

SCRAP
BOOK

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS
Soil Conservation Aide

Now is the time to get soil tests taken and sent on their way so this information will be available for spring planting.

John Young, the county extension director, suggests this method for taking samples while the ground is frozen: Use an ordinary wood brace and bit. Cut a hole in a cardboard slightly larger than the bit. Place cardboard on ground and drill into the frozen ground about six inches. The frozen soil will ribbon up on the bit and fall on the cardboard, giving you a good sample for that particular part of the field. John says it will take about six or seven borings to get enough soil for a sample (about one-half pint). The number of borings needed for the sample will depend largely on the size of the bit. A one-inch bit is suggested.

The extension office handled a total of 187 soil tests during the last three months of 1958. There has been a tremendous increase in soil testing the last few years. Ten or 12 years ago only about a dozen soil tests were being made in Monroe county each year.

The importance of the soil test seems to be reflected in the total amounts of fertilizer and lime used. It is apparent that the number of farmers using lime and fertilizer is up, but tonnage is down.

The top year on limestone used in Monroe county was 1943, when a total of 20,000 tons was used. The low year was 1957, with only 12,500 tons being spread. The high year on fertilizer usage was 1953, when a total of 1,663 tons was spread. The low year was 1956, with only 700 tons being used.

John feels that the dry years may have affected the decline in the usage of lime and fertilizer, but the most likely reason is that by following the recommendations of the soil test, farmers are making a wiser application of their fertilizer and lime dollars.

The decline in tonnage and the increase in the number of soil tests is not confined to this county. A similar situation exists in surrounding counties.

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Without doubt, the most important task facing Monroe county farmers today is the development of our unproductive grasslands. This fact is why the district commissioners, and the soil and crops committee of the Extension Council, decided to sponsor a pasture improvement contest. The farmer or farmers who have done an outstanding job of establishing productive pastures and utilizing this new forage through their livestock programs will be awarded a bronze plaque.

The only "catch" in the contest seems to be in seeking out the farmers who have done pasture improvement work and getting them to fill in the necessary information on the contest entry sheets. I would like to urge you, if you are going to make such a seeding this spring, to contact Extension Director John Young or the Soil Conservation District Office for the entry sheets.

Of course, you would be proud if your pasture is designated a winner, but more important is the experience and knowledge gained that can be passed on to your neighbors.

The following farmers have filled out the information sheet for the 1959 contest: William Hageman, Bernard Kittenman and Jack and Bob Prather. They all use a birdsfoot trefoil mixture.

Farmers Hear ASC Program

Township ASC meetings are being held throughout Monroe county this week, giving farmers a chance to hear and discuss plans for the 1959 farm program.

The first meetings were held Wednesday in Cedar township. Today's meetings were held in Bluff Creek, Franklin, Gullford, Mantua, Pleasant, Troy, Union and Urbana townships.

Meetings Friday will be held at the Melrose Community Hall in Jackson township, the Hilton Church basement in Monroe township, and the Perenza Store in Wayne township. The Monroe township meeting will be from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Other meetings are from 12 noon to 4 p.m.

Discussions are being held to clarify the cost-sharing programs available for eligible conservation practices.

Philip J. O'Brien, chairman of the county ASC committee, said requests for cost-sharing benefits may be filed at the ASC office or at the community meetings.

Farmers Have Few Days Yet To Get Price Support Loans

Monroe county farmers have only a few more days to apply for price support loans or purchase agreements on their 1958 barley, oats, rye, wheat, grain sorghum, flaxseed and soybeans, according to Phillip O'Brien, chairman of the county ASC committee.

Except for corn, the deadline for completing loans and purchase agreements on Iowa grain and related crops would be January 31, 1959, under usual circumstances. Since that date falls on a Saturday, a non-business day for ASC offices, the deadline will be Monday, Feb. 2.

The deadline for completing loans and purchase agreements on 1958 corn will be May 31, 1959.

Chairman O'Brien stated that his reminder of deadline dates for completing loans and purchase agreements on 1958 crops was intended to encourage interested farmers to file their applications as soon as they make a decision or at least a week prior to the deadline for the commodity to be covered. He urged interested farmers who are unacquainted with price support procedure to get complete information at once at the county ASC office.

Loan rates in Monroe county and eligibility standards for 1958 crop commodities are as follows:

Corn—\$1.33 per bushel for corn raised in compliance with allotments, and \$1.03 per bushel for non-compliance corn. Corn must be No. 3 or better, for No. 4 on the

factor of test weight only. Premiums for higher grades.

Oats—60 cents per bushel for No. 3; premiums for higher quality, discounts for garlicky oats.

Rye—\$1.13 per bushel for No. 2 or better, or No. 3 on test weight only. Discounts for No. 4 on test weight only; rye must also contain not more than one per cent ergot.

Wheat—(Must be eligible under wheat allotment and marketing quota program.) \$1.88 per bushel for No. 1. Premiums for higher quality. Discounts for lower grades down to No. 4 or 5 on test weight only. No. 4, 5, or Sample because of damaged kernels (other than heat damage) containing not more than 14 per cent moisture. Wheat must not be musty, sour, heating or hot. Discount of 20 cents per bushel for specified undesirable varieties.

Grain Sorghum—\$1.75 per hundredweight for No. 2 or better, except mixed grain sorghums. Discounts for lower grades down to No. 4, No. 4 smutty, or No. 4 discolored, and containing not more than 13 per cent moisture.

Soybeans—\$2.06 per bushel for No. 2 or better, green and yellow. Premium for low moisture; discounts for grade and quality factors below No. 2 through No. 4. Soybeans containing more than 14 per cent moisture ineligible.

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Recently, I read that dreams do foretell the future. They tell us what is coming, but they do not say when or how these predictions will be brought about.

We have at least five more local dreamers. They are Henry Fynard, Francis Heffron, Andy Yacko, Joe Starcevic and Donald Turbot.

These farmers just completed soil and water conservation plans for their farms with the aid of the SCS technician and the plans were approved by the district commissioners.

The thing that sets these farmers apart from most dreamers is that they know when and how their future soil conserving practices will be brought about.

They have their "blue print" for a more successful farming future.

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This past week the District Commissioners held their regular monthly meeting. The thing that made this particular meeting different was, that they met with the county board of supervisors and the county engineer to discuss mutual problems.

The County Engineer, Phillip Saum, and Supervisor Harold Repp attended. Repp represented the county board.

Some of the problems discussed were: the need for Soil Conservation practices prior to road construction to prevent siltation of road ditches; seeding and mulching of fresh cut road banks; the possibility of using more drop-inlets on road fills to replace bridges or the conventional road culvert.

The group decided to visit the Honey Creek Watershed, near Russell, Iowa, at a later date. There, they will observe in operation a program which demonstrates the effectiveness of co-operation between the county board of supervisors, farmers and the Soil Conservation District in solving mutual problems pertaining to soil and water conservation as it affects roads, individual farmers and the district program.

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Conservation Aide

The snow may be deep and the temperature cold, but that doesn't seem to dishearten many of Monroe county farmers, for they know that spring work is only a few weeks away and are making plans.

It is quite evident to these farmers that a single conservation practice does not make an effective soil and water conservation plan. For example, Wayne Thompson of Franklin township, ordered more trees to plant this spring and wants terraces constructed. Last year, he planted 4,000 pines for reforestation, 2,000 multiflora rose for wildlife cover, built diversions to divert fall water from a bottomland field, and shaped in some gullies and seeded to grasses.

Raymond Meyers of near Eddyville, who owns a farm in Mantua township, last year cleared some brush from pasture land, built a diversion above bottomland field, and constructed a pond for livestock water. This year he wants a tile system for a wet field and to improve more pasture land.

Roy Polson of Monroe township, wants more terraces. Irvin Long requests help for a diversion and open drainage ditches. Everett Gardner wants contour strip cropping laid out and a diversion constructed. Mrs. Sylvia House needs information on a drainage problem.

Of course, there are others. The list is too long to name all of them, but you can get the idea. Conservation is on the move.

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Soil Conservation Aide

Mrs. Ilo Tyrral called me recently and asked if our office would furnish a historical paper of the Soil Conservation movement in Monroe County for the Centennial celebration. She suggested that we might want to emphasize the leaders of the Soil and Water Conserving movement.

Of course, my memory only dates back to 1944, when the district was formulated as it now exists. E. V. Hawk of Moravia, Sterling Martin of Melrose and James Foster of Albion were elected as the first District Commissioners. However, there had to be many interested farmers prior to that date. When the Soil Conservation Service personnel were assigned to the Monroe County District and started work, we soon came in contact with these early conservationists.

Mike Heffron of near Georgetown, was one of these farmers. His old terrace system is still in use today and he has added to this system in more recent years. He also has a masonry gully control structure that was built in those early days.

Estil Gay's father, Gerald, was another one of those early conservationists. Mr. Gay established a strip cropping system that is still used by his son Estil. The Gay farm is two miles south of Albion on Highway 60.

George Scribner (deceased) of near Eddyville, constructed some terraces on the farm now owned by Dale and Alma Smith. Tunis Van Zante (deceased) of Pleasant township, constructed terraces. This is the farm now operated by his daughter and her husband, the Lloyd Stansbearys.

The conservation plan and practices were not the ultimate desired by today's standards, but nevertheless they were taking the first bold step toward a wider acceptance of such practices.

MOVIES FRIDAY —

The Monroe County District Soil Conservation office will show movies on conservation Friday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Albion High School auditorium. Grades 6, 7 and 8 in the rural schools and in Hiteman and Avery have been invited to see the films.

Soil Conservation Meeting Friday

The theme for a regional State Soil Conservation Committee meeting in Chariton Friday will be "Soil Conservation Districts Look to the Future."

The meeting is one of nine being held in the state during the last part of March.

The program will begin at 9:30 a.m. and will include a noon meal.

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Soil Conservation Aide

The other day, driving out to the Pleasant Corners community with the snow blowing and the whole countryside looking cold and deserted, I remembered my first trip over this same road. It was my first trip into the country in Monroe County. As Harold Anderson and I drove out the Avery road that wintry day in 1944, I wondered if the people who lived in those farm homes might not be as cold and unfriendly as the countryside looked; but my fears were short lived and have been dispelled many times.

Although it was the same road, and the weather was similar, there was a vast difference today. Coming across the old wooden overhead bridge, I could see the corn stocks standing in gracefully curved lines around the slopes on the Eli DeTar farm. I could see the pond on the Walter Napier farm, with its hard, frozen face giving evidence of the water that the Napiers needed so desperately a few months back.

I rounded the curve to the Lloyd Dykstra farm to see the contoured corn stocks stripped of their foliage, looking like picket fences holding the drifting snow. The terraces on H. A. Shafer's farm resembled contoured snow drifts.

The contour strip cropping on the Roy Himelick and William Baltimore farms; the contoured fields of Henrietta Van Halm and Hubert Steele; and the terraced fields of Martin Roberts' and Lloyd Stansbeary's farms, stood as a silent tribute to these farmers on this cold day, to remind us that there are those who care enough to protect the land.

There are similar conservation pictures that can be seen on other byways of the county. It is encouraging to see the progress made in such a short time.

If this sounds to you like sentimental reminiscing you are right. Nevertheless, in working with these people, as well as many others over the county, we have developed friendships that I cherish very much.

Plan Meeting On Highway Relocation

A meeting will be held March 16, at 7 p.m. at the soil conservation service office here on highway 34 relocation problems.

District highway commission officials and soil conservation service engineers will discuss erosion control structures which may be needed along the new location of the highway from Ottumwa west.

Land owners along the relocation are invited to attend.

E. W. Klodt, chairman of the soils district commissioners, said problems of rights of way, erosion, and structures, will be discussed.

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By JOHN A. BOTTS
Soil Conservation Aide

Do you believe in "water witching"?

That is the question that has been asked often during the past dry years.

The "peach branch" will turn for me. However, I haven't drilled any holes in the ground to find out if there is water.

Doyle McDaniel, who lives in the Soap Creek Valley, located 200 feet of lost tile line with this method. In fact, the technique was so accurate that we hit the tile on the first probe.

I am also asked, quite often, if I believe in terracing.

You may think this is a strange question to put to a person who has spent better than a third of his lifetime in conservation work. Not necessarily, for many people do things in which they do not believe.

Both questions are probably asked out of idle curiosity. However, I will sanction any method that gets the desired results.

If the turning of "the branch" finds water, good. If terracing keeps the hill side from washing, and it does; then I believe.

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By JOHN A. BOTTS

It was one year ago this month that Matt and Frank Chelar were rushing construction on a three-acre pond in the big gully east of the barns. Water was a critical item for the Chelar families. The shallow wells and small ponds just couldn't keep up with the heavy consumption of the ever-thirsty dairy herd and other farm water needs. Today the pond is full and overflowing. The crisis for an adequate water supply has been met. But with a large dairy herd, hay and pasture always seem to be lacking. The Chelars are taking steps to alleviate this problem.

When they bought an adjoining abandoned tract of land from the State of Iowa, it didn't look as if they had purchased much except 50 acres of problems. About a third of the area had reverted to brush. The remainder was a series of deep gullies and a sparse stand of lespedeza.

In 1957, they filled gullies and terraced about 12 acres and seeded to alfalfa and orchard grass. Last year, brush was removed from a large portion of the brushy area. This year they plan on filling the remainder of the gullies and seed to alfalfa or orchard grass.

All of those who have seen it, agree that it is an impressive reclamation project. The Chelars have transformed a hill of gullies into a mountain of green lush forage for their dairy herd.

That is the way it is with the Chelars; one step at a time toward better land use and a more permanent agriculture.

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By JOHN YOUNG

Several people have asked, "Why run a survey of Monroe county?" Actually the primary purpose of the survey being conducted by the extension service is to aid in planning its educational program.

This year the extension service is starting what is called "program projection." This is a process of planning a program for about five years in the future. In order to do as accurate a job as can be done, the planning committees need to know the county and its people as well as possible.

Only by knowing what has happened in the past can we guess with any degree of accuracy what will happen in the future. For instance, we all know we are losing farms, losing farm people, especially the younger ones, and our farms are getting larger. What we are attempting to find out by this agricultural survey is how fast or slow these things are happening. We also want to know if we are giving our 4-H members adequate training for the kinds of jobs they will move into. This type of information must be known in order to plan for the future.

The agricultural survey was sent out in mid-January and by mid-February approximately 75 per cent had been returned completed. A smaller survey of our 1947 4-H members has been completed and tabulated. Information from that should be available in the near future.

It is very gratifying to see the interest and cooperation displayed by the Monroe county people. We hope we can repay you not only with our sincere thanks, but by providing a more active and effective extension program.



Relocation Plans Studied

etailed plans for the relocation of highway 34 from Ottumwa to the Monroe county line were of great interest to farmers whose land will be affected. R. H. Given, construction engineer from the district office at Fairfield for

the state highway commission, gave attention to individual problems after he had explained the general policies on erosion control, accesses and rights of way at a meeting Monday night. (Courier photo).

State Promises Erosion Control On New Highway 34

New highways are designed to control erosion on the rights of way and on the land adjacent to the new highways and may even correct some of the poor features of drainage that now exist.

That is what R. H. Given, construction engineer for the district office of the state highway commission, told a group of about 25 farmers and landowners at a meeting Monday night at the soil conservation service office at 123½ East Second street.

Grading To Start

The meeting, which was sponsored by the Wapello county soil conservation district, was for the benefit of people who live or own land between Ottumwa and the Monroe county line which will be affected by relocation of highway 34. Grading is expected to start this summer.

Given said the erosion control program for this 10-mile

stretch would cost about \$25,000.

Plans call for the new highway to be 24 feet wide. However, the right of way is being bought for four lanes and will

be from 180 to about 400 feet wide, according to the demands of shoulders for cuts and fills.

Given explained that highway 34 is expected to be a four-laner by 1975.

Given told the group the rights of way would probably be bought within the next 30 days and there was nothing they could do to stop the construction of the highway.

"All that needs to be determined is the price the farmer will receive for the land," Given said. He further explained the actions that could be taken by the landowners if the price offered by the appraisers did not meet their expectations.

How Many Accesses?

Although the meeting was called to explain the erosion control measures employed by the highway commission, many of the farmers showed more interest in the number of roads they would be allowed to and under the highway. Many showed concern on this matter since their farms would be divided by the road.

Given explained that all accesses on new highways are at right angles, a safety measure.

four-buckle overshoes, too short to be of any good. All of these, plus a few more unpleasanties to plague the farmer, make him wish at times he had taken up cigar-making as an occupation.

But, in spite of all the adverse conditions, they keep right on making plans for the coming work season.

Albin Walberg wants a gully control structure; Ronald Goode, terraces; Bill Mahin, pond close to lots; Everett Gardner, strip cropping and diversion. So goes the list that have requested assistance.

Yes, it may be an old-fashioned spring, but that isn't all; for the people have that old-fashioned faith in tomorrow.

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This spring many farmers will be shaping in gullies and seeding to grasses. Whether the gully is large or small, we must recognize that the most important steps in establishing a good grassed waterway follows after the dozer has completed its work.

Of course, the objective is to get a good stand of grass and have continued vigorous growth. To do this, most farmers have found that it takes about twice the normal amount of grass seed per acre (24 pounds) and 400 to 500 pounds of 12-12-12 fertilizer per acre. These figures may seem high, but after considering the small acreage involved in a given waterway the expenditure is small.

An excellent example of a job well done is on Carl Carlson's farm. The gully started at the west property line near highway 137 and runs east. Carl shaped this gully in the spring of 1957.

Although he had other pressing jobs to be done, Carl gave this one top priority for the day.

Within minutes after the dozer had completed its work, he had started seedbed preparation and the application of fertilizer, seed and mulch. He also used a light covercrop seeding of oats. The project received a reasonably hard rain that night, but was unaffected, primarily because of the mulching and extra compaction received by the seedbed preparation.

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tion. The waterway weathered a severe rainstorm later when the new seeding had a 3 to 4 inch growth.

This particular waterway, as well as others, seems to point up one thing. It is very important to give the new grading adequate treatment immediately after the dirt work is done.

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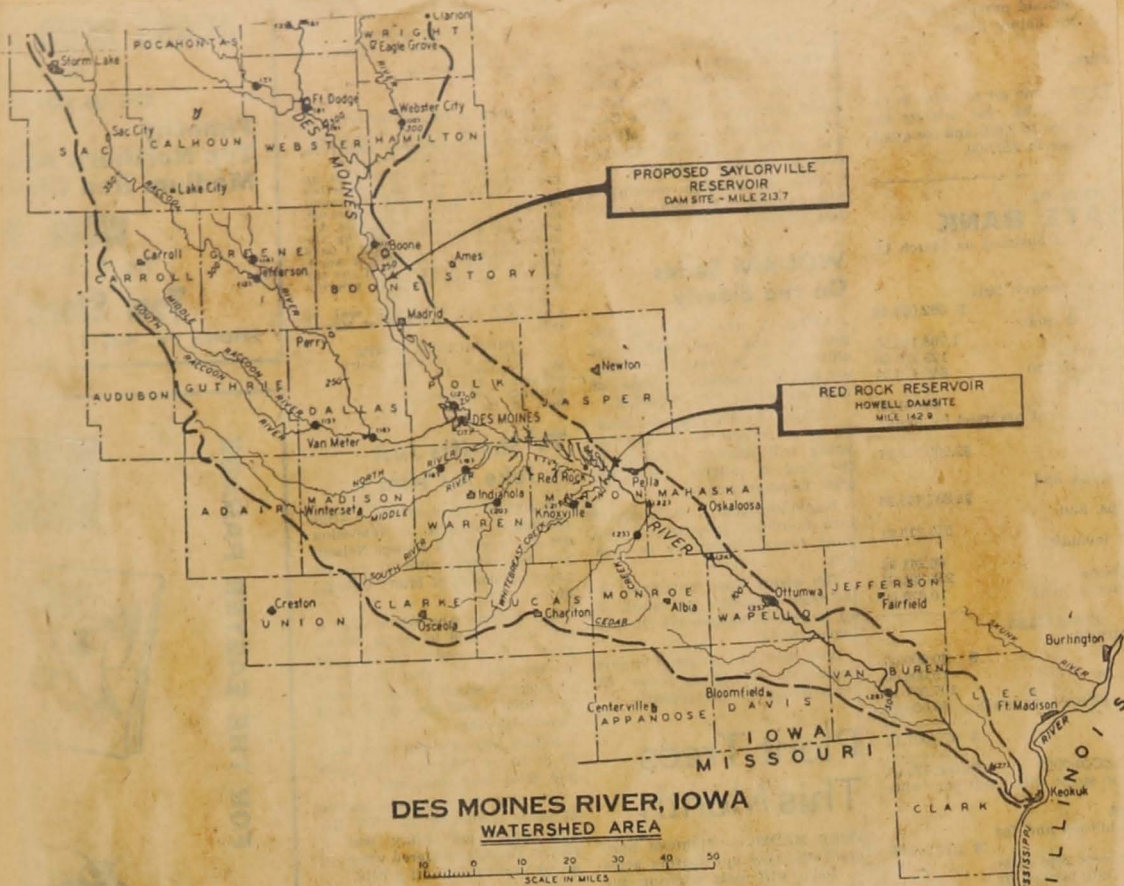
By JOHN A. BOTTS

They say we are having an old-fashioned spring.

