
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Prole, 50229

Region 7
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R1, Traer

Region 8
GEORGE ANNAN
R3, Clarinda

Region 9
MAX L. JOHNSON
Hillsboro

Past President
ALFRED STEWART
R2, Oelwein

President
Ladies Auxiliary
MRS. HAROLD HIGGINS
R1, Traer

May 22, 1968

Dear Commissioners:

Enclosed are a set of rules for the Outstanding Commissioner Award. Notice that July 1st is the deadline for sending these to your regional director.

Also, the place mats the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners are making will be ready June 3rd. The Association will pay for one-half the cost of the first 2500 copies for each district for a "get acquainted supply." The district cost will be \$3.00 per thousand. Send all orders to your regional director.

The District Fall Regional will be held at the Dreierdale Restaurant, in Hampton, Iowa, at 6:30 P.M. Friday, July 19, 1968.

Sincerely yours,

Earl Weber
Director Region III

EW/la
Enclosure

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Eldora, Iowa
August 20, 1968

50627

3

Mr. Alvin F. Bull, Editor
Wallaces Farmer
1912 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50305

Dear Mr. Bull,

Enclosed please find the photo of Paul Primus that you requested. We are very happy to hear you are considering running a story on Paul in your publication.

We here are all very proud of Paul and the achievement of being named Outstanding District Commissioner of Region 3.

I would like to have the photo back, if possible, when you are through with the release.

Respectfully yours,

Chuck McCarty

Charles A. McCarty
Work Unit Conservationist, Eldora

CMC:em

*Thank you for letting us use
Paul's photo. We are returning
it to you.*

al Bull
4

As Commissioners of the Hardin Soil Conservation District we would like to enter the name of Paul C. Primus as our entry in the Outstanding Commissioner contest.

Primus was elected as a Hardin Soil Conservation District commissioner in 1963. He had served two previous years as an assistant commissioner.

The Primus family, consisting of Paul, 40; his wife Jane; and two boys, Kenneth 11 and Donald 8 have had a long history in the conservation field. In 19³⁶~~63~~ a conservation reserve and wildlife habitat area was established on their farm. This reserve exists today.

In addition to operating a 340 acre farm, Primus has been a member of the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation for 20 years, a member of the Steamboat Rock Boat Club for 20 years, the Pine Lake Wildlife Club for 15 years, a 6 year member of the Iowa River Improvement and Conservation Club and a naval veteran of World War II.

Since the war Primus has been active in community affairs, serving as an ASC township committeeman, Farm Bureau membership chairman, 4 years on the Farm Bureau Board of Directors, 7 years on the Farm Service Board of Directors and as chairman of the Board. He has served on the Central Committee for the Democratic party, the Wallace's Farmer and WHO Farm Progress Committee when the Farm Progress shows were held in Hardin county in 1950, and has been a long time member of the Congregational Church.

The Primus family has been extremely active in community affairs. Jane worked as a Home Economist for the Extension Service for several years, for the HHA Service, served as a 4-H leader, a summer school teacher under the OEO program, a den mother for Cub Scouts, a summer school superintendent under the OEO program, is a Bible School teacher,

president of the Church Fellowship, a member of the Iowa Poetry Association and the Federal Women's Club.

On the 340 acre farm the Primus' has 40 head of stock beef cows. They raise 240 pigs from 25 sows, 100 acres of hybrid seed corn and 80 acres of beans.

Primus was the first landowner in the Hardin Soil Conservation District and the Pine Lake Watershed to build grass backslope terraces on his farm. In 1967 he built 9,700 feet of terraces and in 1968 he again built another 6,450 feet of terraces on his land. Primus plans to continue terrace construction, as finances permit, until his entire land needing erosion control is stabilized.

The Primus family has always been interested in wildlife habitat. They have established 16 acres of wildlife habitat on the farm and have a two and a half acre farm pond with a wildlife development around it. In 1961 three acres of pine trees were planted for a Christmas tree venture and farm beautification. Since 1961 five additional acres have been established to add to the family tree plantation. 3,700 lineal feet of multiflora rose have been planted in fence row hedges to provide wildlife cover. In 1965 a one acre crownvetch certified seed production plot was established.