Ducks swimming in a corn field. Mud holes in the road on top of hills where there shouldn't be. Large water holes in a corn field, which tell us in a vivid way where the surface drainage ditches are needed.

The stink of the feed lots and the snow to be shoveled. The

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DES MOINES RIVER, IOWA
WATERSHED AREA

Courtesy the Pella Chronicle.

This map of the Des Moines River Watershed Area shows the locations of proposed dams at Saylorville, north of Des Moines, and Red Rock, near Pella. The basin includes Cedar Creek, running from west of Albia to the Des Moines River in western Mahaska county. The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers will hold a public hearing at the Madison County Court House in Winterset

April 13 to receive information from interested parties favoring or disapproving of the projects, or offering other suggestions pertaining to drainage and flood control or related problems in the basin. Written statements may be mailed to Col. E. M. Fry, Corps of Engineers, Clock Tower Building, Rock Island.

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It's tree planting time again. Farmers as well as townspeople are getting the urge to start planting all kinds of trees: apple, peach, shade trees, etc. The high moisture content of the soil and a little care in handling of the planting stock should make survival almost a certainty.

Cap Witmer, the State Forester, reported that he had checked planting sites for six farmers. Wayne Thompson is planting 2,000 white pine and 2,000 red pine; John Heffron, 500 red pine and 500 Austrian pine; Lyle Hasselhuhn, 1,000 white pine, 500 red

pine and 500 Austrian pine; Francis Daub, 3,000 red pine, 1,000 white pine and 1,000 Austrian pine; Kenneth Hinton, 1,500 red pine and 1,500 Austrian pine.

Donald Berto is planting 1,000 white pine, 1,000 red pine and 2,000 Austrian pine. They will be planted next to highway 137. It will be interesting for people driving by to check the progress of their growth.

Billy McGilvery is continuing his practice of planting additional multiflora rose each year for living fences. He will be planting 500 plants. Bobby Heffron is starting his first large planting of multiflora rose for a fence.

The planting of multiflora rose for a fence isn't new to Bobby. The Heffrons have had roses planted around a pond and along

lot fences for some time and have observed its use on their neighbor John Cowles' farm. Cowles has the most extensive planting of rose fences in this area.

April 1959

75 Farmers In Soil Bank

The Monroe County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Office announced Wednesday that 75 farmers had signed conservation reserve contracts by April 4.

The contracts placed 4,821.5 acres in the soil bank reserve.

County director Philip O'Brien reminded the 75 farmers that the 1959 contracts, in most cases, went into effect Wednesday.

In cases of a conservation practice beginning on reserved land before April 15, the contract takes effect when the practice begins. After the contract takes effect the farmer may neither graze livestock nor harvest a crop on the reserved land.

Participants who are uncertain of requirements are urged to contact O'Brien.

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In the course of our work, we meet hundreds of enthusiastic people, and W. A. Heffron is one of them. He seeded 63 acres to birdsfoot trefoil in 1957 and had such good results that he plans on seeding 140 acres this year.

I first heard of this excellent seeding from other farmers, and their enthusiasm in describing Bill's success in establishing this outstanding pasture legume aroused my curiosity. Their praise was justified, for here is a truly wonderful stand of trefoil. The dense growth makes it impossible to just stroll across the hillside. It requires lifting the feet high, like wading in water.

Bill says that his method of getting the good stand was quite simple. He followed soil test recommendations for liming and fertilizing and prepared a good seed bed by discing.

After the seed was sown, he rolled the seed bed with a cultipacker to cover seed and firm the soil.

Apparently, in seeding trefoil, it has to be "whole hog or none." There hasn't been much success in establishing trefoil by mixing it with other legume seeding.

Free Tuition To Teachers

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District Commissioners will pay tuition for two teachers to the Iowa Teachers Conservation Camp.

It is possible to earn three graduate or undergraduate semester hours credit in three weeks of study, or six hours in six weeks.

The camp is located in Springbrook State Park, seven miles north of Guthrie Center.

Living will be in cabins and meals are furnished in a central dining hall.

Two courses, both acceptable as natural science requirements, are offered. Sessions start June 7, June 28 and July 19.

Further information may be obtained from the Soil Conservation Service, room 203 of the Post Office, or the County Superintendent's Office in the Court House.

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A. S. C. Funds Available

Philip O'Brien, chairman of the Monroe County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation office, announced today there are funds still available for cost-sharing of conservation practices in Monroe county.

O'Brien stated, "The future prosperity of this nation necessitates the protection and maintenance of our land and water resources. Conservation of these resources is urgent, and it pays." In Monroe county there are 22 practices eligible for cost-sharing. The government pays from 50 to 80 per cent of the cost, depending on the practice.

All farmers are eligible to participate in the practices. O'Brien emphasized, however, that an application must be filed before the practice is started if the farmer is to be eligible for payment from the ASC.

O'Brien urged farmers to check the needs of their particular farms and then stop at the ASC

office for complete information on practices being offered.

The practices offered in the county and the extent of participation during the 1958 program year are:

Permanent vegetative cover crop—1,675 acres, 99 farms.

Limestone—21,854 tons, 347 farms.

Tree planting and shrubs—33 acres, 10 farms.

Ponds for livestock water—132 ponds, 130 farms.

Establishing permanent sod waterways—55,878 cubic yards, 48 farms.

Establishment of permanent vegetative protection against erosion—822,000 square feet, 55 farms.

Standard terraces—16,458,000 linear feet, 37 farms.

Division terraces—29,555,000 linear feet, 26 farms.

Erosion control dams—30,797 cubic yards, 6 farms.

Drainage open ditches—5,720 cubic yards, 7 farms.

Vegetative cover to protect cropland throughout the crop year—2,437 acres, 134 farms.

Contour farming inter-tilled crops—586 acres, 22 farms.

Contour strip-cropping, tree planting for prevention of wind and water erosion, and tilling—small amounts.

Also: wells for livestock water, brush control, green manure.

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Conservationist Lists Best Trees for Monroe County

Monroe County Soil Conservationist Dale Barker today listed a variety of trees suitable for planting in Monroe county. The actual choice would be determined by the purpose of the trees and the individual preferences of the planter.

If the trees are to be used for windbreaks, several soft-wood

and five hard-wood trees are recommended.

The soft-woods include Austrian, red and white pines, blue and Norwegian spruce, Douglas fir and white cedar.

The recommended hard-woods are Russian olive, willow, soft maple, red mulberry and red elm. Austrian, red and white pines are available from state conser-

vation nurseries in orders of 500 or more to be used in conservation projects by farmers. It was necessary, however, for orders to be placed by March 15. In 1958 40,000 trees were distributed and planted by Monroe county farmers.

A fast-growing tree recommended is the cottonwood.

The others are slower-growing. The list includes the hard maple, black walnut and white oak. The white oak is well-known for its wide spread of branches.

The list is not inclusive, and Barker says he and Mrs. Barker might even plant a magnolia tree.

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Conservation Commission Expects Large Number of Brood Fish for This Summer

State Conservation Commission fish hatcheries are in full swing with indications that favorable weather may extend the spring run and produce a higher yield of brood fish than fisheries officials first forecast.

Trout hatching operations at Strawberry Point are on schedule with effort being divided about equally between trout hatching and stocking. Trout stocking is proceeding on schedule and legal-size trout are being stocked as fast as weather permits.

One of the brightest spots in the spring hatchery picture has been the northern pike collection at the Lansing collecting station in extreme northeast Iowa. The operation, which got underway as soon as the Mississippi cleared of ice, has produced three million northern fry.

"These fish will be used for restocking of areas suffering winter kill," Ken M. Madden, superintendent of fisheries, said.

Hatching of walleye pike is approaching a peak at Lansing, Clear Lake and Spirit Lake, and may get a boost from the weatherman.

"Recent cold weather has apparently changed the pattern of spring-run walleyes. The peak of the run was expected about April 14 but cold weather has slowed it somewhat. We now expect an extension by two, and possibly three weeks in the collecting phase of hatchery operations. Of course, water and air temperatures will have some influence on the length of the run," Madden said.

In fish collection, adult fish, heavy with eggs and sperm, are collected in gill-nets every night during the spring run. Hatchery crews then "strip" eggs and sperm from the adult fish by applying a gentle, steady pressure along the underside of the fish's stomach. After careful handling, brood fish are returned unharmed to the water. The eggs and sperm are then mixed by the fish culturist and the fertilized eggs are placed in large glass jars inside the hatchery. Here a continuous flow of lake or well water is forced into the jars at both top and bottom, keeping the

eggs in constant suspension. The action very closely simulates natural spawning conditions over wave or current-washed gravel. The hatching time varies five days to two weeks depending on water temperatures.

In addition to northern and walleye production at the Lansing and Sabul stations, these two hatcheries have also replaced necessary largemouth and smallmouth bass brood stocks for bass hatching unit in southern and central Iowa. The Wapello and Mount Air hatcheries have been busy pairing and sorting brood fish for hatchery ponds and pre-

paring both hatchery and rearing ponds to receive fish.

Some northern pike and walleyes will put on the first few inches of their growth in the protected waters of the bass rearing ponds, Madden said. For a six-week period these fish will live in protected surroundings where they will attain one to three inches of growth before their release. The idea behind it all is that the early protection will carry the fish over the first critical hurdles in life such as flooding and turbid (muddy) water, and put them in better shape to compete when released.

Plant Sudangrass Pasture Before May 25, ISC Says

AMES—Sudangrass planted before May 25 can furnish mid-summer grazing for much of Iowa's livestock. Extension Agronomist Dwayne A. Rohwedder said today at Iowa State College.

It should be planted on fertile soil, or fertilized with above 50 pounds of actual nitrogen per acre and about 40 pounds of available phosphate. A soil test report will tell the exact amounts of fertilizer to use, Rohwedder said.

You prepare the seedbed the same as for corn, he added. Seeding rates vary from 15 to 25 pounds per acre. Stands of Sudangrass can graze two to three

head of mature livestock from July 1 to frost if handled right.

Sudangrass needs heavy grazing. You may need to mow it to stimulate new growth. These pastures serve well in rotational grazing systems, allowing growth to come back to other pastures.

Recommended varieties for use in Iowa are Puer and Greenleaf, Rohwedder said. Piper Sudangrass makes early, rapid growth, recovers well after grazing, grows late in the fall, is low in prussic acid and is a high-yielding variety. It is also more disease resistant than some others.

Greenleaf has a satisfactory yield. It is one of the sweet type

Over The County

With SCS and Extension Personnel

By JOHN A. BOTTS

The silence of Winter has ended. The rushing water of the spring thaw is gone and the riders of the great insect hordes have made their appearance. Truly "Spring is bust-in out all over" in Monroe county land.

The steady purr of the farm tractors and the high pitched whine of the seeders are the sounds of the day as the farmers field work gets under way. The big bulldozers are at work on the Lyle Haselhuber's and Henry Fynaard's farms in Pleasant township building terraces. D. E. Cooper of Franklin township has gotten waterways shaped. Harry Parker in Franklin township built the first pond of the new work season.

Mike Knowles, east of Melrose had a number of small ditches shaped for sod waterways and has seeded the whole field, about 45 acres, to birdsfoot, trefoil and orchard grass. Trefoil is not a new pasture legume to Mike. He has been using it for pasture seedings a number of years.

Seed suppliers have reported large sales of seed of all kinds. One merchant said he had sold 3 tons of orchard grass and would need an additional amount to supply his customers with this excellent pasture grass.

april 1959

Over The County

With SCS and Extension Personnel

By JOHN A. BOTTS

Farming may be a "man's world," but sometimes it takes a woman to arrive at a logical conclusion to a problem.

Mrs. Lydia Hamilton, a widow who operates her 80-acre farm near Hiteman, couldn't see the logic in permitting the drainage from 20 acres of hill land to drain into the center of a bottomland field—drowning out crops. So, she built a diversion terrace to correct this situation.

Neither could she see why large gullies should continue their destructive march up the hillside. Three of the big ones are now shaped in and seeded to grass. In her words, "they might as well be growing grass and besides they look bad."

These are projects that she has been planning since last fall. She is now making plans for further work of this kind next year. Apparently, Mrs. Hamilton is a person who believes in taking the direct approach to a problem.

Over The County

With SCS and Extension Personnel

By JOHN A. BOTTS

The phone rang at 5:30 a.m. I answered, trying to sound wide awake.

"John, what are you doing?" As if he didn't know.

I answered, "Sleeping."

"This late in the day? The sun is shining!"

"Yes, I know. I can see a bit of light outside." All the time I was trying to place this familiar voice that was trying to convey the idea that he had been up and at it for hours.

"Do you always sleep this late? The sun is shining!"

"Yes, I know, but it was dark when I went to bed."

"This is Vern Nash. How busy are you? Pretty busy, I suppose?"

"Well, yes, what do you need?"

"The dozer is coming to start on the terraces in a couple of days. He will have plenty to keep him busy for a while. I wanted to let you know and see if I couldn't get another two miles of terraces staked. I have the plow out now and can mark them. When can you come?"

"I don't know. It all depends on how fast we get along with the work we have lined up now. We could get there much faster if my sleep isn't interrupted too often. We'll see you last of this week. O. K.?"

"That will be fine. You know the sun is shining, don't you? I hope you'll forgive me for calling at this hour. But, it is really later than you think."

Yes, it's "later than you think" when we consider that half of the top soil in Monroe county has already washed away.

may 1959

Over The County

With SCS and Extension Personnel

By JOHN A. BOTTS

This week the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts, invited churches of all denominations to join in the observance of Soil Stewardship Week. No doubt many of you heard inspiring sermons last Sunday on man's obligation in his use of God's gifts of soil, water, plants and wildlife.

It is interesting to note what some famous people of our past have had to say on this subject. Here are a few of their statements.

"He is the greatest patriot who stops the most gullies." Patrick Henry.

"While the farmer holds title to the land, actually it belongs to all the people because civilization itself rests upon the soil."

"Those who labor in the earth are the chosen people of God—whose breasts he has made his

may 1959

may 1959

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN A. BOTTS

Last Sunday, we in America honored our mothers. Essentially, we were honoring womanhood, and we should, for much of the progress of our civilization has been due to their ability to adapt to the changing times.

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District does not have many women as district cooperators, primarily because very few women are land owners. Incidentally, this happens to be the reverse of many other districts. But, nevertheless, those who are cooperators have been uncompromising in their endeavor to establish a sound conservation plan for their farm.

Women like Vivian Rampy Townsley, one of the conservation award winners in 1957, feels responsible to leave the land to her sons in better shape than when she acquired it. Showing courage when drouth and insects threatened to undo all of her plans, teaching her sons with wisdom the ways to conserve soil and water, always unafraid of public opinion and taking comfort in the knowledge that the good earth would reward them for their labor, she adhered to her original conservation plan.

Maybe the reason women make such staunch conservationists is that they delight in the beauty of nature about them and know that conservation helps to preserve and multiply that beauty.

may 1959

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN A. BOTTS

In spite of the adverse working conditions, terrace building may hit an all-time high for spring construction in the Monroe County Soil Conservation District. Although the soil was wet to begin with and the top-frequent rains have made it even more difficult for contractors to find dry fields to work, they and the farmers have cooperated to get the needed job done.

Farmers who had them completed when heavy local rainstorms hit are convinced that it was worth waiting to do field work until the contractor could complete construction of their terrace systems.

These are the farmers who have completed terraces or have terraces under construction at the present time:

Robert Gibbs, 3,350 feet; Albert Benson, 3,500; James Conway, 2,400; Henry Conway, 2,450; Ronald Goode, 600; Lyle Hasselhuhn, 9,550; H. A. Shafel, 3,200; Bill Hughes, 2,900; James Wilson, 800; B. F. Ullen, and Russell Brown, 5,650; Andy Mosley, 1,850; John Blomgren, 2,000; J. V. Nash, 21,650; Harold Lemons, 1,800; Wayne Thompson, 3,750; J. H. Bickert, 4,350; Dale Christensen, 7,950; Pat Riordan, 2,000; Carl Kietzman, 9,500; and Henry Fynaardt, 6,300.

Stewardship



may 1959

This land was my father's. Now it is mine. Often, as I work upon it, the words of Genesis come to me: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." And I think, too, of those other words from the same Book: "The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to till it and to keep it."

God entrusted the precious soil to us, and it is our duty to use it well. But he gave us stewardship of something even more precious—our souls. Just as we must care for the land, so must we enrich ourselves, spiritually. And the place in which to cultivate our souls is the Church.

Let us take a lesson from the land, which when well used is wonderfully productive, yet when neglected brings only aridity and erosion. Let us care for our spiritual as well as our physical fields. Let's go to church!

District Here in 1954

Organized Soil Conservation Efforts Began in Monroe County 30 Years Ago

Editor's Note: The following article on Soil Conservation in Monroe County was prepared by Sterling B. Martin for use during the Centennial Celebration. It is being printed this week both because of the historical interest and because Governor Herschel C. Loveless has proclaimed the week of June 7-14 as Soil Conservation week.

By STERLING MARTIN

When people came to Monroe county a hundred years ago to establish homes in a new country conservation was perhaps the least of their worries. The early settlers found a rich virgin soil, abundant bluestem, buffalo and other prairie grasses, good timber along creeks, streams and on the hills. These were the things desired and needed to make a living and build homesteads.

The original "do it yourself" had its true inception in those days for the simple reason manufactured articles and foods were not available.

A common practice by the early settlers was to homestead on open prairie, but also claim or obtain 40 acre tract of timber not too far away to provide the lumber for building log cabins for temporary shelter and later for

frames for houses, barns and rails for lots and small field fences.

The settlers did practice conservation to a degree by taking with them, or securing soon after, trees for shade, and by cultivating the more level land. But as more settlers came land was cleared of brush and timber, more rolling land was plowed, occasional prairie fires and more livestock grazing exposed the top soil to the effects of water, wind and freezing.

These conditions before many years began to call attention to the fact that sooner or later conservation would be a problem. But it was not until after the turn of the century that the problem of saving soil became more intensified. Then the cry of World War I was "Food will win the war." "Produce more food,"

etc. Farmers did their part but in so doing, added to the growing problem of saving soil and water. From that time on conservation has been the concern of the good farmers as well as the men, civic groups, churches and schools.

Historically speaking, the facts on the conservation

of the Iowa State College Extension Service, met with local Farm Bureau officials and local business men to present features and possibilities of a four (4) county organization group on the problem of soil and water conservation.

On February 22, 1930 (George Washington's birthday), he is recognized as a great practical conservationist in farming, the first four-county soil conservation association was organized at a meeting in Albia, Monroe, Appanoose, Wapello and Mahaska counties had delegates present and became the cooperating groups in this association. Paul Strieler, a farmer from near Centerville, was named president of the Association. Paul Weichman was secured through the Extension Service as specialist to work in the four counties.

The program of work approved in the first year's activities included five major practices: limestone, fertilizers, tree planting, soil erosion and soil service. A brief summary of the first year's work shows that 260 soil samples were tested for acidity and 1,260 tons of lime were ordered for 57 farmers, mainly in the eastern part of the county. Cooperating with the Wabash Railroad, soil testing demonstrations were held at the stations in Lovilia, Albia and Moxavia.

The first terracing in Monroe county was demonstrated in that first year on five farms: Earl Turner in Troy township, Dr. Scott and C. A. Dykstra in Bluff Creek township, Tom Vanderpol in Pleasant township and Ralph Mason in Mantua township. To start a tree planting program for gully control five farmers planted Black Locust seed and produced about 5,000 seedlings for planting in 1931. Those men were: Earl Turner, Gus Shelquist and John Underation in Troy township, Ralph Turner in Franklin township and Sterling Martin in Wayne township.

In 1931 more demonstrations were established: terracing on the farms of H. A. Shafer, Tunis Van Zante and George Scribner in Pleasant township and Mike Heffron in Gulfport township. A large tree planting demonstration for gully control was started on the Martin farm in Wayne township on highway 34 where nearly 5,000 trees were set out. Black Locust in the gully, Evergreens, Black Walnut and Green Ash in the area just above the gully. This project was enlarged later with the help of the C.C.C. camp.

The work of the four-county organization was continued in 1932 and 1933, but as some of the counties dropped out it was combined with some of the counties from a later association to the west into a six-county association. Mr. Lester Clapp carried on this work after Mr. Weichman went to another field of work.

During the 1930's two new programs of a Federal and cooperating state agencies entered the field of assisting farmers in combating the problems of conservation. The C.C.C. (Civilian Conservation Corps) did some more or less temporary work in terracing the small ditch damming.

The other agency was the Federal Farm Program first known as the A.A.A. (Agricultural Adjustment Administration) which has changed titles a few times as the laws were changed. It entered the field of conservation in a practical manner by giving assistance to individual farm-

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION WEEK

WHEREAS, the development of Iowa land and water resources through soil and water conservation, flood prevention, and wise use, is essential to maintain farm income and protect the agricultural economy of the State, and

WHEREAS, the State of Iowa as a whole, and within the one hundred Soil Conservation Districts of the State in particular, is coordinating and carrying forward a constructive program of soil and water conservation and related flood prevention work, and

WHEREAS, it is the utmost importance that we continue our cooperative efforts in soil and water conservation work, particularly in small watersheds, where opportunities are offered to advance this all important work,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Herschel C. Loveless, Governor of the State of Iowa, in order to call attention to the importance of this work, do hereby declare and proclaim the week of June 7 through June 14, 1959, as

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION WEEK

and respectfully urge organizations and citizens of our State to participate in the programs in order that we may place even greater emphasis on this very important work.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Iowa. Done at Des Moines this 30th day of April in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-nine.

HERSCHEL C. LOVELESS
Governor.

Attest:
MELVIN D. SYNHORST
Secretary of State.

ers in every township. On a cost share basis, farmers were given aid to establish one or more of several approved practices on their farms. Greater emphasis in the early years of this program was to encourage use of more agricultural lime to correct soil acidity for growing more legumes for soil improvement, conserving, grass seeding, timber improvement, pasture renovation and gully control were added and through the years to the present much good has come from this source.

The U.S.D., Soil Conservation Service also became more active in Iowa, working in cooperation with the Extension Service and with local County Soil Improvement organizations. State-wide interest became so great the Iowa General Assembly in 1939 passed the Iowa Soil Conservation District law which would permit any county to organize a county-wide minor civil division with legal status for the purpose of soil and water conservation.

In the meantime, Iowa State College, a "land grant" institution, conducted soil surveys in most Iowa counties and published with U.S.D.A. supervisors, bulletins showing actual soil types, drainage and other characteristics. The survey in Monroe county was made in the early thirties.

Several Iowa counties started to organize Soil Conservation Districts as soon as the new Iowa law became effective. However, Monroe County had started in 1941 the Farm Unit Test Demonstration program which continued two or three years with 75 cooperating farmers in all townships of the county.

In the fall of 1943 the Monroe County Farm Bureau passed a resolution recommending the facilities of that organization cooperating with other local groups and individuals be offered to help organize the Monroe County Soil Conservation District. During the winter of 1943-1944 County Extension Director Charles Greenlee spent much of his time in the preliminary work of organization.

Farmers in every township assisted with the petition, calling for a hearing by the Iowa Soil Conservation Committee to determine the feasibility of the unit and give its approval. The necessary 20 per cent of landowners

Proclamation

T. A. Allgood, F. J. Steele, Roy Himelick, H. A. Shafer and Merrill Hunter, all of Pleasant township.

Harold Anderson of the Soil Conservation Service field staff was secured for the position of Farm Planner. He began his work with the district on July 1, 1944. John Batts of the Soil Conservation Service was assigned to the district as a conservation aide December 1 of the same year. With these technicians, the district began an action program to provide interested farmers with assistance in developing conservation plans for their farms and technical help in applying soil and water conserving practices.

In 1949, Monroe county's Representative James W. Foster, introduced the "State Soil Appropriation Bill" in the Iowa General Assembly. This was passed, and for the first time in history the state of Iowa was furnishing financial assistance to a soil conservation program. This additional money enabled the district to provide full time office help and additional technicians and equipment. The first office help was provided in September of 1949 with the employment of Pauline Flattery. Robert Judge was hired as a conservation aide in October of the same year.

Through the years, there were changes in personnel. Dale Barker replaced Harold Anderson as farm planner; Patricia Goodwin, Carol Antolik as clerks; James Shevlin, Orval Plum, Lyle Cloyd and Joe Evans as aides, but the district program continued to grow in scope and service to the farmers.

The district initiated a conservation course that is taught in all of the county schools. It was a co-sponsor with FBYP in holding contour plowing contests. The tours and conservation fields days that the district holds are designed to better acquaint the public with conservation practices. The ultimate goal of the district is to put every acre of land to its best use. The following practices have been accomplished toward this goal: contoured acres 26,245; terraces 141 miles; 878 farm ponds; 36 drop inlet structures; 102 acres planted for wildlife; 414 ponds stocked with fish; 1,328 acres of improve seedlings on pasture land; 778 acres of strip cropping; 178 acres planted to trees; 931 acres of woodland under management plans; 2,085 rods of hedge row planting; 1,069,000 feet of tile drains; 16 miles of open ditches constructed; 56 miles of diversions; 274

ALBIA UNION-REPUBLICAN 3
Albia, Iowa (Monroe County)
Thursday, June 11, 1959

acres of waterways seeded; 154 thousands acres have been soil survey.

This is a record of some of the people and some of the things that they have done to help in the restoration of our land.

The work of the Soil Conservation District, the Extension Service, Agricultural Soil and Conservation agency have continually expanded service to Monroe county in helping solve the problems of Soil and Water Conservation.

The District has developed individual farm plans on 415 farms in the county, covering some 88,000 acres.

Those who have served as commissioners since the start of the District are: James Foster, Sterling Martin, Elva Hawk, Alton Wilcox, Frank Bell, Pat Carbin, Bob McGinnis and John Spencer. Those who have served as assistant commissioners are: Paul Wignall, Robert Lott, Pat Carbin, Freeman West, Ray McCollum, Harold Hawk, John L. Ryan, Francis Hamilton, Clifford Belzer and Howard Dieks.

In conclusion it may be said that conservation has received the earnest efforts of not only farmers, but business and professional men, civic groups, schools, 4-H, F.F.A., and many others in the development and practice of conservation activities.



—Ver Buere Albion Studio Photos.

Cedar Creek Becomes a River

Heavy rainfall Wednesday night, which measured 2½ inches during four hours at Melrose, sent Cedar Creek out of its banks. Early Thursday morning the creek covered parts of the lowlands in the south part of Melrose. By 11 a.m. Thursday, when this photograph was taken, the water extended more than a quarter mile from the normal course of the creek at some spots. Farther west, near Lucas,

White Breast Creek left its bed and washed out both the east- and west-bound C. B. & Q. railroad tracks. The high water flowed into the Des Moines river and imperiled the towns of Tracy and Eddyville. In the 24-hour period ending Friday morning the river rose 6½ feet at Eddyville, reaching a stage of 17¼ feet by 9 a.m. The river crested Friday night.

Over The County

With SCS and Extension Personnel

By JOHN A. BOTTS

Farmers of Monroe county are often plagued with gullies and wonder what to do about them. Sealing gullies can be an expensive process, but in most instances it is not and can prove to be profitable to the farmer when the cost of broken machinery, livestock lost in the deep gully, and the unproductive acres are considered.

The cost can even be less to the farmer when he takes advantage of the "cost-sharing" program carried out through the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation program. Under this program, the farmer pays less than half the cost of the entire project, for both the dirt moving and the seeding.

The first step the farmer must take to benefit from this "cost-sharing" program is to request assistance from the A.S.C. committee. The second part of the project is to have a technician from the Soil Conservation Service make a field inspection to determine whether it would be practical and what method should be taken to stabilize the gully.

That is what Manford Derry has done. The gully on his farm has 20 acres drainage and can be brought to a stable grade by shaping and seeding. Typical of many gullies, it has a four-foot over-fall that has moved back into the cropland about 600 feet and a second over-fall has started. This over-fall is only a foot high, but was started cutting by water falling over the tree roots.

Shaping in a big gully and seeding to grasses isn't new to Manford. He shaped and seeded one in 1957 that ran the width of 40 acres. In fact, conservation work of all kinds isn't new to him. He started conservation work in a small way back in 1947 and has been doing some each year to bring him closer to the completion of a sound con-

servation plan, a plan that gives the Derrys a high-producing farm with little or no soil loss. Terracing, contour farming, grassed waterways, pasture improvement, farm ponds, soil testing for better crops and wiser use of the fertilizer dollar — all of these have been the stepping stones to a better living for the Derry family.

Over The County

With SCS and Extension Personnel

By JOHN A. BOTTS

A black cat that was sucking eggs at the Kenneth Bennett farm was locked in a building with the pet lambs. In due time, Mr. Tom Cat was released along with the lambs. By that time, the cat had developed such a deep love for the pet lambs that he has adopted them for his very own. Hunting birds and field mice, he would bring his prey to the yard and lay it before the lambs.

Another cat story has to do with one at the Roy Scott's farm. The Scotts had torn down an old shed and they found a den of young skunks. They decided to put them in with a mother cat and her kittens. She immediately adopted them, but soon realized that her facilities for feeding that many hungry mouths just wasn't there. So, she moved half of the kittens and half of the baby skunks to a second nest. With this "set up," she could accommodate all of them.

When making a call at the farm, Dr. Pat Peterson, on request from the Scotts, removed the scent bags from the skunks. The mother cat raised the skunks to maturity, but one day they left the protective custody of the Scott farmstead and rejoined their relatives of the wild.

Some people will think these are strange stories of the animal kingdom just as they will consider it unusual for a white man to show compassion for people of other races.

This may not be a conversation story, but maybe our basic underlying attitudes toward future generations is our stumbling block that prevents us from becoming great conservationists.

List A.S.C. Candidates

A large number of nominations have been made for Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation township committees. Petitions for nomination signed by 10 or more eligible voters will be received by election board chairmen until 5 p.m. Monday. Ballots will be mailed to farmers about Thursday.

Each township will select a board of five committeemen with the candidate receiving the largest number of votes chairman.

The township election board chairmen are Bluff Creek, Clifford Davis; Franklin, L. Carl Van Zante; Guilford, Pat C. C. Sr.; Jackson, Dave McGee; Monroe, Kenneth Free; Pleasant, Paul Wignall; Troy, Gail Hinton; Union, Albert Etcher; Urbana, J. E. Robinson; and Cedar, Clark Ryan.

Two townships have not reported nominees. Those reported in other townships are:

Bluff Creek—John Bain, Dick Boender, Jack Harris, Carl Kietzman Jr., Rex McCombs, John Mellick, George M. Moore, Guy Silvers Jr., and Harry Wilson.

Cedar—Leonard Siedler, Lawrence McGinn, William Peter, Russell Maddy, Dick Allen, James F. Barron, William G. Welsh, M. Leo Beary, Clark Bingham and M. H. Klingensmith.

Franklin—Lloyd Ammons, James Calhoun, Darrell E. Cooper, Edward Haver, Basil Herten, Emory Kehrberg, W. G. O'Hara, K. C. Potts, Earl Swift and B. F. Whitehead.

Guilford—Pete Coady, John Joe Crall, Bill Cummins, Fred Hilliard Jr., Joe M. Judge, Walter Lahart, James Mahoney, Thomas Ed O'Brien, George Rowley and Albert Sterk.

Jackson—Walter Abbas, John L. Coady, James A. Conway, John R. Conway, Gerald Hannam, Jack Murphy, Joe Ryan, John J. Ryan, Ed Sullivan and Gene Walsh.

Monroe—Richard Bentzinger, Clifford Caster, Leo Caster, E. Estil Gay, Russell Gillaspie, DeWayne Johnson, Donald McCloud, Bob McGinnis, Wendell Murdy and Francis Turner.

Pleasant—George Antollik, Donald Berto, Gerald Boender, Albert DeGeus, Henry DeJong, Roy F. Himelick, N. L. Kirby, George

Osing, John Sterk and Kenneth Weiland.

Troy—Earl Albertson, Lawrence Amoss, Lawrence W. Amoss (Plute), Harold Benson, Wilbur Bivens, Ed Crall, Handy D. Davis, Bernard Dieks, Eldred Estlack and John E. Spencer.

Union—Phillip Barnes, Robert Barnes, John Blomgren, Floyd (Bill) Chance, Lloyd Clark, Harlan Dunkin, James Henderson, Lawrence Livengood, Floyd Parker and Francis Smith.

Urbana—Ross E. Boyd, Hugh Crawley, Chester Gillen, Junior Leffler, Warren Proctor, C. D. Talbert, A. R. Townsend, Marvin V. Vance, Melvin Vanderpol and William D. Wilson.

Field Day Here Tuesday At Experimental Farm

The annual field day at the Iowa State College pasture improvement farm southwest of Albia will be held Tuesday. County Extension Director John Young says.

Farm managers and owners, farm supply dealers and people connected with farm business, as well as many farm operators in Monroe county are expected to attend. Work on pasture treatments, needs for long-term meadows on sloping land, needs for intensive row crop on level land and use of new minimum tillage practices will be shown and discussed at the field day. Young says many of these methods will apply profitably to rolling farms in Monroe county.

The program will begin at 1 p.m. with a showing and discussion of corn land, prepared by minimum tillage methods.

Agronomist Dwayne Rohwender of ISC will follow the tillage presentation with a showing of the effect of starter fertilizer for corn on this land, along with a discussion of the "philosophy" of starter fertilizer.

Agronomist T. M. Scholl of ISC will show the different beef-production results obtained with two different systems of grazing in the pasture experiments at the Albia farm. The field day visitors

will see experimental plots in which alfalfa, seeded with orchardgrass, increased the total estimated hay equivalent yield from less than 1½ tons per acre to more than 3½ tons, nearly doubling the yield. When 60 pounds of commercial fertilizer per acre per year was added, the hay-equivalent yield of the pasture was raised to more than 3½ tons per acre.

Sylvia Runkel of the Soil Conservation Service at Ottumwa will show the experimental farm's pond, telling how to manage a pond for fishing and swimming, as well as to provide livestock water. A pond built with water losses. A pond built with water losses. A pond built with water losses.

Young said he'd be glad to have any person or group wanting to know more about what's going on at the Albia farm, phone or see him at his office in Albia. The phone number is 652.

Pick O'Brien As Chairman

Philip O'Brien, Jackson township farmer, was re-elected Saturday as chairman of the Monroe County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee. His one-year term and the terms of other county and township officers begin Saturday.

Walter E. Gardner, Bluff Creek township, was re-elected vice chairman.

Wayne Clark, Monroe township, was chosen regular member and Leonard Vance, Mantua township, and Marvin Vance, Urbana township, were picked as alternate members of the county committee.

Wayne Clark, Monroe township, was chosen regular member and Leonard Vance, Mantua township, and Marvin Vance, Urbana township, were picked as alternate members of the county committee.

The five were chosen at the county ASC convention at the office in Albia Saturday morning.

Urbana Farmer Asks for Permit

Ronald Goode, Monroe county farmer, has applied to the Iowa Natural Resources Council for a permit to store water for erosion control and fire protection purposes.

The property described is all in Section 25, or the southeast corner of Urbana township in Monroe county.

Goode's application asks for permission to "establish and maintain storage of water in the maximum amount of 23.5 acre-feet at a maximum of natural runoff from 240 acres throughout each year."

A public hearing will be held at 1 p.m. Aug. 17 at the office of the Water Commissioner in the State House, Des Moines on this application.

419 Vote in ASC Elections; Seven Chairmen Re-elected

Results of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation community elections, conducted by mail June 25 through July 7, were announced last week by the Monroe county ASC office.

Four-hundred nineteen ballots were counted Thursday night, less than the 487 responses in last year's elections. A total of 1,122 ballots had been mailed to eligible farmers in the county.

Newly elected chairmen and vice chairmen of the community committees will serve as delegates and alternate delegates at the county ASC convention which will be held at 1 a.m. July 25 in the county office on Washington Ave. E.

Seven of the 12 committee

chairmen were re-elected. All but one of the five new chairmen served on his community committee this year. James Calhoun, the new chairman in Franklin township, was not a committee member this year.

Re-elected chairmen are Russell Moody, Cedar township; John Joe Crall, Guilford township; J. Leonard Vance, Mantua township; Wendell Murdy, Monroe township; Marvin Vance, Urbana township; and Harvey G. Kline, Wayne township.

Other chairmen and the positions they are serving this year are Harry M. Wilson, Bluff Creek township, regular member; J. Eugene Walsh, Jackson township, vice chairman; George Antolik

Pleasant township, vice chairman; and Earl Albertson, Troy township, vice chairman.

The complete list of committee members announced last week is: Bluff Creek township—Chairman, Harry M. Wilson, Albia Rte. 4; vice chairman, Dick Boender, Albia Rte. 4; regular member, John Mellick, Albia Rte. 5; first alternate, George M. Moore, Albia Rte. 4; and second alternate, John Balm, Albia Rte. 5.

Cedar township—Chairman, Russell Moody, Melrose Rte. 2; vice chairman, M. Leo Beary, Lovilia Rte. 1; regular member, M. R. Klingensmith, Lovilia; first alternate, William G. Walsh, Lovilia; and second alternate, Lawrence McGinn, Lovilia Rte. 2.

Franklin township—Chairman, James Calhoun, Albia Rte. 2; vice chairman, Lloyd Ammons, Albia Rte. 2; regular member, Earl Swift, Albia Rte. 2; first alternate, B. F. Whitehead, Moravia Rte. 2; and second alternate, W. G. O'Hara, Albia Rte. 2.

Guilford township—Chairman, John Joe Crall, Albia Rte. 4; vice chairman, James Mahoney, Albia Rte. 2; regular member, Fred Hillard Jr., Albia Rte. 2; first alternate, Thomas Ed O'Brien, Albia Rte. 5; and second alternate, Pete Coody, Albia Rte. 2.

Jackson township—Chairman, J. Eugene Walsh, Melrose Rte. 1; vice chairman, Gerald Hannam, Melrose; regular member, Ed Sullivan, Melrose Rte. 1; first alter-

nate, John R. Conway, Melrose Rte. 1; and second alternate, John J. Ryan, Melrose Rte. 1.

Mantua township—Chairman, J. Leonard Vance, Albia Rte. 3; vice chairman, Raymond Jones, Albia Rte. 3; regular member, Max Lewis, Albia Rte. 3; first alternate, Ralph Fisher, Albia Rte. 1; and second alternate, J. Carl Johnston, Albia Rte. 4.

Monroe township—Chairman, Wendell Murdy, Albia Rte. 1; vice chairman, DeWayne Johnson, Albia Rte. 1; regular member, Francis Turner, Moravia Rte. 2; first alternate, Bob McGinnis, Albia Rte. 2; and second alternate, Clifford Caster, Albia Rte. 1.

Pleasant township—Chairman,

George Antolik, Eddyville Rte. 1; vice chairman, George Boender, Eddyville Rte. 1; regular member, Henry DeJong, Eddyville Rte. 1; first alternate, Roy F. Himelick, Albia Rte. 3; and second alternate, George Oving, Eddyville Rte. 1.

Troy township—Chairman, Earl Albertson, Albia Rte. 5; vice chairman, John E. Spencer, Albia Rte. 2; regular member, Lawrence Amoss, Albia Rte. 5; first alternate, Harold Benson, Albia Rte. 5; and second alternate, Lawrence W. Amoss, Albia Rte. 4.

Union township—Chairman, Dallas Tucker, Albia Rte. 5; vice chairman, Floyd (Bill) Chance, Lovilia; regular member, Floyd Pack-

er, Lovilia Rte. 2; first alternate, Francis Smith, Lovilia; and second alternate, Lloyd Clark, Lovilia Rte. 1.

Urbana township—Chairman, Marvin V. Vance, Moravia Rte. 1; vice chairman, Junior Lettler, Blakesburg; regular member, William D. Wilson, Blakesburg; first alternate, Chester Gillen, Blakesburg; and second alternate, Hugh Crawley, Albia Rte. 1.

Wayne township—Chairman, Harvey G. Kline, Melrose Rte. 2; vice chairman, Stanley Pfister, Melrose Rte. 2; regular member, John Popson Jr., Melrose Rte. 2; first alternate, Pierce Judge, Melrose Rte. 2; and second alternate, James Lahart, Melrose Rte. 2.

Kehrberg, Laws and Gibbs Win Conservation Contest

The three Monroe county winners have been announced in the state soil conservation achievement awards contest sponsored by the Des Moines Register and Tribune and Iowa Farm and Home Register.

The three farm operators are Emory Kehrberg, Moravia; Olin Laws, Avery; and Robert R. Gibbs, Rte. 4. Laws operates a farm owned by Walter Napier of Avery.

The three will represent Monroe county in a regional contest. Regional and state winners will receive certificates and other awards Sept. 22 as part of the annual conference of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners at Mason City.

Kehrberg is the county winner in the division for owner-operated farms.

Kehrberg operates his own 170-acre farm west of Moravia and a 315-acre farm rented from Roy Ringhart. He was selected for the conservation practices, including strip planting, on his 170-acre farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Kehrberg have three sons, Ronnie, 16, Robert, 13, both of whom are active members of Hilton Hustlers 4-H Club, and Lyle, 4 years old.

Kehrberg is a member of the county extension council, president of the night school council at Moravia which operated a 10-week vocational agriculture class for adults, and is a 4-H leader.

Mrs. Kehrberg is a member of the extension service's family living committee.

In addition to their crops, the Kehrbergs own about 30 cattle,

100 hogs, 33 ewes, and some milking shorthorns.

They farmed in north-west Iowa, near Moxville, before moving to their present farm about five and a half years ago.

The Olin Laws farm 130 acres on the north edge of Avery. They have been on their present farm six years and lived on the Frank Bell farm before that.

The family keeps busy on the farm with about 40 Holsteins to milk.

The Laws have four daughters. Irene, 16, was a candidate in the county Queen of the Furrow contest sponsored by the Soil Conservation Service. She will be a junior in Albia High School. Carol, 14, will be a freshman and Terry, 11, will attend seventh grade in Albia. The youngest daughter, Christine, is 3 years old.