For the last three years Paul Primus has led an extremely active Soil Conservation District as chairman. During his term as chairman the Hardin Soil Conservation District has had the first ACP group terrace project in the state of Iowa, developed the Pine Lake Watershed concept in which mass land treatment has been applied above Pine Lake and hosted the Soil Conservation Society of America tour in August of 1967.

The District was the topic of a paper presented at the Society meeting on how they have accomplished land treatment in the Pine Lake Watershed; held innumerable tours of national and inter-national character for people from as far away as Australia and as near as Canada; went from a total of Plant Materials accomplishments of 12 to 56 in a period of three years (individual plots); has been instrumental in getting the commissioners of the Hardin Soil Conservation District to state and regional meetings; gave a report at the Annual Conference of progress and activities of the Hardin Soil Conservation District in 1966.

He has attended river pollution meetings, zoning meetings, legislative meetings, and urban meetings while representing the Hardin Soil Conservation District on both local and state level, was instrumental in developing a District program in which the urban segment of the community is being given consideration, both planning and consultive assistance from the District; helped initiate the inventory of recreation potential for private and industry; worked with the Soil Conservation Service personnel in the development of an inventory of all public County Conservation Board areas in relation to planning, 3,500 copies of this report were distributed to the peoples of Hardin county provided the incentive and initiative to state an inventory and consultive assistance for the municipalities within the Hardin Soil Conservation Districts boundaries, to provide cities with the consultive service and technology that is available in planning recreation and city park systems, coordinating these to the county and state efforts; and very recently called two special meetings and one regular meeting for the District commissioners for the development of an Annual Work Plan for fiscal year 1968-1969, looking ahead to a bigger District role in the community's future development.

MAY 8 1970

To: Iowa Soil Conservation District Commissioners

The Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners in cooperation with Wallace Farmer of Des Moines are again sponsoring the Outstanding District Commissioner Contest for 1970.

Eligibility:

All Commissioners who have not been regional winners as well as past Commissioners whose term has expired since the 1969 Annual Conference for Commissioners.

Exclusion:

Commissioners who are Officers and Directors of the Iowa Association.

Rules:

Each Soil Conservation District should send a nomination to their regional director by no later than July 1, 1970.

The narrative of not more than 400 words listing his accomplishments should accompany the nomination and contain the following information:

1. Age
2. Length of time as a Commissioner
3. Size of farm. His conservation, livestock and grain program
4. Size of family and their accomplishments
5. Duties performed as a Commissioner
6. Other activities

The regional winners will be announced at the Fall Regional Meeting.

A State winner will be selected from the nine regional winners. All nine regional winners will be presented a plaque by Wallace Farmer at the Annual Conference, Monday evening, September 14, 1970, Holiday Inn, Waterloo, Iowa.

June 26, 1970

Mr. Earl Weber, Director
Region III - IASCD
Dows, Iowa 50071

Dear Earl,

Our nomination for the Outstanding District Commissioners
Contest for 1970 is Chairman Carroll Hobson.

Please find enclosed a narrative listing Carroll's
accomplishments.

Sincerely yours,



Kermit C. Whitehead, Treasurer
Hardin Soil Conservation District Commissioners
Box 108
Eldora, Iowa 50627

dmn

Enc.

The Hardin Soil Conservation District nominates Chairman Carroll Hobson for the 1970 Outstanding District Commissioner's Award. Hobson, age 49, has been a Commissioner since 1965. He served two years as an assistant before becoming an elected commissioner. He was elected Chairman of the District in February, 1969.

^{J Hobson age 49,}
Carroll farms 730 acres. He owns 490 acres and rents 240 acres. He has a diversified farming operation; 150 head of beef cattle and 50 brood sows which are farrowed twice a year. He has 515 crop acres, the remaining land he owns and leases is forest, pasture and woodland. A 15-acre forest located along the Iowa River has a variety of native trees, shrubs and wildflowers and is designated a forest reserve. Another 15 acres is heavily wooded and very scenic with evidence of Indian camps and trails.

Carroll became a district cooperator in 1953. He has constructed 4,000 feet of grassed backslope terraces and rotates the remaining cropland. Crownvetch seed is harvested from a 3-acre field which was established in cooperation with the Hardin Soil Conservation District.