The Laws farm was county winner in the division for tenant-operated farms. Among the soil conservation practices in contour plowing.

The Robert Gibbs farm, located in south-east Bluff Creek township near the site of Lockman, was the county winner in the division for farms showing the most progress during the year. Practices originating during the year were terracing and contouring.

Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs have owned the 130-acre farm since Dec. 1, 1956. They moved on its earlier, from 1948 to 1952.

The Gibbs also own a small herd of registered Herefords.

In addition to farming, Gibbs works at the John Morrell plant in Ottumwa.

August - 1959



—Ver Baere Xibia Studio Photos.

Queens of the Furrow

Monroe county's two Queens of the Furrow, Catherine Sinnott (left) of the Georgetown Colleens and Mary Mosley of Frank's Happy Helpers 4-H Club, were presented Monday night by John Spencer.

The district contest will be held Friday in Knoxville with a state contest scheduled at Mason City. The Soil Conservation Service sponsored the contest.

Aug.
1959

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Boating Precautions

Another reason for the Gardners' nomination is their water-safety practices on their small lake. The pond is equipped with a boat and boat dock, and life preservers are always used in the boat. No one swims by himself on the lake. Of the several hundred ponds and lakes on farms in Monroe county, most are used for recreation, but very few farm families take these safety precautions.



Most Progress

The Robert Gibbs farm, located near the site of Lockman, was chosen for the most progress made during the year in the area of soil conservation. The contouring in the field behind the pond is one of

the new practices. Gibbs, who works for the Morrell plant, also began terracing during the past year. The Gibbs own their 130-acre farm.

August
1959

August 1959



Safe Farm Family

The Walter Gardner family, which farms in Bluff Creek township, is one of 11 in Iowa nominated for the 1959 Iowa's Safe Farm Family Award. One of the reasons is shown in this picture of the family—the outside power terminal which has replaced an indoor terminal. The three members of the family living at home are Walter Jr. (left) and Mr. and Mrs. Gardner. Two sons and a daughter are married.



August
1959

Contouring

The 190-acre Olin Laws farm, located on the north edge of Avery, was chosen in the tenant-operated class for the contouring done in its field. The farm is owned by Walter Napier of Avery.

august 1959

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aug. 1959



Strip Planting

The Emory Kehrberg farm, located west of Moravia, is one of three farms in Monroe county winning soil conservation achievement awards this year. The 170-acre farm which Kehrberg owns was se-

lected because of his practice of strip-planting. The portion of his fields shown here includes strips of soybeans, hay and corn.

august 1959

List Geese, Duck Dates

The State Conservation Commission Tuesday established the season lengths and bag and possession limit for ducks and geese within the shortened framework set by the Federal Fish and Wildlife Service.

According to surveys made by the Fish and Wildlife Service, the drought condition in the northern United States and central Canada has greatly reduced the nesting populations of ducks and geese and, thereby, the numbers available to hunters this year.

The duck and coot season will be 50 days, from Oct. 20 until Dec. 8. Shooting will begin at noon the first day, and, from then on, from sunrise to sunset. The bag limit is three and the possession limit is six birds of each kind, a possible daily bag being three ducks and three coot. A further stipulation is that only one canvasback, or one redhead or one ruddy duck, plus one wood duck and one hooded merganser may be taken for the daily bag. This brings the total to three. Special emphasis is placed on the fact that if a person has a canvasback or a redhead or a ruddy duck in his possession, he may not include one in a subsequent bag. In addition to other ducks, for American mergansers and red-breasted mergansers the daily limit is five and the possession limit is ten of either or both kinds.

Geese may be taken for 70 days from Oct. 7 until Dec. 15. Shooting time, including the first day, extends from sunrise to sunset. The bag and possession limit is five birds, but no more than two Canada geese or its subspecies or two whitefronted geese or one of each kind may be used to fill the bag. The remaining three can either be snow or blue geese or a combination of both.

The jacksnipe season is 30 days long, from Oct. 7 to Nov. 5, sunrise to sunset. The bag and possession limit is eight birds.

august 1959

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF HEARING ON APPLICATION OF J. V. NASH FOR A PERMIT TO STORE WATER IN MONROE COUNTY, IOWA.

Notice is hereby given that there is now on file in the Office of the Iowa Natural Resources Council, State House, Des Moines, Iowa, an application from J. V. Nash for a permit to store water for erosion control purposes on his land in Section 23, T43N, R19W, Monroe County, Iowa.

Applicant requests a permit to establish and maintain storage of water in the maximum amount of 32.1 acre-feet at a maximum rate of natural runoff from 68 acres throughout each year.

Notice is further given that a public hearing will be held at 8:30 a.m. on September 4, 1959, at the Office of the Water Commissioner, State House, Des Moines, Iowa, at which time and place or at any adjournment, the Water Commissioner or his Deputy will take evidence by the applicant and any other person either in support of or in opposition to the granting of a permit.

R. G. BULLARD,
Water Commissioner.
Aug. 27, Sept. 3.

Make Award For Pasture

William Hagerman, Rte. 1, Albion, has been named winner of the 1959 Pasture Improvement Contest in Monroe county. Ralph Gutscher, Rte. 2, Albion, was awarded second place and Dave McGrath, Melrose, third place in the contest.

The improvement contest was sponsored by the Monroe County Extension Service and county Soil Conservation Service.

Pastures were judged on the following points: soil test, lime-fertilizer, seeding methods, stand, rigor, weed control, grass in mixture, erosion control, waterways, increased usefulness, adapt-

County Extension Director John Young said today there have been no entries in this year's Alfalfa Contest with just five days remaining before the Oct. 6 deadline.

tation to location, use of season's growth, and general appearance. The judging was done by a panel of local farmers.

Plaques will be awarded to the three winners later in the year.

Others in the contest were Estel Gay, Rte. 1, Albion; Ed Luttrell, Rte. 2, Albion; Bernard Kitterman, Albion; Charles Gray, Rte. 4, Albion; and Emery Kehrberg, Moravia.

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF HEARING ON APPLICATION OF RONALD GOODE FOR A PERMIT TO STORE WATER IN MONROE COUNTY, IOWA.

Notice is hereby given that there is now on file in the Office of the Iowa Natural Resources Council, State House, Des Moines, Iowa, an application from Ronald Goode for a permit to store water for erosion control and fire protection purposes upon his property generally described as the E 1/2 of the SW 1/4 and the W 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of Section 25, T41N, R19W, Monroe County, Iowa.

Applicant requests a permit to establish and maintain storage of water in the maximum amount of 22.5 acre-feet at a maximum rate of natural runoff from 240 acres throughout each year.

Notice is further given that a public hearing will be held at 1:00 p.m. on August 17, 1959, at the Office of the Water Commissioner, State House, Des Moines, Iowa, at which time and place or at any adjournment, the Water Commissioner or his Deputy will take evidence by the applicant and any other person either in support of or in opposition to the granting of a permit.

LOUIS F. GIESEKE,
Deputy Water Commissioner.
LOUIS F. GIESEKE,
July 30, Aug. 6.

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF HEARING ON APPLICATION OF J. V. NASH FOR A PERMIT TO STORE WATER IN MONROE COUNTY, IOWA.

Notice is hereby given that there is now on file in the Office of the Iowa Natural Resources Council, State House, Des Moines, Iowa, an application from J. V. Nash for a permit to store water for erosion control purposes on his land in Section 23, T43N, R19W, Monroe County, Iowa.

Applicant requests a permit to establish and maintain storage of water in the maximum amount of 32.1 acre-feet at a maximum rate of natural runoff from 68 acres throughout each year.

Notice is further given that a public hearing will be held at 8:30 a.m. on September 4, 1959, at the Office of the Water Commissioner, State House, Des Moines, Iowa, at which time and place or at any adjournment, the Water Commissioner or his Deputy will take evidence by the applicant and any other person either in support of or in opposition to the granting of a permit.

R. G. BULLARD,
Water Commissioner.
Aug. 27, Sept. 3.

November 1959



Alfalfa Banquet

Leon J. "T-Bone" McDonald, widely known as "Oklahoma's Soil Evangelist," will be the speaker Nov. 17 at the Monroe County Alfalfa Banquet. McDonald will give his illustrated talk, "Man and the Land." McDonald, assistant state conservationist at Stillwater, Okla., has been described by the Memphis Press-Scimitar as "an educator, evangelist and entertainer all in one delightful package."



Hunting Area

One of the favorite hunting areas for sportsmen in Monroe, Lucas and Marion counties is the "1,000-acres" portion of Stephens State Park, located in Cedar township in the northwest corner of Monroe county. Hunters will find small game and deer in the heavily-wooded tract.

8,294 Acres in County Will Be in Soil Reserve

About 8,294 acres of Monroe county cropland will be held out of production in 1960 under conservation reserve contracts, according to a year-end report on soil bank activity by the Monroe county ASC committee.

Land in the conservation reserve is held out of production to help ease the farm surplus situation and is kept in conservation uses to meet future needs. Conservation reserve contracts run for periods of from 3 to 10 years.

A total of 5,358 acres of Monroe county cropland are already out of production under this program, and approximately 2,756 more are expected to be added in 1960 as a result of the sign-up now being completed. In the state as a whole, approximately one-half million acres were in the conservation reserve in 1959 and this amount will be increased to around 667,000 acres in 1960. Contracts are in effect in every county of the state.

Whole farms (farms on which cropland is out of production) account for about 4,764 acres of the total amount of cropland under contract in Monroe county in 1959. A farmer who places all his cropland in the conservation reserve may continue to live on the farm, maintain a home garden, and use the permanent pasture and orchard land. Whole farm contracts remove the entire production potential of the farm and leave no land for more intensive farming.

The conservation reserve is a program under which farmers

voluntarily sign the contracts with the federal government to retire cropland from production. The government makes an annual rental payment for the land and pays part of the cost of establishing the conservation use. Approximately five per cent of the nation's total cropland is now reserved under this program.

Dec. 31 - 1959

Over The County

With SCS and Extension Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

Many things have happened since I wrote my last letter to you folks in Monroe county. The truth of the matter is that you farm people got so busy doing conservation work that we had little time for anything but to layout and check construction of those practices.

I hope that the stories that will be coming your way in the weeks ahead will be interesting reading for you.

Carl and Junior Kietzman of Bluff Creek township were surely the "kings" of the terracing program this year. They constructed 4.3 miles. The amount built at one time is impressive in itself, but the incredible aspect is that they refused to plow and plant fields until the terraces were constructed. The Kietzmans had made this promise to themselves two years ago when

they started establishing terrace outlets.

The adverse weather that delayed construction and at the same time decreased the probability of getting crops in on time, certainly applied pressure to forget the whole project until a later date. However, they refused to yield.

Dec. 1959

Dec. 1959

Over The County

With SCS and Extension Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

We have been hearing more and more about tree farming the past few years. The Harry McIntires out on the east county line are now at the point where they are getting a return from their first field plantings by the sale of Christmas trees.

The same is true with their neighbor, Robert Flanigan. Bob has been cutting trees in the past for the neighborhood, but this year he has been marketing on a county-wide basis.

John Cowles of Georgetown sold trees for the first time last season.

A. A. Kness, famous for his mouse trap, also entered the Christmas tree market this year. He has been merchandising his trees through a local retailer. The Kness' have been following the practice of planting a thousand trees per year. They anticipated this method should give them a sustained yield of 700 to 800 trees for the market each year.

If you have any doubts about the vastness of this fast-growing industry, it is estimated that over 40 million Christmas trees are sold annually for the holiday season.

Of course, the bulk of these trees are coming from the great northwest. However, more and more farmers of the Midwest are planting with their eye on a share of this market.

Over The County

With SCS and Extension Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

A man who makes his living from the land can't always wait on fair weather. Apparently, that is why so many farmers in Monroe county have gone all out to grow better pastures. This is one crop that thrives on wet weather.

Those who judged the district's pasture contestants entries this fall saw hills that were at one time scenes of scarred desolated areas, but these hills have been transformed into plush green mounds of legumes and grasses.

William Hagerman's entry was a birdsfoot trefoil and orchard grass. It was like walking on a deep plush rug, so luxurious looking that it seemed out of place for us to walk across it with our muddy boots. Hagerman said that the production had been so great that his cattle could not keep up with the growth, so he took a crop of hay from the field.

Ralph Gutscher used an orchard grass and alfalfa mixture. As his cattle grazed in this pasture, it looked as though Ralph had given the old nursery rhyme a twist:

"The cattle are in the meadow,

"The sheep are in the —"

Ralph Gutscher may not be interested in rewriting nursery rhymes, but he certainly yearns to revegetate his farm with a more productive forage for his cattle. The possibilities for better pastures seem unlimited.

Dave McGrath is another proud owner of one of these fine pastures. He also had orchard grass and alfalfa mixture. It was almost a carbon copy of the Gutscher pasture.

Of course, the judging teams saw other good pastures, but these farmers' pastures were judged the top three and they received bronze plaques from the Monroe County Soil Conservation District honoring them for a job well done.

Dec. 31-1959

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTIS

Some have called the 1960's the decade of decision.

This being the first week of a new decade, it might be interesting to take a look back (risking being turned into a pillar of salt) and see what decisions were being made in 1950 by some of our farm people.

Frank Bell was elected district commissioner, Kenneth Hinton, Claude Hawk and Roy Scott and sons were honored for their outstanding dairying.

Pat Carbin, Clifford Belzer and Denzil Patton were awarded plaques by the Albion Rotary Club for their outstanding achievement in soil conservation work.

Multiflora rose came to the county for the first time to provide living fences and wildlife habitat.

Ether Roberts, County Superintendent of Schools, in cooperation with the district commissioners, introduced a soil conservation course in the 72 rural schools of the county.

Sylvan Runkel was flying low in his plane taking conservation pictures.

The heavers started building dams on the Melvin Clark farm. That was before Clark got into the act.

Tom Dougherty was demonstrating how to plow on the contour, by winning the plowman's trophy for the third time.

Martin Roberts, Phil Evans, Claude Hawk, Dave Flattery, Elmer Nixon, Lloyd Goode, Albert Benson and George McCombs were building terraces that spring with a whitewind terracer.

Conservation wears many aliases; contouring, terraces, pasture improvement, lime and fertilizer, ponds and wildlife. Yes, even drainage, but none of them alone quite fill the bill unless there is a combination.

Probably the most encouraging phase of the conservation problem this last decade has been the wider acceptance of the combination of practices to make for a true conservation plan.

Jan. 7-1960
Jan. 7-1960

Soil Bank Deadline Is Near; Request Prompt Decisions

The Monroe County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation office is moving into the final stages of arranging contracts with farmers to place new land in the conservation reserve of the soil bank beginning in 1960. Feb. 1 is the final date by which all

contracts are scheduled to be signed.

The county office, according to the county committee, is in the process of notifying all remaining farmers whose applications it expects to be able to accept. Applicants who are notified are urged by the ASC office to make their decisions promptly so that if a contract is refused another applicant can be reached before Feb. 1.

Under the priority system in use in the conservation reserve, priority is given to the farmer offering land at the lowest rate compared with the basic rate established for his land. Here in Monroe county it is expected that funds will be available to accept about 80 per cent of all land which was offered for contracts. Applications for contracts for new acreage were signed last fall.

Under the conservation reserve, farmers contract to take land out of production for periods of five to 10 years. A per-acre rental payment is earned for each year the contract is in effect, and the farmer can also get a cost-share payment to assist in establishing approved conservation uses on his conservation reserve land.

The program began late in the 1956 crop year, and the present legal authorization for placing land under a conservation reserve contract expires on Dec. 31.

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTIS

A relatively new corner in the field of conservation in Monroe county is the erosion control dams. The district has been in operation for 15 years but prior to 1956 there had been only four erosion control dams built. But in 1956 through 1959 there were 43 of the drop-inlet type erosion control dams constructed.

The unbelievable amount of 185,000 cubic yards of earth has been moved for their construction. These drop-inlet dams control the run-off from 1,500 acres. They are versatile dams. They

not only control this run-off by letting out the water through a comparatively small pipe for the watershed involved, but this small pipe is the very thing that is needed to reduce erosion in the gully below, eliminate water gap problems downstream, reduce flooding and siltation on bottom-land fields.

The downstream benefits are only part of the values received from this type of construction. They stabilize the gully above the dam, thus preventing the gully from continuing its destructive march up hill. They also furnish vast quantities of water that can be used for livestock water recreational benefits and quite often furnish the desperately needed water for fire prevention.

These structures will continue to serve this community long after you and I are six feet under. Yet their cost is negligible. All 43

of these structures have only cost the farmer approximately as much as seven new automobiles with a similar amount furnished from the government through ACP assistance.

Trees Stabilize the Soil Provide Profitable Crop

By C. R. WITMER
District Forester

About 100 years ago the editor of the Farmer's Almanac gave this advice, even when our Nation was rich with a forest heritage: "If you want your name to be held in grateful remembrance, plant trees; if you want to improve the roadsides in your town, plant trees; if you want to add to the beauty of the surroundings of your dwelling, for your own and your friends' eyes, plant trees; if you would have your house and grounds more valuable, to keep and to sell, plant trees; if any of your land is not well adapted for cultivation or pasturage, cannot you plant trees? If you want property that like money at interest, will be growing while you are sleeping, plant trees."

Now is the time for farmers and other landowners to start

thinking about next spring's tree planting. If you have considered the planting of some trees in the past, but you didn't attempt it because of the lack of technical assistance, now that assistance is available from your farm forester.

This assistance consists of making a survey of planting area, recommending of the species of tree best adapted to soil and exposure, advice on how to obtain cost sharing for the ACP practice, and the use of a tree planter and assistance of your forester at planting time.

The soil is our greatest heritage. When we manage it by establishing the correct vegetative cover, run-off is controlled, soil is stabilized. Almost every farm has on it a few acres of land from which the top soil is lost. Its agricultural productivity is gone. You have been thinking of abandoning it.

So, before these idle acres grow back to worthless brush, plant the to pine trees and they will become productive again.

There is no soil so poor that it will not grow pine trees. It has been proven that once cultivated land will not grow our native hardwoods again to any commercial value.

In planting pines, you will have a tree that will grow faster than any hardwood species that may take over the site.

Those idle acres can become productive again by planting trees. After five to eight years, some trees can be sold for high grade Christmas trees and greens. By the time trees are 20 years old posts and poles can be harvested in the next thinning. And at 50 years small saw logs can be cut.

Trees as a crop can be harvested again and again if man gives nature a helping hand. It's true that only periodical harvests can be made, but remember that each tree is growing, adding more wood day and night, every day of the year. This annual growth added to the previous year's is like money in the bank drawing interest.

Then after a period of time a harvest can be made, cashing in the accumulative growth as interest and still retaining the initial volume to grow on, producing more interest. We may think since trees grow so slowly, where will we be five or 10 years from now? The answer: look back to where we were five or 10 years ago. We quickly realize that it wasn't so long ago.

To best manage our soil, we must grow on it the crop best adapted to it. Trees are a crop; they have their place in the conservation plan of every farm, if we are to fulfill our goal of better land use. We will soon cultivate a pride in growing trees as that of growing any other crop. Soon that area will become the beauty spot on the farm; as it attracts wildlife and adds to the recreational activities of the family.

Don't let marginal and unproductive acres become a growing problem of insecurity; trees will grow into dollars and security. Yes money can grow on trees.

Jan. 14-1960

Jan. 14-1960

Jan. 18, 1960

Jan. 21 - 1960

5-7

ASC Plans Conservation Meetings in Townships

The Monroe County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee today is holding the first of 12 meetings to explain its conservation practices program to Monroe county farmers.

Meetings are being held today from noon until 4 p.m. at Weller Hall, for Cedar township; at the Township Hall, for Pleasant township; and at Marlin's Implement Co., for Troy township.

Three more meetings will be held Tuesday: at Pickrell Store in Georgetown, for Guilford township; at the Meirese Community Hall, for Jackson township; and at the Parenza Store, for Wayne township.

The other meetings will be

held Wednesday: at the Township Hall, for Bluff Creek township; at Vosburgh School for Franklin township; at Mantua Center, for Mantua township; at Hilton, for Monroe township; at Sofranko Garage, for Union township; and at Urbana Center, for Urbana township.

The meeting in Urbana township will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. All other meetings will be from noon until 4 p.m.

Farmers who attend the meetings will have an opportunity to file requests to participate in the 1960 program. Necessary forms to make requests for the cost-sharing program will be available.

Farmers who cannot attend may file a request at the county ASC office in Albia anytime during the program year, which ends Dec. 31.

February 28 - 1960

Over The County

With SCS and Extension Personnel

By JOHN A. BOTTS

Do you remember "your good old days," whenever they may have been?

The days before the advent of TV and stop signs.

The ones I recall were the Saturday night in the summer time. We got the chores done early and headed for town. The first stop would be the "produce house" to leave the cream and eggs. Mother went to the grocery store to buy our weekly supply of food.

The old folks spent the rest of the evening just standing around talking with the neighbors until about midnight, when they made the second trip to the produce station to get the cash to pay for the groceries; that was the usual closing time for the stores.

There were no TV programs to hurry home to see or commercials to confuse the issue of which brand of flour or soup beans to buy.

There weren't any "juke boxes" for the younger set to cluster around. They used a different approach to romancing. They just walked around and around the square in small groups, the girls giggling and hoping the boys following would eventually catch up with them and the boys afraid that they would.

The older young people used the mechanized approach to the "cat and mouse" romancing. It was essentially a parade and a contest. They paraded around the square in their freshly washed model T's either showing off their date to the other fellows or hoping to catch the eye of some fair maiden. The contest part was to see which fellow could drive the

longest and the slowest in high gear. They paraded around and around with their model T chugging along its merry way with ne'er a stop sign in sight. In fact, there wasn't any need of stopping for the traffic was all going the same way.

Many things have changed for the rural people. Horses are no longer needed to get the tractor started. The straightest corn row is no longer the brand of good farming. In fact, it is the curved contour row that saves soil and water that distinguishes the farmer of today.

The bottom land, farmer took delight in receiving the rich top soil from the neighboring hill farms after each heavy rain. To-

day the hill farmer who doesn't practice conservation measures may be giving his lowland neighbors clay and sand that cover his crops with a destructive sediment. If you doubt this, just ask Pat Knowles, the farmer who in 1959 had half of his corn crop destroyed by a deep sand deposition.

Yes, many things change in a life-time of farming. Our social habits, methods of farming, crops grown and machinery used. But, our basic resources for livelihood remain the same the soil and our concern for protecting it from the ravages of nature.

P. S. If you're wondering which group I belonged to, I was walking.

Over The County

With SCS and Extension Personnel

By JOHN A. BOTTS

Perhaps it is the stormy days and long nights with pelting rain and snow that make us long for warm spring days, the days when the sun seems to warm us to the marrow of our bones and the soft breezes have the smell of the good earth as it breaks forth with all its majesty. Whatever it is, it certainly has a lot of people in this community thinking along

Over The County

With SCS and Extension Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

It might be of interest to you to know that each of the 43 erosion control structures mentioned last week were specially designed for each particular watershed and fill location. In order that you readers can more readily appreciate such a structure should you decide to build one on your farm, I will attempt to describe briefly what takes place in developing a design.

After looking at the problem area and determining that construction is advisable, the engin-

neering staff from the Soil Conservation Service will make a detailed survey. In this survey, they will locate the center line of the fill, elevations of the overfalls in the gully, gully bottom, banks and surrounding area. In this same survey, they will determine the slope and soil type and size of watershed. Armed with this factual information they will plot a contour map of the fill site and pond area. From this information, they can figure how much water will run off that particular watershed and how much water can be stored in the selected pond site.

Of course, the run off water is always in excess of the amount that can be stored behind the fill. Their job is to determine what size of pipe will be needed to keep the two factors in balance.

It's similar to pouring water into a funnel. We can always pour it in faster than it will run out at the small end. What can't get out must be stored temporarily in the top of the funnel. So the top of the funnel becomes the temporary ponding or holding area as it is in the erosion control dam.

We can see that this holding area is a very important factor in determining the size of pipe needed along with the kind of cover on the watershed and whether it has conservation practices such as terraces, strip cropping, etc. They all contribute to the

amount of water leaving the watershed in a given rain storm.

A good example would be the structures on the Ver Meer Bros. farm (Ollie Kaldenberg, operator). It had a drainage area of 70 acres using a 21-inch pipe. The structure on the Ronald Goode farm near Blakesburg, has a drainage area of 240 acres, yet it required the same size pipe. The watershed on the Goode farm has four times more water running into the structure, but the larger holding area made it possible to use the same size pipe.

Advance detailed planning is the key to safe and economical construction of erosion control dams.

Feb. 4, 1960

the same lines, "the great outdoors."

The Extension Council's committee on conservation of natural resources which met last month to discuss this problem showed a great deal of interest in a program of wildlife management. They also discussed the lack of adequate facilities for outdoor recreation for the ever-growing population. Although we as a county are at a standstill as far as population growth is concerned, we are located within a short driving distance of highly populated areas. These outdoor lovers are, and will be in ever-increasing numbers, converging on us to satisfy their desires for outdoor activities such as hunting, fishing and picnicking. Sometimes it is just a desire to be alone in the woods. Whatever the forces are that drive people to want to be near nature, they seem to hold a very high priority in their activities.

The committee didn't arrive at any definite conclusion as to what could be done, but recognized that we have many natural facilities that perhaps could be improved and others that could be developed, such as a state park with a lake.

The unusual thing of this story is that at the same time a com-

mittee from the Chamber of Commerce was discussing practically the same problem and before the week was up Mrs. Katherine Falvey, Monroe county's state representative, was meeting and discussing similar issues with the Monroe county district commissioners, extension director and the soil conservation service staff.

Many of the people who are showing this concern are not fishermen nor are they hunters, but they are aware of the importance this "outdoorism" holds for the people of this community.

Southern Iowa may be destined to become the major recreational area of Iowa. Its beautiful wooded ravines and hills, and the abundant wildlife habitat make it attractive for this type of recreation.

Request Recreation Area Here

Four Sites Mentioned

An announcement by the State Conservation Commission that it is again considering a chain of lakes to be built across southern Iowa again stirred interest in a recreational area for Monroe county.

Following a meeting of the Monroe County Soil Conservation Committee last week, Mrs. Lawrence Falvey Friday requested that the commission look favorably on the county's request for a recreational lake. The request was in a letter sent to Glen G. Powers, director of the commission, who in 1955 surveyed four proposed sites for an artificial lake.

The earlier surveys were made when the commission first announced plans for the chain of lakes. At that time Abbia's plea for a lake in the county was hampered because the group taking the action requested a lake which could also be used for

Jul 1960

Here

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Water for Albia.

The commission's plan was dropped because of the need of conservation funds for other purposes. The commission needed the funds to maintain the northern Iowa natural lakes, which were deteriorating through lack of rain, and to maintain existing artificial lakes.

A map sent to Powers suggested four sites, which are the sites he surveyed in 1955.

Those who were present at the conservation committee meeting, besides Mrs. Falvey, were Dale Barker, soil conservationist who conducted the meeting, J. E. Spencer, chairman of the Monroe county soil conservation district commission and chairman of the agricultural bureau of the Albia Chamber of Commerce; John Botts, chairman of the natural resources council; Joe Evans, state aide of the soil conservation district; and John Young, county extension director.

Mrs. Falvey said each of the men was enthusiastic about the proposal.

Other recreational and conservation plans were discussed at the committee meeting.

An educational program to promote cooperation and sportsmanlike relations between rural and urban residents in sharing hunting and fishing facilities in the county was discussed.

Young told of plans to conduct a fishing school as part of the extension service's educational program.

The committee decided to ask permission to clear the water works reservoirs of rough fish (less desirable fish such as carp). The conservation commission has suggested programs such as this.

It was also suggested that when Highway 34 is relocated the highway commission be asked to create roadside parks along the route. Mrs. Falvey stated civic clubs in the county have expressed interest in the roadside parks and would be willing to supply and maintain picnic tables for the parks.

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Jul 1960

Feb. 11-1960

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

"I suspect that you find it is the older farmers who resist the changes that are necessary to get conservation work done, don't you?"

I have heard this said a number of times. Nothing could be farther from the truth. The list is long of those considered as the "older farmers" who have and are still following good conserving practices.

Some of the district's first conservation plans were developed with this age group and are still in effect. Basically, they are still following the same plans. As the years have slipped by they have made certain refinements that have done even a better job of conservation, such as adding terraces or changing to better adapted seeding mixtures for pasture and meadows.

Farmers like 80-year-old Dan Beary, who lives west of Lovilia.

Dan says, "I was skeptical when Andy (Harold Anderson, farm planner at that time) said I could carry twice as many cows on the same acres if I would improve the pasture. The fact is, I have done better than that."

It was in 1946 when Dan started out on this spree of filling gullies, building terraces, and seeding better pastures.

"I have lived all my life in this community and can remember when the only farming was done in a small clearing in the forest. This small patch had a rail fence around it to keep out livestock. The cattle and horses were on open range and roamed the country side. As more land was cleared for farming more fences were needed and, of course, this eventually brought about the wire fences."

Dan likes to reminisce about the past and the changes that have come about in farming. No doubt, his keen awareness of the past led him to the decision that certain changes were needed to assure future generations a heritage that he has enjoyed. Dan says he has been rewarded a hundredfold in increased yields.

He is proud, and justly so, of the conservation accomplishment that he has made in such a few years, but that isn't all. He is now making plans for additional conservation work for this year and the years ahead.

Feb. 15-1960

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

In 1947, a young man returned from the war with his heart set on farming. William Hughes of near Eddyville found that there had been changes taking place on the agricultural scene and he wasn't quite sure just where he and his wife were going to fit into this new panorama.

Like hundreds of other servicemen, he decided to take advantage of the government's rehabilitation and education program designed to assist these former servicemen to become abreast of the new developments in their chosen vocation; so Bill enrolled in the "G.I. on-the-farm training program."

I first met Bill and his wife in connection with this training program. The thing that impressed all of us who worked with this young farm couple was their capacity for hard work and the dignity that they held for labor.

On my first trip to the Hughes farm, I found the buildings about a quarter of a mile off the road, nestled together on a little knoll above Miller Creek. The rutted trail that led to the buildings was rudely interrupted by a series of gates.

Since that time, Bill has improved the road. It now has adequate drainage ditches on both sides. The road bed has an all-weather surface.

The gates have been removed and replaced with "cattle guards." The crossings were made from lumber on their own farm. They are constructed by placing 2-inch by 4-inch planks on edge with a 4-inch spacer between, thus discouraging livestock from crossing through the opening. Mrs. Hughes laughingly tells you that there

wouldn't be any "cattle guard" if they hadn't had a baby. "I had to hold the baby, so Bill lost his gate opener." That isn't quite true, cause the guards were in place before their oldest son was born. Perhaps Bill had a keen eye to the future.

In the years that I have known this couple, they have built terraces on fields that could be terraced and all sloping ground is farmed on the contour. They have built diversion terraces to keep the hill water off of the bottom land fields. They built drainage ditches to drain "pot holes" on the bottoms. They have also planted hundred of multiflora rose plants to provide cover for song birds, as well as to furnish a beautiful living fence around the crop fields.

One of their latest accomplishments is the construction of a pond in a waterway above the farmstead which gives them gravity flow of water to all of the buildings and to a concrete feeding platform.

They have truly transformed an average farm into a wonderful homestead. The Monroe County Soil Conservation and its staff will always be grateful for having had the opportunity to play a small part in the Hughes' accomplishments.

Feb. 1960

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

Trees, trees everywhere, but not a saw log in sight. That is about the situation of most woodland in the county. They have been heavily cut in the past for various reasons. However, it is possible through better management that some of these better woods can be put back on the road to recovery and make them into a profitable farm asset.

There are other wooded areas that perhaps are only serving as a good permanent cover for watershed protection. This in itself is important to many people, but it has little monetary value to the owner.

There has been increasing interest in removing this trashy tree growth and replanting to pines. This may be the next chapter in reforestation, but for the present most folks are concentrating on planting eroded areas. Of course, there are those who doubt if they can ever live long enough to see a tree that they plant grow into something useful.

Yesterday we measured the growth of a red pine tree planted on the Robert Flannigan farm. Last year it grew 26 inches; in 1958 the growth was 23 inches; 1957, 20 inches; 1956, 12 inches; 1955, eight inches. This sampling of one tree would indicate that the amount of growth increases as the tree develops a better root system.

If we use this as an index of growth, it doesn't take many years to get a tremendous growth from the fast-growing variety of pines. This tree was planted on an eroded hillside in 1952. The tree is now 12 feet tall. Another red pine nearby had grown 32 inches in 1959. However, its overall growth wasn't as much as the other tree, but there were other trees in the planting that have obtained a height of 18 feet.

Under good management practices of pine planting, the first cut is made for Christmas trees in about five to six years after the planting date. The second cut that is made will be for post. The third cut will yield long pole material. This third cut is the last thinning operation. The fourth cut would be for saw logs.

The original planting would have approximately 1,200 trees per acre. But the time it is ready for saw material the stand is thinned down to approximately 250 trees per acre.

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

When "Old Man Groundhog" came out and saw his shadow he really put the hex on us, didn't he?

He promised us six more weeks of winter but it seems rather inconsiderate of him to give us such a violent winter in such a short span of time. However, we managed to struggle through five weeks and surely spring will follow winter.

The folks who are anxiously awaiting spring are already making plans for field work. Cap Wilmer, the district forester, says that he has already consulted with quite a number of people who are planning on planting trees. Your order for trees should be placed soon, for most nurseries' stocks are usually depleted by April 1.

John Young, the extension director, reports that the number of soil tests made in December was 54. In January, he only had 27 samples. Of course, the number was considerably less in February, but this is understandable with the deep snow. It should be pointed out, however, those who are planning to take advantage of the A.S.C.'s cost-sharing program on seeding practices are required to have a soil test, and time is running out. It isn't impossible to get these tests now. A little snow mixed in with the soil won't affect the result of the test. The important thing to do is get the sample.

Feb. 1960

possession limit is eight birds.

Ask for Conservation Board

A group of men in Monroe county is circulating petitions asking the county board of supervisors to form a county conservation board.

The board would be appointed by the supervisors. They could levy up to one mill to finance county conservation and recreation projects.

The proposal was first discussed Wednesday night at the Albia Lions Club meeting. Another meeting was held in Lovilia Friday night. Conservationists will speak to the Albia Rotary Club tonight and to the Monroe County Junior Chamber of Commerce Wednesday night.

John Botts, conservation aide in Monroe county, said today the response to the suggestion of a conservation board has been enthusiastic and spontaneous. He said he required number of signatures—200—should be on the petitions some time this week.

After 200 people have signed the petitions, the question of forming the board will be decided in an election by the voters in the county. In this case, the question will be on the ballots for the primary election June 6.

If the question received a majority of "yes" votes, the supervisors will appoint the board within 60 days. The board will be composed of five residents of the county who are to be appointed on the basis of demonstrated interest in conservation matters. They would serve without pay.

Any "major" action of the board would be subject to the approval of the State Conservation Commission, Botts said.

The act which authorizes appointment of a county conser-

vation board also authorizes counties to "acquire, develop, maintain and make available to the inhabitants of the county, public parks, preserves, parkways, playgrounds, recreational centers, county forests, wildlife and other conservation areas, and to promote and preserve the health and general welfare of the people, to encourage the orderly development and conservation of natural resources, and to cultivate good citizenship by providing adequate programs of public recreation."

The county conservation board is given the "custody, control and management" of all property acquired by the county for these purposes, and to study and determine the needs of the county for such facilities, and to plan for such facilities. The board would also be responsible for all gifts and appropriations for county conservation purposes.

Botts said he was told the chances of acquiring a state lake in Monroe county would be improved if the county had a conservation board.

The State Conservation Commission could build the lake and stock it with fish. Other recreational facilities around the lake would be the responsibility of the county conservation board, Botts said.

Among other projects mentioned for a county conservation board is a series of roadside parks along the new Highway 34.

Other counties in this area with conservation boards include Davis, Appanoose and Wayne.

Mar 7
1960

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

There are those who doubt the benefits of pasture renovation. It might be of interest to look at the recent information from the Albia Pasture Improvement Farm.

One management used was continuously grazed Empire trefoil compared to continuous grazing of unimproved blue grass. Yearling Hereford steers were

the cost incurred by a number of local farmers, we found that it averaged about \$22 per acre with A.S.C. sharing about half the cost. This left the farmer with a \$11 per acre cost. If this is distributed over a period of five years, the cost per year is relatively small compared to the increase in pounds of beef per acre.

You can supply your own figures for the value of beef and multiply it by the 240 pounds of increased weight, less the cash out-lay for improving the pasture, and come up with the net profit that can be obtained under a good pasture improvement program.

If you are still skeptical about the value of improving pastures, we suggest that you try a small pasture and see for yourself.

used for measuring the number of pounds gained by grazing the respective pastures. The steers were placed on pasture the first of May and removed on Sept. 15.

On the unimproved blue grass, they got 104 pounds of gain. The trefoil gave them 344 pounds of gain. This would be a 240-pound net gain on the improved pasture over the check pasture.

The cost for improving the pastures was about par with the expenditures made by local farmers on similar areas. In checking

Mar 10
1960

Vote Certain On Board

John Botts, Monroe county conservation aide, said Wednesday the question of forming a county conservation board will be placed on a ballot, probably for the June primary election. Should the majority of people who vote on the question approve formation of the board, the county board of supervisors will make the appointments.

The Monroe County Junior Chamber of Commerce Wednesday named a committee to support formation of the conservation board. John Young was named chairman. Others on the committee are Ralph Fletcher, who has been very active in supporting the proposal, Bob Bullock, Fred McInnes and Garry Klein.

Botts spoke at a meeting in Lovilia Friday night. Despite -15 degree temperatures, a large crowd from Lovilia and the surrounding area attended. He spoke again this week at the Albia Rotary Club and Jaycee meetings, explaining the advantages of a county conservation board.

Mar 10
1960

Will Survey Lake Sites

Mrs. Lawrence Falvey stated Tuesday she had received a reply to a letter she had written to Glen G. Powers, chairman of the State Conservation Commission.

The reply from Powers said the commission is planning to investigate sites for recreational lakes in southern Iowa, including sites in Monroe county.

Mrs. Falvey, state representative from Monroe county, had written the letter 10 days before, following a meeting with conservation leaders of the county.

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

Do you have ants in your (you know what) or bats in your attic? If you do, don't be too alarmed. But if you have muskrats in your farm pond, you should be concerned.

There have been a number of farmers reporting muskrat holes and slides in pond fills and other evidence to indicate their presence. In talking with these folks, we have discovered that there are many farmers who do not know how to trap this rodent.

Of course, the trapping season for taking pelts is closed now and will be for some months, so it is unlikely that you could interest trappers in helping out under these circumstances. However, in most instances, the conservation officer will be glad to assist you in their control. He recognizes that quite often, certain wildlife can become a destructive menace to private property and installations. A word of caution is in order; don't get carried away with this idea of self-preservation. The conservation officer can not permit individuals the right to place wildlife in jeopardy by every trumped up whim for property protection. The situation must warrant out-of-season action and have the sanction of the officer in charge.

The problem in some ponds is serious and should be brought to his attention.

The conservation officer for this county is John Horton, 511 Ray St., Ottumwa.

Mar 17
1960

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

WANTED: Pasture Contestants.

The district commissioners are looking for farmers who made improved pasture seedling in 1959. They would like to have them as entries in the "Pasture Award Program."

The rules are simple. If you have a 1959 seedling that will be used for pasture in 1960 it is eligible.

Secure an entry sheet from the extension service or the soil conservation service in the Post Office Building and give your name, number of acres and the seed mixture used. It's that simple. They now have five entries.

William Selezinski entered a 10-acre tract that is seeded to birdsfoot trefoil and orchard grass. It was seeded April 15 and Bill said that he turned 28 cows in on June 1 and it was grazed until Oct. 15. This was an area that had the brush removed with a bulldozer.

John Crall, with 22 acres of alfalfa, red clover, and orchard

grass, is another entry. John said it was seeded on an eroded hill that required 30 pounds of phosphate per acre according to soil test. He reported that he had a good stand but it was grazed rather short last fall.

John Crall Jr. entered a 22-acre tract. He used an identical seed mixture as his father. He had an excellent stand and went into the winter with a heavy growth. It will be interesting to note how these two seedlings will respond this spring to the different fall managements.

John Knowles has a 20-acre tract of trefoil. He used six pounds of trefoil seed per acre, plus the grass.

Dave Flattery had 10 acres of brush removal with a dozer, then seeded to brome grass, alfalfa and red clover. Pasture improvement isn't a new venture for Dave, but this is his first experience in establishing a high producing pasture following a brush removal operation.

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

Within the last few years there has been a rapid increase in the use of orchardgrass in this county. It might be of interest to take a look at the origin and some of the characteristics of this bunch-type grass.

It was brought to this country around 1760 from Europe. In England it is called "cockfoot" because of the appearance of the seed head. It gets its name "orchardgrass" because of its ability to grow in the shade.

Orchardgrass is quite cold resistant and starts early in the spring and continues to grow until the first severe frost. If it receives the proper management, it will set seed the first of May and once it becomes woody and unpalatable unless the seed stock has been removed by grazing or clipping.

Conservation Plans for 35 More County Farms

Progress in soil conservation in Monroe county is indicated by the completion during 1959 of basic conservation plans for 35 farms. The number of farms in the county which now have conservation plans is 44, according to the annual report of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

The report is being distributed this week to the 607 farms in the county which are registered as conservation cooperators.

The report lists the conservation accomplishments during 1959 and the total accomplishments through 1959. It also summarized the other activities in which the district participated.

The following accomplishments are listed in the report:

Contour — 592 acres added in 1959; a total of 26,837 acres through 1959.

Contour field division — none added in 1959; a total of 80 acres through 1959.

Strip crop — 81 acres added during 1959; a total of 859 acres through 1959.

Pasture plantings — 949 acres added during 1959; a total of 2,277 acres through 1959.

Tree planting — 15 acres added during 1959; a total of 193 acres through 1959.