The Hobson family lives one mile north of Eldora, Iowa. Carroll and his wife, Catharine, have four children. The oldest, Brian, age 23, is farming like his father. ^{21, is now serving with the U.S. Army in Okinawa.} Mark, age 20, ~~is attending Iowa State University at Ames, Iowa, and is majoring in Horticulture.~~ Maureen and Maurice ^{the} are 17 year old twins ^{are} attending high school in Eldora.

All members of the Hobson family are garden enthusiasts. They raise many different varieties of raspberries, peaches, pears, cherries, plums and apples. Each year they sell some of their products. ^{stop} ~~Last year they sold 125 bushels of high-quality apples. Mark has always had an interest in gardening which is evident since he is furthering his interest at school.~~ ^{start} Mark was in 4-H and has won several county garden awards. Mark and Brian were very active in FFA while attending high school in Eldora. Brian was President ^{of FFA} for one year. Maurice and Maureen are very active ⁱⁿ sports ^{SPORTS} in high school. Maureen plays basketball and Maurice is ^{lost} out for track. Maureen attended Girls State ~~this~~ year at the

University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls. She won the District Conservation Art Contest in 1969 with the best conservation painting. Maureen has also been very active in Girl Scouts. She is a First Class Scout.

Mrs. Hobson has shown much interest in children. She was a primary school teacher for five years. She has been a den mother for cub scouts. She has been very active in the Eldora Methodist Church. Mrs. Hobson has served on the Board of Education and taught Sunday school. She is a WSCS member and accompanies her children to church regularly.

Carroll is a long-time member of the Methodist Church. He has served on the Board of Education, Board of Stewards, head usher for nine years and taught a Sunday school class for the high school group. He served as Director on the Eldora School Board for two terms from 1953 to 1959 and was President on two different occasions. ^④ Carroll has been a member of the American Legion since his honorable discharge from the military service. ^② He served in the U.S. Army during World War II with the Sixth Armored Division. ~~He was~~ a Battalion Sergeant Major with the Corps of Military Police. ^① Carroll has been a member of the Pine Lake Wildlife Club for 15 years. He is one of the original members of the Iowa River Improvement and Conservation Club. ^⑦ Since 1960 he has been a Rotarian. ^⑤ Carroll has a commercial pilot's license and has logged over 1000 hours. When he started flying in 1956 he joined the Airplane Owners and Pilots Association and is an active member. He is a Thunderbird Flying Club member. ^⑩ He is a member of the National Soil Society and the Soil Conservation Society of America. ^⑥ Carroll has traveled throughout the county as an assessor at various times during the past 22 years. He has been a township committeeman for the County Planning and Zoning Commission, and a member of the Iowa River Preservation Association. Carroll is presently serving as secretary for the Hardin County Solid Waste Committee which is actively working to locate a county sanitary landfill. *

Carroll's active participation in county and local civic affairs and his natural ability "to get things done" qualifies him as ^{a community leader.} ~~an outstanding commissioner.~~ Carroll has presented and assisted in presenting legislative proposals that would update and modernize the existing Soil Conservation Districts in Iowa to meet

the present community needs. He has worked aggressively to promote and strengthen soil conservation on the regional and state levels as well as the district level.

Carroll has performed many duties as a commissioner. Terraces were the topic when he assisted in conducting a Pine Lake Watershed Tour for the National Soil Society of America in 1967. He assisted in conducting a similar tour for the Iowa State Conservation Committee in 1969. Two other important Pine Lake Watershed Tours were conducted in 1969; the Argentina Tour and the Oklahoma Tour. Carroll was very active in organizing and promoting the 1968 Field Days. He participated with his farm equipment during the two-day session. He was Chairman of the Education Exhibits and also Chairman of the Field Crop Division.

In 1969 Carroll was instrumental in obtaining \$50,000 of Flood Restoration Funds for Hardin County. Helping inventory the heavy flood damage that occurred, he prepared evaluations and submitted requests for the funds. Hobson used his flying ability to obtain pictures that illustrated the flood damage. At various times in 1967, 1968 and 1969 Carroll has also flown his airplane on photography^{ic} missions for the Soil Conservation Service throughout North Central Iowa. Many of the pictures that he has assisted in taking are distributed throughout Iowa.

^{Iowa State Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners}
Carroll attends every Annual Conference and ^{Commissioner} Short Course, and has since he ~~became an elected commissioner~~. At the Annual Conference in 1969 he served as a committeeman on the Rural-Urban and Recreation Committee and ~~this year~~ ^{now his second year} he is serving on the Education Committee.