Brush Control — 275 acres added during 1959; a total of 313 acres through 1959.

Improved cutting woodland — none added during 1959; a total of 421 acres through 1959.

Fish pond improvement — 31 improvements made during 1959; a total of 445 improvements made through 1959.

Hedge row planting — 233 rods

added during 1959; a total of 2,318 rods through 1959.

Wildlife area — seven acres added during 1959; a total of 109 acres through 1959.

Structures, drop-inlet — nine added during 1959; a total of 45 through 1959.

Ponds — 44 added during 1959; a total of 922 through 1959.

Tile drains — 3,055 linear feet added during 1959; a total of 1,092,055 linear feet through 1959.

Open drains — 36 mile added during 1959; a total of 16.72 miles through 1959.

Open drains — 3,082 cubic yards added during 1959; a total of 19,520 cubic yards through 1959.

Drainage — 31 acres added during 1959; a total of 776 acres through 1959.

Diversion terrace — 4.53 miles

added during 1959; a total of 60.51 miles through 1959.

Standard terrace — 30.11 miles added during 1959; a total of 171.63 miles through 1959.

Waterway development — 36.93 acres added during 1959; a total of 310.58 acres through 1959.

Land leveling — none added during 1959; a total of eight acres through 1959.

Soil survey — 8,385 acres added during 1959; a total of 170,030 acres through 1959.

The district conducted two educational programs. Soil stewardship booklets were furnished to all the ministers of the county and an educational program for school children was sponsored by the district. The program for the school children included showing conservation films to sixth, sev-

enth and eighth grade students, followed by an art poster and conservation scrap book contest.

Six promotional activities of the district are listed in the booklet.

The district cooperated in the Des Moines Register and Tribune awards program, and winners were Emory Kehrberg, Robert Gibb, Olin Laws and Walter Napier.

The district entered a float in the Albia Centennial parade, with a "Which Road Will You Take" theme.

Two thousand new soil conservation stamps were purchased by the district.

The district and the extension council sponsored the pasture contest. Awards went to Bill Hagerman; Ralph Gletcher and Dave McGrath.

The district had 10 contestants who participated in the Queen of the Furrow contest.

The district also assisted in obtaining Leon McDonald, state conservationist from Oklaheima, who was the speaker at the Alfalfa Banquet.

The three commissioners of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District are Pat A. Carbin, J. E. Spencer and Bob McGinnis. Assistant commissioners are John L. Ryan, Francis Hamilton and Harold Hawk. Spencer is chairman.

Conservation personnel for the county are Dale C. Barker, work unit conservationist; John A. Botts, conservation aide; Thomas J. Brown, engineer for area 10; Melvin E. Sinclair, engineer aide for area 10; and Joseph C. Evans, part-time conservation aide.

ping. Regular mowing of pastures is recommended to reduce the effects of uneven grazing. Better pasture management in recent years has been one of the contributing factors in its present rise to stardom in the field of pasture grasses.

The bunch-type growth, once considered objectionable because of the exposed soil between the plants, makes orchardgrass an ideal companion for legumes. It lacks the sod forming feature of some of the other grasses such as brome. However, this "stay put feature" prevents it from competing for the same space needed for the legumes.

Its ability to flourish on thin soils as well as more fertile soils, and the ease in which stands can be established has endeared it to southern Iowa farmers. Orchardgrass is more tolerant to heat and drought than either brome or timothy. It will continue to grow and furnish good grazing in the summer months when the other grasses are in a semi-dormant stage due to these seasonal weather conditions, short rainfall and heat.

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

Two more farmers have entered the pasture contest, the "show case" of good grazing. They are Pat Mordan and Mike Knowles of Melrose. Both used a pasture legume that has a long and interesting history, Birdsfoot Trefoil, a native of the Mediterranean region and as far north as the Scandinavian peninsula.

Birdsfoot Trefoil has been known in Greece since time immemorial. The early Greeks described it as a plant on which horses fed. It is also interesting to note that the Greek legend said it "caused forgetfulness" and created a state of indolence and well-being. Apparently trefoil was the Greeks' equivalent of our tranquilizer pills. Perhaps they meant that those who grew this plant had a feeling of tranquility because their pasture problems were greatly reduced.

Birdsfoot Trefoil has been used for some time in Europe as a hay crop. It occurs naturally in some European pastures.

It is now known definitely just how or when Birdsfoot Trefoil was introduced into this country, but it is known to have been here as far back as 1875. It was first found growing wild along the Hudson River in New York City. It was also discovered growing in the wilds of Oregon about the same time as it was found in New York. It is difficult to establish how it got into such widely separated states. The plants found growing in New York have been here on this continent long enough that they have become adapted to the different climate and taken on some different characteristics than that growing in Europe.

Robert Bear, of near Centerville had the first known field in Iowa, which was seeded in Aug., 1939. This two-acre tract furnished seed to establish additional trial plantings in southern Iowa.

The first seedlings of birdsfoot trefoil in Monroe county were made near Georgetown in 1946. John and Francis Heffron seeded a two-acre tract and Mike Heffron seeded a similar area that spring. The seed was furnished to these farmers by the local soil conservation district. The seed came from the S.C.S. nursery at Ames as part of its assistance to

the local farmers. Each farmer received five pounds of seed for the two-acre tracts, which made a very light seeding by today's standards, and consequently it took quite a long time before they became good full stands. However, these original stands are still in existence and have improved through the years.

Will Pay Tuition For 2 Teachers

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District will pay tuition for two teachers from Monroe county schools to attend the Iowa conservation camp.

Three hours of undergraduate or graduate credit may be earned in three weeks. Three courses are offered, beginning June 5, June 26 or July 17.

Living quarters will be in the group camp at Springbrook State Park near Guthrie Center.

Interested teachers should contact the soil conservation district office in room 203 of the Post Office Building, or the county superintendent of schools in the Court House.



Clay Barnett

Conservation Dinner Here On April 19

The annual conservation dinner will be held at the Christian Church Service Center in Albia April 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Election of one soil conservation district commissioner will be held along with the dinner. Three candidates for the commissioner's post are Pat Carbin of Melrose, who is a candidate for reelection, John L. Ryan of south of Melrose, and Francis Hamilton of near Hiteman.

Any land owner or farm operator in the county is eligible to vote in the election. Polls will be open during the day, but farmers can also vote at the dinner. Frank Bell is in charge of the balloting.

Three plaques will be awarded at the dinner to Monroe county farmers for outstanding soil and water conservation.

The speaker at the dinner will be Clay Barnett of Bloomfield.

Barnett became known as the father of the big conservation field days while he was working for the soil conservation service in Polk and Marion counties. He was then transferred to Davis county.

He retired from the soil conservation service now, but is a district commissioner in Davis county.

Pat Carbin will provide the dinner music.

Legal Notice

State Soil Conservation Committee of Iowa

NOTICE OF ELECTION OF COMMISSIONER FOR THE MONROE SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT, EMBRACING LANDS LYING IN THE COUNTY OF MONROE IN THE STATE OF IOWA:

To all owners and/or operators of lands lying within the Monroe County Soil Conservation District, comprising the territory described as follows:

All land lying within the boundaries of Monroe County, Iowa, exclusive of incorporated cities and towns.

Notice is hereby given that on the 19th day of April, 1960, between the hours of 2:00 P. M. and 7:00 P. M., an election will be held for the election of a commissioner for the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

All owners and/or operators of lands lying within the above mentioned territory are eligible to vote.

Polling places for the election are as follows:

Christian Church Service Center, Elkhart. Voters residing within the district shall cast their ballots at one of the polling places. Eligible voters not residing in the district or who will be absent from the district on the day of election may apply in person or in writing to the County Auditor at Albia, Iowa, for absentee ballots. Each applicant for an absentee ballot shall state his name, residence, location, and acreage of land owned or possessed and interest therein.

STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
By Fred Cherry, Chairman,
Apr. 11, 1960.

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

There have been hundreds of farm ponds constructed in our county and there will be many more. These ponds have many important uses: they provide water for livestock, fire protection, fishing, swimming, and serve as a household water supply.

Since ponds are of such great value to so many people, anything which obstructs their use is a matter of real concern. One of the serious nuisances is the growth of filamentous algae. This is the condition that exists when

a heavy thick mat of green "scum" forms on the surface of the pond.

Under these conditions the flow of water through the pipe system is greatly reduced and quite often the water takes on an offensive odor. To say the least, with this thick scum fishing and swimming become unpleasant if not entirely prohibitive.

Algae is a primitive plant which does not have true roots, leaves, or flowers and reproduces by means of minute spores. Its growth starts on the bottom of the pond where the water is shallow and clear to a depth that will permit sunlight to penetrate. As the algae growth increases it forms a thick mat on the bottom of the pond. The oxygen produced by the green growth in the presence of sunlight accumulates in bubbles which become trapped under the mat and cause it to float to the surface.

This in brief is the culprit and the problem. It can and has been successfully controlled in ponds by the use of copper sulfate. The

Make Conservation Awards Tuesday

Awards for conservation will be made Tuesday night at the annual conservation banquet at First Christian Church.

The speaker at the banquet will be Clay Barnett of Bloomfield, a retired employee of the soil conservation service who is now a district conservation commissioner in Davis county.

One commissioner for the Monroe county conservation district will be elected. The candidates are Pat Carbin of Melrose, John L. Ryan of south of Melrose, and Francis Hamilton of near Hiteman.

Any land owner or farm operator in the county is eligible to participate in the election. Polls will be open during the day, but farmers can also vote at the dinner. Frank Bell is in charge of the balloting.

The Albia Rotary Club will attend the banquet as a substitute for its regular meeting, which would have been tonight.

The Albia Lions Club has not cancelled its regular meeting, but the members may attend the banquet in addition to the regular meeting with the club paying for the meal.

amount needed is small—one-half to one pound of copper sulfate to one million pounds of water is the usual dosage to control this form of growth.

John Cowles and John Heffron, farmers near Georgetown, have used this treatment with a great deal of success. The important part of the treatment is determining the amount of water in a given pond and then using the proper ratio of the chemical to give control.

April 11, 1960

5-9

April 18, 1960

Apr. 11, 1960

Conservation Awards

Present Six



Receive Conservation Awards

These three Monroe county farmers Tuesday night were presented with plaques for outstanding conservation work on their farms during the preceding year. They are, left to right, Dallas Faber, Ur-

bana township, Frank Chelar, near Hiteman, and Ed Crall, who farms near Albia. The plaques were furnished by the Albia Rotary Club.

Pat Carbin Re-elected

Awards for conservation were presented Tuesday night to six Monroe county farmers.

The awards were made at the annual conservation banquet, which was held in the Service Center of First Christian Church.

Pat Carbin of Melrose was re-elected as a soil conservation district commissioner. The election was held Tuesday, with many of the farmers voting at the banquet. Forty-five farm owners and operators participated in the election. Other candidates were Francis Hamilton and John L. Ryan.

Three plaques were presented to the winners of the conservation contest sponsored by the soil conservation district. The winners are Dallas Faber of Urbana township, Matt and Frank Chelar of near Hiteman, and Ed Crall, who farms about two miles west of Albia.

Conservation practices, which won the award for Crall include 40 acres of brush control, one fish pond improvement, 2½ acres of wildlife area, one drop inlet, .8 mile of diversion terrace, .96 acre of sod waterway, and .14 mile of open drainage ditch.

Practices on the Chelar farm include 74 acres of contouring, 56 acres of brush control, 39 acres of pasture planning, five acres of wildlife area, two fish pond improvements, one farm pond, one erosion control dam, .75 of diversion terrace, and 1.6 acres of sod waterway.

Practices on the Faber farm include 46 acres of contouring, 31 acres of pasture improvement, two farm ponds, one mile of diversion terrace, one acre of wildlife area, .31 mile of multiflora rose fence, .46 acre of sod waterway and two ponds with fish.

Awards in the Des Moines Register and Tribune conservation contest, which was held last summer, were also made.

The winners were Emory Kehrberg of Franklin township, in the owner-operator category; Olin Laws and Walter Napier, near Avery, for the tenant and owner category; and Robert Gibb, of Bluff Creek township, for the most conservation work in the previous year.

Only Kehrberg was present to receive his award. Laws has now moved to Davis county, where he has purchased a farm.

The plaques for the district contest were furnished by the Albia Rotary Club.

The speaker at the banquet was Clay Barnett of Bloomfield, a retired soil conservation service worker who is now a district commissioner for Davis county. Barnett discussed the development of conservation during the past 25 years. He urged even more conservation, stating the farmer should be concerned with the future, since that is where the farmer will live.

John Botts discussed the proposed county conservation board, and Mrs. Katherine Falvey discussed the prospects for a state lake in Monroe county.



Carbin

Over The County

With SCS and Extension Personnel

By JOHN BOTT

Tuesday night at the Soil Conservation Banquet at the Service Center of First Christian Church, the speaker, Clay Barnett, a long-time conservationist, said, "If you believe in the commandment 'Thou Shalt Not Steal,' then you have no other choice but to practice conservation. Those who exploit our natural resources today are stealing from the future generations. No one can claim that right."

"Let's take an active interest in the future, for that is where we are going to live."

You may not agree with Barnett's statement. If so, no doubt your argument would be that you can't afford to do conservation.

It isn't my intention to editorialize in this column. However, I would like to point out that true conservation doesn't cost. It pays.

April 21
1960

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

This has been a "crazy mixed up" spring—corn picking, oats seeding and plowing, all going on at the same time and quite frequently in the same field.

Joe McGrath, south of Melrose, and O. L. Seaman, of near Eddyville, report beavers have moved into their farm ponds and set up housekeeping. It could be that they think it is easier to let a bulldozer build the dam. Their poor relation who stayed down in the flooding streams have been working overtime trying to keep their dams repaired.

Even with all of this confusion and the pressures of the day for field work to be done, farmers are still finding time to do conservation work. DeWayne Tempelar was the first to get started building diversion terraces. Ed McDonald got started on a diversion terrace to keep the hill water from his bottomland fields.

Harold Lemond, Carl Shelquist, George Kasper, Frank Ryan and Joe Carr are some more farmers who have conservation work laid out and are ready to start construction when their fields are dry enough.

You might ask, "Do farmers really stop field work to do conservation practices in such a busy season? Why wouldn't it be easier to just forget it for another year?" Maybe it's because they have some tie to land that is stronger than materialism. Maybe it's because they are aware of the tarnished landscape brought about by erosion. It could be that a little "crookedness" (in the corn row) is better than the "straight and narrow."

Conservation Photo Contest Opening

The Iowa chapter of the Soil Conservation Society of America has announced its annual photographic contest.

The contest is designed to stimulate any one in Iowa who takes out door pictures to submit outstanding conservation photographs.

All kinds of conservation pictures will qualify, according to Ernest Behn, of Boone, contest chairman.

Following is a list of picture types which are needed to help inform people about conservation and good land use—a farmer working in a terraced contouring or strip cropped field, controlling gullies by vegetation or structures, a well managed forest, using land for wildlife, watershed protection works, a farm pond for livestock or recreation. Pictures depicting the ravages of gully and sheet erosion are also needed.

Anyone is eligible to enter and compete for cash prizes both in color and black and white divisions. First prize in the colored division is \$25.00. First prize in black and white is \$15.00. Enlargements of the winning entries will be used for display at fairs and other appropriate events to help further understanding of conservation.

All entries must be taken after Jan. 1, 1957. The contest closes Sept. 30, 1960.

The local soil conservation office has entry blanks and complete information.



Conservation Award

Darrell E. Cooper of Moravia Tuesday night received the Goodyear conservation award for the Monroe County Soil Conservation District. Making the presentation is R. P. Reese (right) of Chariton, a representative of the tire company. The award is made to the outstanding cooperator in the soil conservation district.

← April 28
1960

→ May 12
1960

Tour Honey Creek Watershed May 5

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District is sponsoring a tour of the Honey Creek Watershed southeast of Russell. The tour will leave the Albia Post Office Building at 9:30 a.m. and will return about noon.

The Honey Creek Watershed was developed as a pilot watershed project.

Businessmen, farmers and candidates for public office have been invited by the district to go on the tour. The Future Farmers of America chapters at Albia and Moravia community high schools have also been invited.

← May 2, 1960

Regional Contest at Albia For Conservation Queen

The Region Six Conservation Queen contest will be held in Albia Aug. 1 as an entertainment highlight of the Albia Fairs Festival. John Spencer, chairman of the agricultural bureau of the Albia Chamber of Commerce, announced today.

The Conservation Queen contest replaces the Queen of the Furrow contest. It will be sponsored this year by the Farmers Grain Dealers Association (Cooperative) of Des Moines and the soil conservation districts of the state. The regional contest in Albia will be sponsored by the grain dealers and the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

Spencer said the agricultural bureau is also attempting to arrange go-cart races for the other two nights of the fall festival.

The fall festival is held each year at the same time as the Monroe County 4-H Fair. The entertainment will be at the fair grounds.

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

"Are we doing it right?" was Mrs. Ed Welch's question as she stopped the tractor. She was helping her husband plow a field where we had just completed laying out a terrace system. "It looks like you are doing fine."

"Ed and I have talked it over and decided that we had better get busy and see if we couldn't do something about trying to build this place up and keep the soil from all washing away. You know we have two little boys that may want to farm one of these days. We had better keep the land in good enough shape so they can if they decide to be farmers."

"Yes, Mrs. Welch and all mothers, by the time your little boys graduate from high school there will be 30 per cent more people in the nation to feed. We will also need twice the amount of water that we are now using."

Too often we think of conservation as just plowing on the contour and letting it go at that. But water sometimes is even more important than food. One fourth of our people are now suffering from water shortage or poor quality water.

Yet as regular as spring each year Cedar Creek valley is flooded. Water—either too little or too much. Rarely is it just right. Last Friday, May 6, is proof of too much.

Fortunately, rainfall is adequate, but we haven't done much about conserving this water for future needs.

Controlling and conserving water is a big and complex job. Farmers need to terrace. If you doubt this, look at your field that isn't terraced and then look at the fields that do have terraces, but be honest.

We also need better grass and tree cover in certain areas of each individual farm. We also need more small reservoirs designed not only to store water but distribute water flow in the stream below over a longer period of time.

The soil and water conservation problem is a big one and a job for all of us. It is a problem that

is here now and can't wait for little boys to grow to manhood. After all, if we don't solve it, who will?

May 19, 1960

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

He was standing alongside of the road by his mail box as we drove up. He had some advertising circulars and an assortment of other mail tucked under one arm. The daily newspaper was spread wide and held by two rugged hands that had done their share of hard labor.

"What's new?"

"I was reading here that the public health department advises people in this area to get their fourth and fifth polio vaccine injections. They say the upturn in polio cases started here in 1959 and is likely to continue for another two years."

"Has your family had their injections?"

"Yes, they have. All of us have had at least three shots."

"This article also says those who have had at least three shots have proven the vaccine 90 per cent effective in the control of polio."

I looked over the plowed field to see how it had weathered the recent rainstorm. It hadn't fared so well. There was only one terrace on the slope. Three or four terraces on longer slopes also give 90 per cent protection. No halfway measures are effective when we have an epidemic of heavy rainfall.

I couldn't help but think, "Few people can afford the luxuries of poor health or eroded soils."

May 26, 1960

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

I don't believe I have ever seen the ground wash any more than it has this year, have you? These are the "famous last words" that I have heard repeated often this spring.

Too often we fail to understand that gigantic accomplishments are brought about by many "small" joined together. Erosion, too, is amplified by many small contributing factors. An inch of rain yesterday, one-half inch rain today and three-fourths inch of rain tomorrow are part of the contributing smalls.

By the same token, soil is conserved by many blades of grass. Floods are prevented by many farmers practicing soil and water conservation, not by two or three conservationists.

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS
Conservation Aide

Necessity is often the mother of invention. Because of the shortage of time this spring, many farmers have foregone the practice of plowing the ground before planting.

The heavy "wheel disc" has been the implement that seemed to prepare a satisfactory seed bed for planting of corn or beans on "old ground." One farmer said he had used the disc to prepare all of his planted acres, except that part which was in a meadow crop last year. This method has been in wide use this year rather than the exception.

There has been a lot of interest for some time in limited tillage, such as wheel track planting in plowed ground with no disking or harrowing prior to planting.

In their struggle to save time and cut operating cost, farmers of today are following unorthodox methods of past years. At least, there seems to be some changes in the making for seed bed preparation. Wheel track planting has been used quite extensively in some areas and it has proven to give equal yields as the conventional methods. It did save operating cost and reduce soil and water loss considerably when planting was done on the contour.

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

A wet finger in the breeze may tell you which direction the wind is blowing, but it will take more than a slight breeze to dry out many a bottom land field in time for a good crop.

There are thousands of acres of bottomland fields that are being protected from hill water by diversion terraces. Of all the conservation practices, the diversion terraces give the largest return in the shortest time. They are simple to build with heavy equipment and can be constructed in various sizes to handle the runoff that needs to be diverted away from the field. As an example, William Judge of the "Smokey Hollow Farm," has one that is diverting the drainage of 200 acres away from the field just west of the buildings. However, most of the diversions constructed are not that large but the desired effect is the same, dryer fields.

Homer Clark says "I can get in the fields two weeks earlier in the spring after I built diversions." Homer is a man who should know. He has been farming Cedar Creek bottom land for more than 50 years.

Russell Hindman said, "I believe this diversion will pay for itself the first year. When we get a two-inch rain, that means I'm getting about five inches of ac-

tual water out here in the field, counting all of the hill water."

Russell Brown remarked, "We paid for the diversion last year in poor crop. I believe we'll build it this year. We hate to keep paying each year and still not get any protection."

Water control is the determining factor of any conservation program. Without this element of control, little can be done toward conserving soil, fertility, or any of the other contributing parts that make up a sound conservation program.

June 16
1960

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

As we sit here in the back yard at dusk, the sounds that come from across the street at the swimming pool bring back memories. The sounds are the same, lots of laughter and splashing water, but many other changes have taken place at the "old swimming hole." For one thing, boys and girls swim together now which constitutes the need for bathing suits.

The old swimming hole that I knew was about a quarter of a mile down stream from the new bridge across North Fabuis Creek. There it was, just around the first

curve where the water ran clear and warm. The north side of the hole dropped straight down to a depth of 7 or 8 feet to a sandy bottom that sloped up to a few inches of water on the other side.

After each rain, we would have to make a thorough search of the hole to be sure that no broken bottles or cans had washed in that might injure a swimmer. Of course there were always snakes that had to be chased out but that was a small problem when we had three or four dogs helping.

There was always plenty of driftwood laying around to help keep a non-swimmer afloat. Sometimes we used a couple of tightly corked jugs tied together to assist the beginners. There wasn't a Red Cross instructor or lifeguards, it was one for all and all for one.

I hear it asked often, "What happened to the old swimming holes in the creek?" It really isn't

too difficult to understand why they are a part of the vanishing America. As the topsoil is washed away, it doesn't all go into the Gulf of Mexico. Some of it stays

at home in the bottom of our streams. Well, the water in the old swimming holes just got too thick for swimming and stays too thin for plowing.

June 30
1960

June
23, 1960

Pick Queen of Conservation In Monroe County Saturday

The Monroe county Queen of Conservation contest will be held Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in the 4-H building at the fairgrounds.

Any farm girl 16 to 21 years old interested in entering the contest should contact Miss Margaret Herring, county extension home economist.

Girls who have entered the contest are Shirley Ryan, Connie McAninch, Marilyn Tucker, Karen Larson, Carolyn Carlson, Helene Sullivan, Shirley Lynch, Nancy Carol Faber, and Rosann Calhoun.

They will be judged on personality, poise and beauty. Judges will be Robert Bates, Mrs. Marie Cain and Mrs. E. P. Schindler.

The queen will be crowned during the intermission of a 4-H dance to be held the same night. Robert W. Larson will be master of ceremonies for the program.

Two winners from the county contest will receive pearl necklaces and will be eligible to enter the regional contest to be held Aug. 1 at the Monroe County 4-H Fair and Albia Fall Festival.

The winners of regional contests will receive wristwatches and will be eligible for the state contest, which will be held later this fall.

The state winner will receive a wardrobe, and will be official hostess for the 1960 state field day and plowing matches.

The contest in Monroe county is sponsored by the Monroe county conservation commissioners and the Farmers Grain Dealers of Iowa.

The dance will begin at 9 p.m. The Rhythm Kings will play.

Two Queens Named Here

Connie McAninch and Shirley Ryan were named Saturday night as Monroe county's queens of conservation.

The two girls will compete with other county winners in a regional contest here Aug. 1, which will be held as part of the Monroe County 4-H Fair and Albia Fall Festival.

The two county winners received pearl necklaces. In the regional contest, they will compete for wrist watches and a chance to try for the state queen of conservation title.

The state winner receives a wardrobe and reigns as queen over the state field day and plowing match.

The county contest was sponsored by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District commissioners and the Farmers Grain Dealers of Iowa.

Judges were Robert Bates, Mrs. Marie Cain and Mrs. E. P. Schindler.

Eliminate Point Rows In Terracing

Many Iowa farmers can eliminate point rows from their terracing systems by constructing parallel terracing, says C. E. Beer, agricultural engineer at Iowa State University.

Parallel terraces that are constructed with a uniform distance between each terrace can reduce machinery time in the field and machinery damage to the crops. Beer points out that the parallel terrace system eliminates the crop damage done while turning around to get point rows in the middle of the field during cultivating or harvesting the crop. Without these point rows, time is saved in both the tillage and harvesting operations.

Although a parallel terrace system is more difficult to stake out and requires greater skill in construction, Beer reports the Soil Conservation Service is interested in promoting this type of terrace. The SCS feels the advantage to the farmer is worthwhile. It is also designing the terrace cross-section to be better adapted to use of four-row equipment.

Beer points out, however, that the amount of cut necessary to make a terrace system parallel may be greater than the half-foot cut normally required. It can interfere with the soil productivity

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

Last week the Monroe County Soil Conservation District stocked 13 more farm ponds with 8,300 finger length bass and bluegill fish. This total amount of parent stocking of fish would weigh only a few pounds. However, by 1962, they will be the "keeper" size and this original stocking of fish will have grown until their combined weight will be four to five tons of fish.

This is only part of their story. Next spring, the females of each species will spawn many thousands more and continue to do this year after year. So there isn't any real danger of running out of fish to catch, nor will they necessarily be small. It is a fact that bass in our farm ponds will grow to 1½ to two-pounders in two years. The most common error in fish pond management is that they are not fished enough. It just makes sense that if there are thousands of fish hatched each year in a given pond and none caught, eventually there will be more mouths to feed than there is food to go around to make a good growth. So let's grab the cane pole and see what we can do about alleviating the food shortage, for us and the fish.

People who received fish the past week are Walter Abbas, Alva Chance, Melvin Clark, Ronald Goode, Sadie Hager, Audrey Hale, Francis Hamilton, Wm. D. Henderson, DeWayne Johnson, Lenart Larson, Lawrence Livengood, Ben Maddy, Russell Maddy, Bill Mahlin, J. V. Nash, H. A. Shafer, Everett Thurman and Sam Wilcox.



Conservation Queens

Shirley Ryan (left) and Connie McAninch were chosen Saturday night as the two Monroe county queens of conservation. They will represent the county in a regional contest, which will be held in Albia as part of the Albia Fall Festival and county 4-H fair.

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

There is appearing in advertising today two words, "quarter inch" and "feed back." They are used to describe the qualities of almost every item from cigarettes to automotive brakes. This "quarter inch" seems to be a very important quality, according to the advertising.

I also saw in the paper that a woman got her nose caught in a car door. I suspect she thinks that was the most important "quarter inch." Well, after polling the delegation, we have agreed that the world will soon forget the quarter inch on cigarettes and the feed back on car brakes. The delegation also agrees that a quarter inch of topsoil is very important today and will be even one of you that has tried to grow knows how valuable a quarter grass or any other vegetation without some topsoil and failed

inch of black topsoil can be to you. How many times have you been unsuccessful with seedlings on pond spillways and road banks, or for that matter on just a plain old eroded hillside that doesn't have that quarter inch of plant nutrients found in topsoil that nurtures the small seedlings to take root and grow.

That's why we need to practice soil conservation. We just can't afford to run that close—a "quarter inch."

July 28
1960

Patty Gray, Osceola, Wins Conservation Queen Title

Miss Patty Gray of Osceola is the regional Queen of Conservation.

Miss Gray was chosen Monday night at the Monroe County 4-H Fair in competition with 13 other queens from seven counties in southern Iowa.

As the winner of the contest sponsored by the Soils Districts of Region Six and the Iowa Grain Dealers Association, Miss Gray was presented with a wrist watch.

Patty, a 16-year-old Clarke county farm girl from Osceola, was selected from a group of 14 girls representing eight counties.

Patty is the blond-haired, green-eyed daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Gray, who have a 280-acre farm two miles from Osceola. Patty has an older sister, Marylou, 22; and an older brother, Gary, 18.

Soon to begin her junior year at Osceola High school, Patty's major subject will be Home Economics. She is a cheerleader and top baton twirler in the band.

Patty is active in her local 4-H club and is a county officer in Clarke county at the present time. She has won several blue ribbons for demonstrations given at county fairs and has won numerous awards.

Patty will now compete with

the winners of eight other regional contests at the state finals to be held at the Plowman's Banquet, Guthrie Center, Iowa, on September 15th.

Monroe county's entrants in the contest were Shirley Ryan and Connie McAninch.

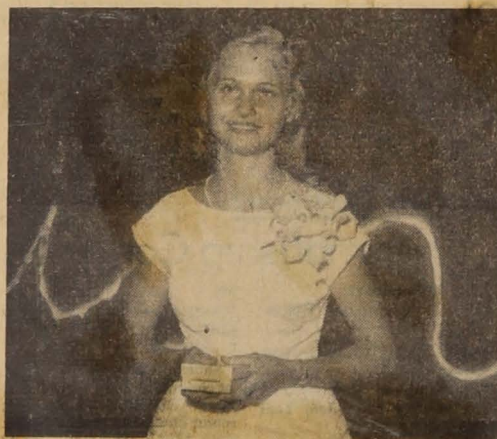
Dick Hagen, field editor for Wallaces Farmer, acted as master of ceremonies for the Queen of Conservation contest.

Judges were Mrs. Merrill Anderson, a Jasper county farm wife; Dick Prestemon, Des Moines, assistant secretary of the State Soil Conservation Commission; and Gilbert Fridley, ASC office manager at Cedar Rapids.

The girls were interviewed by the judges prior to the presentation at the fairgrounds. They were guests of honor at a supper by the Albia Chamber of Commerce.

Prior to the Queen of the Conservation Contest the Albia Community High School band, under the direction of M. C. Eckert, was presented in a half-hour concert.

Aug 4
1960



Conservation Queen

Miss Patty Gray was chosen Queen of Conservation at the Albia Fall Festival Monday evening. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Gray of Osceola, Patty will be a junior in Osceola High School this year.

County Featured In Soil Magazine

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District is featured in the Iowa Soil and Water magazine for August, which was mailed this week.

The magazine is the official publication of the Iowa Association of Soil District Commissioners and the Iowa State Watersheds Association.

Featured in the magazine are farmers and their conservation practices, and other conservation leaders in the county.

Aug 26
1960

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

Every farm owner and farm operator last week received a copy of the magazine "Soil and Water."

This is a monthly publication of the Iowa Association of District Commissioners and the Iowa Watershed Association. It is hoped this publication will help acquaint farm people with the conservation program in their particular district and with how it can help them.

As you folks look through this attractive magazine, you will see that the editor has attempted to show you the benefits of conservation by using many pictures from various parts of the county. He saw many other good conservation practices that couldn't be photographed. Yet they were there and are contributing to the cause of soil and water conservation. For example, how can a person photograph a good rotation, or an additional six inches of water stored in the soil for use in the dry months of the summer?

How can you photograph a gully that isn't there because the farmer used sound conservation practices? Most of all, how do you photograph the undaunted spirit of the people and their love for the land that compels them to be good stewards?

Yes, these things are here, too, but no one will take that picture.

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

This week we have been laying out and constructing terraces on the Hubert Steele farm in Pledsant township.

Hubert was the second farmer in the county to work out a farm conservation plan with the Monroe County Soil Conservation District. This was done in 1945 and he planned to use contour farming and strip cropping. Most of the guide lines were established in the fall of 1944 by Harold Anderson and Hubert.

It is always a source of satisfaction to go back to a farm where the conservation practices have been maintained and used for a number of years. But it is even more thrilling to see folks like the Steeles come to the realization that beginner conservation practices like contouring alone aren't enough protection for today's demands on the soil.

Hubert isn't discarding any of the original conservation plan, just supplementing the old. With the addition of a terrace system, he is virtually eliminating his erosion problem.

Aug 18
1960

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

st week, I write of the fine
ures in the "Soil and Water"
azine, hoping you would take
econd look at these pictures.
e would like to focus
attention on some of the
articles that were written es-
sally for this publication. Re-
these and listen to the mes-
they have to offer.
n not referring to the articles
ten by the professional con-
servationist. You would expect
to have a biased opinion to-
d conservation. But read the
by James W. Foster, a farm-

who in the last 20 years has
en of his time unselfishly to
note conservation because he
eves, with all of his heart, that
he only path for farmers to
ow.

Mr. Jesse Howells, science
cher, has no ax to grind except
seek and teach the truth.

Mr. Katherine Falvey, business
man and legislator, reaches her
victions about conservation
ause the lack of it has an ad-
se effect on the lives of so
ny people.

The Rev Donald Gruber, a sor-
at of God, who grew to man-
od with his roots deep in rural
erica, can see there is only one
y for rural people to be com-
able with God's plan; that's to
come worthy stewards of the
l.

John Horton could be content
be just a game warden enforce-
game laws. But, you will note
is more concerned with the
servation aspect of wildlife.
n reading these articles and
ing the people in Monroe coun-
in action over the years, I'm
vinced they are willing to
ak with tradition and accept
x ways, openly flinging away
as born in ignorance.

Over The County

With SCS and Extension
Personnel

By JOHN BOTTS

Last Tuesday, we, along with
a group of farmers, visited eight
farms in the county to see and
judge pastures that were entered
in a pasture improvement contest.
We saw eight excellent pastures.

The one at the John Knowles'
farm was judged the best. It was
a trefoil and orchard grass mix-
ture. The 20 acres has furnished
grazing for 30 cows and their
calves all summer long and still
has an extremely good cover.

I continue to be amazed at what
can be accomplished in pasture
improvement. We saw brushy pas-
tures, eroded hills and steep hills,
all of which had been transform-
ed into lush, high-producing pas-
tures.

The question that kept recur-
ring was, "Will these pastures
continue to be high producers
through the years?" To answer
this question, we stopped to see
one of the two original trefoil
seedlings made in this county. This
was at the Francis Heffron farm,
a two-acre pasture that was seed-
ed in 1947. It is an excellent pas-
ture today and has been a high-
producing pasture all 13 years,
and looks as though it will con-
tinue to be for some time.



Pasture Contest

A group of about 25 Monroe county farmers toured eight pastures Tuesday, judging the pastures in the 1960 Pasture Improvement Contest. Here, at the John Knowles farm east of Melrose, the farm-

ers examine the pasture closely. Kneeling toward the right of the picture are John Young, county extension director, with his back to the camera, and John Botts, conservation aide, who arranged the tour.



Knowles Pasture Judged Best

Three of the farmers who judged the pastures discuss Knowles' pasture before scoring it. The pasture is a mixture of trefoil and orchard grass and has been used

by 30 cows and their calves. It is 20 acres. The John Knowles pasture was unanimously chosen as the outstanding pasture.

Knowles Has Top Pasture

A pasture on the John Knowles farm was chosen Tuesday as the outstanding pasture in the 1960 Pasture Improvement Contest.

The contest was sponsored by the Monroe County Conservation District. The pastures in the contest were planted in the spring of 1959.

John Joe Crall's pasture received second place and John Tursic's was judged third.

Judges for the contest were about 25 farmers and conservationists who made the tour Tuesday morning and afternoon. They

selected John Knowles' pasture unanimously as the outstanding one of the eight in the contest.

Knowles entered 20 acres planted with four pounds of orchard grass and six pounds of trefoil. The pasture was planted with oats, which was grazed off.

This summer, he has grazed 30 cows and their calves on the 20 acres.

Knowles' farm is a few miles east of Melrose.

Crall's 22-acre pasture was orchard grass, alfalfa and red clover. He used his pasture for hay this

year because of an excess of pasture. Crall farms near Georgetown.

Tursic entered a 20-acre pasture north of Georgetown. It was planted with orchard grass, alfalfa and red clover.

Other pastures entered in the contest were those of William Scieszinski, north of Melrose; Pat Riordan, near Melrose; John Crall, near Georgetown; John Knowles, east of Melrose; and John Cowles, near Georgetown.

The group stopped at the Francis Heffron farm where they saw a 14-year-old pasture, one of the first planted with trefoil in Monroe county.

At the B. F. Ullem farm south-east of Melrose, they saw a clearing project, where trees are being killed by spraying from the air.

Sept 8,
1960

September
29, 1960

5-12

5-13

At Conservation Plan Meeting

Dale Barker, John Botts and Tom Brown attended an area conservation meeting in Chariton Wednesday. The topic of the meeting was farm planning and follow-up.

Hay, Silage Day Feb. 3

The Monroe County Extension Service is sponsoring a hay and silage day Feb. 3 beginning about 10 a.m. at the Chariton Valley Rural Electric Cooperative building in Albia.

Farmers can bring in samples of hay and silage and have them tested for the degree of acidity. The samples will also be judged, although the judges have not been named.

During the morning displays of balanced rations for beef, sheep, swine and dairy cattle will be shown.

A program will start about 1 p.m. On the program will be two members of the state extension service, Dale Hall, extension agricultural engineer, and Bill Zmolek, extension animal husbandman.

Instructions for the hay and silage sampling will be available at the extension office, soil conservation service office, and the county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation office.

Botts Will Attend Committee Session

John Botts, county conservation aid, will attend a meeting of the state Soil Conservation Service follow-up committee Feb. 9-10 in Des Moines.

The committee will revise the service's policy and procedure on follow-ups, the continuing contact with farmers who have basic soil conservation plans.

Silage Day Next Friday

A Hay and Silage Day program will be held in Albia Friday, Feb. 3, sponsored through five cooperating organizations—the Agriculture Bureau of the Albia Chamber of Commerce, the Monroe County Farm Bureau, the Monroe County Soil Conservation Service, the Monroe County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee, and the Monroe County Extension Service.

In addition to the hay and silage clinics and the judging of the samples, there will be two agricultural experts from Iowa State University on an afternoon program, and discussion of rations for livestock in the morning.

The program will begin at 9:45 with coffee and doughnuts, furnished by the Chamber of Commerce, being served.

Judges at the same time will begin evaluating the samples of silage and hay. The silage will be tested with a PH test for acidity.

The discussion of rations will be held from 11 to 11:45 a.m. Rations will be brought by Monroe county farmers: Lawrence Amoss, for beef cattle; Roy Scott, dairy cattle; Wayne Thompson, swine; Russell Warner, ewes and lambs; and the Albia Future Farmers of America chapter, feeder lambs.

Dale Hall, extension agricultural engineer for Iowa State University, will discuss harvesting and feeding systems at 1 p.m.

Bill Zmolek, extension specialist in livestock, will discuss utilization of roughage through livestock at 2 p.m.

Dale Uehling, extension director, says that samples of silage should be brought in two or four quart jars. Hay samples should be brought in a four-inch bale slice.

Information cards will be available at the soil conservation, extension or ASC offices, or at the silage day.

The information cards should be attached to the samples and should contain the following information:

For hay—the kind of hay; the stage or time of cutting; the length of curing; storage; opinion as to feeding value; and other remarks.

For silage—the kind raised; stage harvested, time of year; kind and amount of preservative used; acidity; yield per acre; type of silo being used; number of men, type of equipment used; kind of livestock now being fed and opinion as to feeding value; other remarks.

SILAGE DAY—

A Hay and Silage Day will be held at the Chariton Valley Rural Electric Cooperative building Friday beginning at 9:45 a.m.

Jan 30, 1961

Jan 12 1961

January 27 1961

Two Will Go to Civil Defense School

Two members of the Monroe county conservation staff will attend a school in Des Moines next week and will receive instruction on their roles in the event of a nuclear attack.

The two who will attend are John Botts, county conservation aide, and Dale Barker, conservation planning aide.

The school is sponsored by the United States Soil Conservation Service and will be held Tuesday

day through Thursday at Fort Des Moines Army Reserve Training Center south of Des Moines.

The Department of Agriculture has been made responsible for several phases of civil defense preparation, and some of the responsibility has been delegated to the soil conservation service.

In Monroe county, the conservation service eventually will be equipped with equipment used to detect radiation, and the conservationists will be trained in the use of the equipment, as well as procedures for maintaining agricultural production in spite of contamination.

The training at the school next week will include instruction in methods of determining the level of radiation in such things as the soil, water supplies, feed grains and foodstuffs, and methods of salvage and decontamination.

Civil defense authorities state that a direct nuclear attack on areas predominantly rural, as Monroe county is, is not likely. But they are certain that in the event of a nuclear attack on the large cities in the country, practically every rural area would be contaminated by radioactive particles carried by winds from the urban areas and dropped on the rural areas.



Testing Silage

Dale Barker, a member of the Monroe County Soil Conservation Service staff, tests a sample of silage for acidity. The Hay and Silage Day was sponsored by the

extension service, soil conservation service, agricultural stabilization and conservation service, and Albia Chamber of Commerce.