As Chairman of the district's watershed program Carroll worked to achieve application approval for the Honeycomb and Union Watersheds, both PL 566 watersheds. He promoted a resource planning map for the Eldora Industrial Development Board which will be used for Eldora's development. In 1968 he helped develop and carry out sound district programs that received the Goodyear Award in 1969.

1972

OUTSTANDING DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

Caleb Knutson

The Hardin Soil Conservation District nominates Caleb Knutson for the 1972 Outstanding District Commissioners Award. Caleb, age 48, first became a commissioner in 1965. He served four years as an assistant before becoming an elected commissioner. He is presently Vice-Chairman of the District.

Caleb owns and farms 400 acres. His farm is located in the Clarion-Nicollet-Webster Soil Association and is all tillable. He is a participant in the Feed Grain Program. He feeds and markets 200 head of cattle each year.

Caleb became a district cooperator in 1953. In 1955 he received the District Award, New Cooperators Division, Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program.

Caleb is an avid promoter for mulch or minimum tillage. Mulch tillage has been used successfully on the Knutson farm for nine years. There are also 6000 feet of terrace on his farm, seven acres of wildlife cover and four acres of waterways.

Crownvetch has been grown on the Knutson farm for six years. He was one of the first in the county to participate in the plant materials program to establish crownvetch. The three-acre stand of crownvetch has provided seed, been cut for hay and used for pasture at various times.

The Knutson family live two miles north of Radcliffe, Iowa. Caleb and his wife, Lois, have four children. Their oldest, Robert, is a third year dental student at the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa. Joel is

a junior at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa and Lila will be a freshman at Waldorf College, Forest City, Iowa. The youngest member of the family, Ben, will be in the third grade at Radcliffe this fall. Lois received a BS Degree this spring from the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa. She will be employed this fall at the Roland Junior High School, Roland, Iowa.

Lois has also assisted District and State Conservation Programs. In 1968 she was in charge of the State Soil Conservation Queen Contest. She was also in charge of the womens program for the summer meeting of the Iowa Chapter, Soil Conservation Society of America when the meeting was held at Eldora. She has also conducted several District Speech Contests.

The Knutson family are members of and regularly attend the Trinity Lutheran Church at Ellsworth, Iowa. Caleb has taught Church Sunday School for ten years. He was the Chairman of the Church Education Program one year. He has been a member of the Church Council for several years.

The Knutson family do things together. They like to tent camp, fish and go boating together. They even golf together.

Caleb has been involved in several outside activities. He has a Realtors License and is a member of the Hardin County Board of Realtors, Iowa Association of Realtors and National Association of Real Estate Boards. He is a member of the Soil Conservation Society of America and he and his family have attended the Iowa Chapter Summer Meeting for the last five years. Caleb is now a member of the Radcliffe Development Corporation. He is now and for the last nine years has served as a Township Trustee. He is a member of the Hardin County Farm Bureau and was on the board of directors for three years. He is a member of the Hardin County Beef Producers. In 1966 he re-

ceived Master Pork Producers recognition. He served on the Hardin County Pork Producers Board of Directors for six years. In 1970 Caleb was awarded the Pioneer Champions Club plaque for the Master Corn Growers Contest sponsored by the Pioneer Seed Corn Company. Caleb also served as a 4-H leader for three years. Both Lois and Caleb participated in the development of the zoning regulations for Hardin County in 1963.

Caleb has performed many duties as a commissioner. He is actively promoting mulch tillage as chairman of the Districts mulch tillage program. He has helped set up and participated in several mulch tillage training sessions for Hardin County. The latest training session was a tour to the mulch tillage plots on the Iowa State University Research Farm near Ames. He serves as chairman of the Districts Crownvetch Growers Program. The crownvetch growers of Hardin County meet annually to receive the latest information on the versatile crop and exchange ideas. Caleb is in charge of the District Soil Stewardship Week activities and inventory to analyze present soil drainage conditions in Hardin County. He regularly attends and participates in the Districts regular and special meetings, the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioner regional and annual meetings and also the commissioners short course at Iowa State University.

Regional

The Hardin Soil Conservation District takes pleasure in nominating Kermit C. Whitehead as their candidate in the 1969 Outstanding Commissioners Award Contest. ^{xgaur} Kermit, 59, has been a resident of Hardin County his entire life. He and his wife, Mary Whitehead, have two married daughters and one son. The son is the superintendent of Quakerdale School for Children and manager of the Quakerdale agricultural farm.

Kermit has been active in many community affairs which include lifetime membership in the Honey Creek Friends Church, serving over the years as trustee and on other special committees. As background Kermit spent (six and one-half years) from 1955 to 1961 in the Village Development Program in India and the Jordan Refugee area of the Gaza strip. He served as ASCS township committeeman. Currently he is a member of the county zoning board and a member of the Hardin County Off The Record Club.

The Whitehead family, in 1950, provided work and a home for a Latvian couple and their three children for 18 months under the Displaced Persons Program following World War II. Under the same program, in 1951, the Whiteheads helped a German couple with one child restablish their life in their new country.

The Whiteheads purchased their first 80-acre tract of land in 1940 as part of a Tenant Purchased Agreement Program that was instituted by the Federal government. They were one of five in Hardin County selected for this program. In 1945 they expanded their operation to 263 acres and have lived on this same farm since.

The Whiteheads have a 25-head stock cow herd and 50 brood sows. The Conservation program consists of waterways, strip cropping, contouring, and pasture management. They have a ~~tree~~ ^{FREE} plantation and four acres of emerald crown vetch in cooperation with the Hardin Soil Conservation District' experimental pasture program.

jm Kermit became ~~an assistant~~ ^{a district} commissioner for the Hardin Soil Conservation District in April of 1964. When serving as assistant commissioner, a delegate from the Turkish Department of Agriculture, Bathen Sayan, was researching the Soil Conservation Service activities in the United States. He visited the Hardin Soil Conservation District. Sayan stayed as a guest in the Whitehead home. During Whitehead's term, the Hardin Soil Conservation District has maintained its 100 per cent membership in the State and National Association of District Commissioners.

A short resume' of Whiteheads activities in our district's program as a commissioner include the following: attended a short course in Ames in January of 1966, elected treasurer of the District in January of 1966, a position he still holds, chairman of the Queen contest in January of 1966, appointed as the District's watershed committee chairman in July of 1966. The Union and the Honey Comb Watersheds were products of this committee work. He attended a commissioners short course in Ames in 1967, headed the District's budget committee in 1967, provided area on his farm for the district farm crown vetch program in 1967, served on the plant materials committee in May of 1967, the district has 79 active plots. He was chairman of the District's Register and Tribune Contest in May of 1967, appointed chairman of the District's 6th grade education committee in September of 1967, a position he still holds, worked on the 1967 watershed appreciation days and tour for the Iowa Conservation Commission in November of 1967, Chairman of the District's conservation workbook committee in November of 1967, a position he still holds. During the time that this committee has been active, 4655 sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students in seven schools in the county have participated in this program. Kermit was also appointed chairman of the District's workbook contest in December of 1967 and worked out the details and rules with the Pine Lake Wild Life Club, he still holds this position. He attended a commissioners short

course in Ames in January of 1968, served as chairman of the speech contest in March of 1968, served as chairman of the District's Iowa Teacher Conservation Camp Committee in April of 1968, was co-chairman of the District's committee hosting the Iowa Chapter of Soil Conservation Society of America, appointed chairman of the District's Conservation Art Contest in November of 1968 holding its first contest in May of 1969. He is currently developing new resource people for the 1970 contest. Kermit was appointed chairman of the District School Education Committee in November of 1968. This committee is in the process of developing a curriculum guide for the state of Iowa and an educational handbook for Hardin County. Whitehead has also been instrumental in finding and developing local talent to do conservation work in the District. The latest of his activities has been the tinting of large black and white photographs. His wife, Mary, has tinted 32 photos which are on display throughout the state of Iowa depicting conservation activities. 3678 booklets have been distributed in the District in the 6th grade education program that Whitehead chairmanned since his appointment in September of 1967. In August of 1967, the Hardin Soil Conservation District hosted a tour from the National Soil Society of America and this activity involved the work of all the commissioners including Kermit. In 1968, the District shouldered the burden of the Iowa Conservation Field Days and Plowing Match. Kermit provided the leadership and physical labor to construct all the facilities needed for that event. We feel that we have an extraordinary commissioner and he is deserving of recognition.