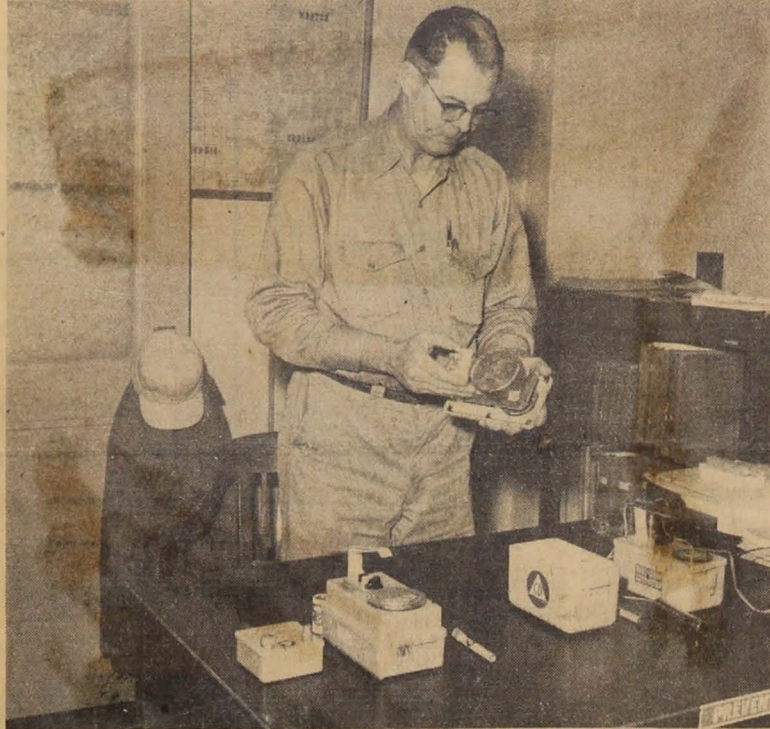


Discussing Hay

Bill Zmolek (foreground) and Dale Uehling discuss a sample of hay brought by John Spencer to the Hay and Silage Day Friday at the Chariton Valley Electric Co-

operative building in Albia. Zmolek is an Iowa State University animal husbandman and Uehling is extension director.

Feb 6, 1961



New Radiation Equipment

Dale Barker, one of two members of the county soil conservation staff who have been trained to measure radioactivity, is shown placing the batteries in one of three survey meters. On the left is a charger

used to adjust the two dosimeters, the small tubes between the survey meters. John Boits and Barker attended a civil defense school in Des Moines last month and learned how to operate the equipment.

Radiation Meters Here

The Monroe County Soil Conservation Service office is now equipped with three radiation survey meters (Gieger counters) which two staff members will use in case of heavy radiation in Monroe county.

The radiation survey meters are used to measure intensity of radiation caused by beta and gamma rays, both of which can be fatal.

Also included in the new civil defense equipment are two dosimeters, used to measure accumulated dosages of radiation, and a charger, used to re-set the dosimeters.

The equipment assigned here is worth about \$400, according to Dale Barker, one of two staff members who attended a school last month to learn to operate it. It is checked each week either by Barker or John Boits, who attended the school with Barker, and reports on its condition are prepared each six months.

The beta and gamma rays would be produced in large quantities either by a nuclear attack against the United States or through an accident such as the explosion of an atomic plant. While Monroe county probably would not be the site of an attack or an accident, it could be polluted through fall-out of radioactive material or particles, which have been exposed to radioactivity.

The soil conservation office here is one of about 150,000 monitoring stations being set up throughout the country. The station here would primarily measure radiation in agricultural land, water,

agricultural commodities stored or harvestable for livestock, meat and meat products, and other agricultural products and commodities owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation.

After the county has been exposed to radiation, the first measurements would be made indoors and the results could be used to determine the degree of radiation outdoors. In a building such as the Post Office, where the soil conservation office is located, the intensity would be about 20 per cent of that outdoor level.

The radiation survey meters could be used to measure the intensity. The dosimeters could be placed outdoors for a period of time to measure the radiation there. The dosimeters can also be worn to indicate the total amount of radiation to which a person has been exposed.

The radiation is measured in roentgens, and a total exposure of 450 is fatal. An accumulation of 200 is a maximum safe exposure.

The gamma rays penetrate the skin and cause poisoning inside the body.

Beta particles can cause extreme burns on the skin if they are not washed off. They can also enter the body through cuts in the skin, by being breathed, or through eating food which had an accumulation, such as food might have if it is grown in radioactive soil.

When beta particles enter the body through breathing or eating, the result is internal burns, which will be fatal.

A reporting system for the 150,000 monitoring stations has not been completed. Until it is, reports are made to civil defense headquarters in Battle Creek, Mich., and to local law officers.

Barker and two other employees of the other government agencies in Albia—Dale Uehling, extension director, and Mrs. Mary Ellen Anderson, agricultural stabilization and conservation office—are also members of a county emergency planning committee. They will prepare a plan which will go into effect in case of an attack or nuclear accident.

In case of an emergency, the three will become an agricultural defense board.

Long range civil defense plans also call for adequate protection of every person in an atomic war not later than 1972.

Possibly the biggest nuclear danger to Monroe county comes from the location of the Strategic Air Command base in Nebraska. The base, a probable target in the event of war, is directly west of Albia. Much of the time, wind currents which could carry radiation come from the west.

The base could have an explosion causing a fairly heavy fall-out, and Monroe county would still have several hours to prepare for an emergency. However, some steps should be taken ahead of time, civil defense officials believe.

A shelter of at least a foot of concrete and three and a half to four feet of earth would provide good protection. Without a shelter, a basement would provide some protection.

—Continued on Page 6.

State Will Help Farmers Provide Wildlife Cover

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District, in cooperation with the Iowa Conservation Commission, is offering a 50-50 cost share on planting odd farm areas to wildlife cover.

Fifty per cent of the cost of the trees and/or shrubs, fertilizer used and grassseed sown will be refunded by the Iowa Conservation Commission through the soil conservation district.

These are small area plantings

for waste areas, odd corners, around farm ponds or any other small area that is suitable. These plantings are to furnish food and shelter for wildlife.

All projects must be approved by conservation officer Mark Uhlenhake, 203 W. Francis St., Centerville.

For further information contact the soil conservation office, room 203, Post Office building in Albia.

March 2
1961
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Wants Conservation For County Farm

The Monroe County Grand Jury has issued a report asking for a conservation plan for the land owned by the county around the county home.

The report stated, "It is felt by the members (of the grand jury) that with the emphasis given throughout the county to conservation, that the land owned by the county should exemplify good and proper conservation practices."

The grand jury recommended that the board of supervisors contact John Boits, conservation aide for the Monroe County Soil Conservation District, and ask him to draw up a conservation plan.

The grand jury also recommended that the jury room be cleaned and the chairs be replaced.

Feb-13
1961

The intensity of the radiation diminishes with time. After two weeks, the level would be reduced to about a tenth. Civil defense officials feel there should be a supply of food and water to last during these two weeks.

Livestock should be kept in a barn or the best building available until the radiation has subsided.

Water would be important both for drinking and for washing away the beta particles. While the Albia reservoir might be heavily contaminated by fall-out, the water system is constructed in such a way that water can be pumped directly from a deep well.

Conservation Report Lists Accomplishments in 1960

The 1960 annual report of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District was printed this week and is now being mailed to the cooperating farmers in the district.

The report lists the accomplishments of the district in such areas as the number of acres of pasture renovation and the number of new farm ponds constructed during the year.

It also summarizes the district's activities during the year.

The report lists these accomplishments:

Contour farming—331 acres of contour farming were added during 1960. As of July 1, 1960, there were 28,019 acres farmed on the contour in the county.

Strip cropping—35 acres of strip cropping were added during the year. The total on July 1 was 906 acres.

Brush control—429 acres of brush control were added during 1960.

Pasture planting—943 acres of pasture were planted in 1960. Total pasture improvement on July 1 was 5,946 acres.

Pasture renovation—287 acres of pasture were renovated during the year.

Tree planting—19 acres of trees were planted in 1960. The total on July 1 was 155 acres.

Wildlife area—27.5 acres were added in 1960. On July 1 the total was 223 acres.

Waterways—36.57 acres of waterways were constructed in 1960. The total on July 1 was 316 acres.

Standard terraces—20,277 miles of standard terraces were built in 1960. On July 1, the total miles of standard terracing was 182.

Diversification terraces—6,487 miles of diversification terraces were added in 1960. The total on July 1 was 63 miles.

Open drainage—1,97 miles of open drainage were added during the year.

Title drainage—7,330 feet of the drainage were laid during 1960. The total on July 1 was 206 miles.

Ponds—53 ponds were built during 1960. The total on July 1 was 935 farm ponds—nearly as many ponds as farms. On July 1

445 of the ponds had been stocked by the conservation district. Other ponds were stocked by the state and by the individual farmers.

Drop inlets—five structures were built during 1960. The number of structures on July 1 was 45.

Other accomplishments to July 1 included 14 windbreaks, and 2,218 rods of hedgerows.

On July 1 there were 883 co-operators whose farms included 128,253 acres. This is about half the farm land in the county.

Basic conservation plans had been drawn up for 444 farms with a total of 94,211 acres.

During the year 162 farms were serviced, and follow-up conservation work was done on 118 farms.

These figures include conservation work done through the district and reported to the district.

Other work may have been done by the farmers without the assistance of the conservationists.

John Bots, conservation adviser, said it is necessary to do a certain amount of conservation work to maintain the present levels of conservation.

Some co-operators die or leave the farm, he stated, and the new farmers need the assistance of the conservation service.

People are becoming continually more aware of conservation, though, he added.

Among the activities listed in the report were these:

Soil stewardship booklets for soil stewardship week were distributed to ministers in the county.

Darrel E. Cooper was presented a plaque by the Goodyear award conservation program.

Farmers, businessmen and vocational agriculture students toured the Honey Creek watershed area.

About 50 people attended a fishing clinic.

The district was host to the regional queen of conservation contest.

Winners of the pasture improvement contest were John Tursic, John Knowles and John J. Cress Jr.



Conservation Award

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Clark, Albia Rte. 4, Tuesday, received an award for soil conservation on their farm from John Hamann (right) Chariton, a representative of Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. The award was one 36 given to Iowa farmers. The presentation was made at a meeting of the Monroe county soil conservation district commissioners.

Conservation Week

A Do-it-yourself Tour

DALE BARKER

Soil Conservation Week is one of year when soil conservation practices are the best. So why not highway 137 toward Ed-1 side some of these. But remember you are way with considerable

age on the left is from the underpass at the of Albia.

newly shaped and seed-terway on the Earl Al-ri farm. It's on the side of the road.

nicely shaped grass way in the oats field Sam Shepard farm.

Gray's terraces.

graded waterway on the Carlson farm, that was a deep gully.

er waterway, a pond diversion terrace de- to keep too much from going into the also on the Carlson

in the right side of the s Carl Stewart's pond a standard terrace to more water into his

ace system and a mul-

tiflora rose fence on Frank Bell's farm. This is one of the older terrace systems in the county.

7.1 On the left side of the road is Loren Bay's pond, built last year.

9.2 Back on the right side of the road is Henry Fynaardt's contour farming.

9.5 Fynaardt's terraces. Fynaardt's farm won a Des Moines Register and Tribune conservation award.

10.2 Donald Berto's pond.

10.8 A new drop inlet structure on Russell Lynn's farm. It has no water in it at present, so guess how deep the water will be when it is full.

Also take a look at the big poultry house being built.

12.0 A good view of the contour farming and the drop inlet erosion control structure on the Newell Brothers' farm. You have now completed the tour, so turn around and come back. On the way back you pick out places where terraces, contour farming, ponds, erosion control structures, graded waterways and diversion terraces should be.

There are other conservation practices along this road, but the ones to which attention has been given are those easiest to see from your car.

Hope you enjoy your drive.

July 17, 1961

Queen of Conservation Contest Will Be Aug. 7

The two Queen of Conservation winners for the Monroe County Soil Conservation District will be chosen Aug. 7 as part of the Monroe County 4-H Fair and Albia Fall Festival.

The two winners will receive pearl necklaces and will compete in the regional contest Aug. 16 at the Clarke County 4-H Fair in Osceola.

One winner from each of the nine soil conservation district regions will compete for the title of Iowa Queen of Conservation at the annual conference of soil conservation district commissioners at Hotel Savery in Des Moines Sept. 17.

The winner will receive a wrist watch and \$250. She will also act as official hostess for the

annual conference of soil conservation district commissioners and as hostess for the Iowa soil conservation districts field day and plowing matches which will be held near Marshalltown Sept. 22.

The contest is open to all single farm girls 16-21 in Iowa. The queen will be chosen for her poise, personality, intelligence and personal attractiveness.

The contest is co-sponsored by the soil conservation districts of Iowa and the Farmers Grain Dealers Association of Iowa (Cooperative) of Des Moines.

Entry blanks can be obtained at the soil conservation district office on the second floor of the post office, or from any member company of the Farmers Grain Dealers Association.



Crane

In State Contest

Michael Crane, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Crane, 528 S. Third St., will compete Sept. 17 in the state speech contest on soil and water conservation. Crane, who will be a junior this year in Albia Community High School, was the local contest winner and won one of the six district contests in Iowa. The Association of District Conservation Commissioners sponsors the contest, which will be held at their annual state meeting at Hotel Savery in Des Moines. Prizes of \$75 will be awarded. Mrs. Marie Cain, Albia Community High School English and speech instructor, is his teacher. Commissioners of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District are Robert McGinnis, John Spencer and Pat Carbin.

July 27 1961

Moulton Watershed Project Approved

Approval for assistance for carrying out the Moulton Watershed Project in Appanoose county was announced Tuesday by Frank H. Mendall, state conservationist for the U.S. Soil Conservation Service in Iowa.

The project, to be carried out in five years, is designed to provide watershed protection and flood protection in the 7,275-acre area. Project sponsors are the Appanoose County Soil Conservation District and the Appanoose County Board of Supervisors.

Total cost of the projects estimated at \$302,800, of which the federal contribution will be about \$230,200. The project will return \$3.40 in direct benefits for every dollar of the project cost Mendall said.

August 10, 1961

Conservation Plan Approved for Farm

A basic conservation plan for 278 acres farmed by Floyd Chance north of Albia was approved Tuesday night by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District commissioners.

The commissioners also voted to pay the expenses of Tom Dougherty, who will represent the county in the state contour plowing matches near Marshalltown Sept. 22.

The next regular meeting of the commissioners will be Sept. 26.

August 24, 1961

Conservation Queens Chosen

Linda Bettis, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Bettis, Rte. 5, Albia, and Karen Conway, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Conway of near Melrose, were chosen Monday night as Monroe County Queens of Conservation.

The contest was held as part of the County 4-H Fair and Albia Fall Festival. It was sponsored by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

The two girls will compete Aug. 16 in the regional Queen of Conservation contest in Osceola.

There were 16 contestants in the county contest. They were judged on attractiveness, personality, ability to converse and information on soil conservation and agriculture.

August 25, 1961

Dougherty Is in Match

Tom Dougherty, who farms near Albia, has been selected to represent Monroe county in the State Soil Conservation Plowing Matches and Field Day Sept. 22 near Marshalltown.

Dougherty, who has been in several previous plowing matches, was chosen by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

He will compete in contour plowing.

August 24, 1961

Farmers Urged to Terrace Their Hilly Land in the Fall

Monroe county farmers have been urged by soil conservation district employees to terrace hilly land this fall, rather than waiting for spring.

John Botts, district conservation aide, pointed out that the ground is dry in the fall, which makes building the terraces an easier job. When wet ground is terraced it becomes packed and is harder to use, Botts said.

The farmer has more time in

the fall, he added, for such conservation work.

Charles Scott, who farms north of Service United Presbyterian Church, is completing 1½ miles of terracing. Clell Lewis and Roy Scott, who live in the same neighborhood, are also planning some terracing this fall.

In addition to the terracing, farmers are seeding many waterways, and several farm ponds are being constructed.

Swim Only in Supervised Place Red Cross Suggests

The Monroe County Chapter of the American Red Cross today repeated its warning against swimming in unsupervised places.

Robert W. Larson, water safety chairman for the local chapter, pointed out that the best safety precautions anyone can take is to learn to swim and to learn and follow rules of water safety.

"One of the primary rules of water safety is never to swim in unsupervised places. Even a farm pond can have supervision to an extent and water safety can be practiced," Larson added. He issued a particular warning against swimming in gravel pits and in abandoned strip mines with sharp inclines and water of unknown depth.

He repeated the suggestion that farm ponds and places where swimming is desired should be equipped with "safety posts" con-

taining minimum safety equipment and instructions.

He added that such "safety posts" (as illustrated in this photo) can be constructed at little cost and can help reduce the hazards of drowning.

Larson pointed out that the instructions for erecting such a "safety post" can be obtained at the office of The Albia NEWSpapers or through the American Red Cross.

The Monroe County Soil Conservation Office in the post office building also has available a number of leaflets entitled "Make Your Farm Pond Safe." These are available with additional suggestions on water safety and accident prevention.

For parents who wish to teach their own youngsters to swim or who wish to supplement lessons given during the summer at the Albia Municipal Swimming

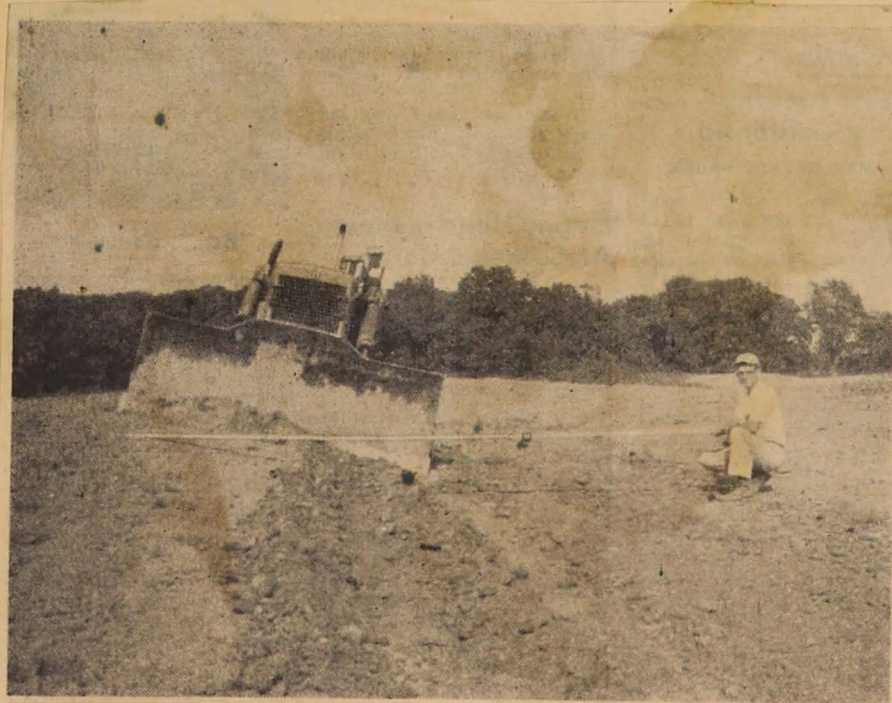
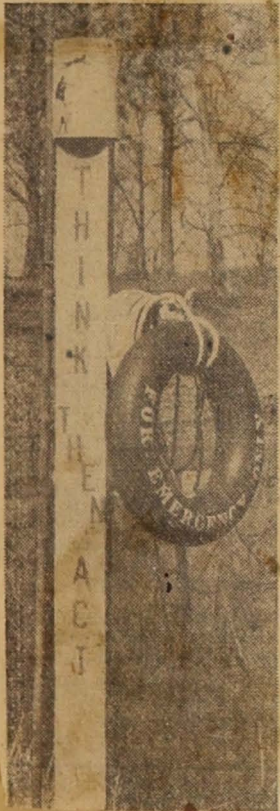
Pool, a booklet "Teaching Johnny to Swim" is also available at a cost of 25c through the American Red Cross or at The Albia NEWSpapers.

Larson called attention to the experience of the three Lovilia boys in the strip mine pond northwest of Bussey Monday evening. He said "these places are unsafe and children should not be allowed to swim in these abandoned strip mines. The best method of preventing drowning is to have youngsters swim only in supervised places."

August 31 1961

5-16

5-15



Terracing on Scott Farm

John Botts, right, Monroe County Soil Conservation District aide, assists Albert Nikkel of Tracy as one and a half miles of terracing is completed on the Charles Scott farm six miles north of Albia Wed-

nesday afternoon. Conservationists say that the fall months are the best time to construct terracing on farms, since the land will then be ready for crops in the spring.

August 28 1961

Will Hold Pasture Tour In County on Sept. 27

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District's annual pasture improvement tour will be held Sept. 27.

The tour will leave the Post Office Building at 9 a.m. and will last all day.

Those taking the tour will see

trefoil and other types of seedings, pastures with brush cleared off and re-seeded, and steep land which has been changed back from cropland to pasture.

Farmers in Monroe county are continuing to make conservation

improvements, according to staff members of the conservation district.

Conservation personnel are assisting three farmers who are having terraces built on their farms. They are James Wilson,

Franklin township, Lavern Massman, Jackson township, and Roy Scott, Bluff Creek township.

Waterways are being built on three farms—the Wayne Thompson and the Wilson farms, both in Franklin township, and the Massman farm.

Pasture Tour Will Include Visit to Experimental Plot

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District commissioners and the Monroe County Extension Service are sponsoring an annual pasture tour and contest which will start at the Albia Post Office Wednesday at 9 a.m.

The tour will include visits to land cleared from brush and re-seeded to trefoil and orchard grass, eroded hills that were once unproductive, and the Moravia demonstration plot.

Lunch will be furnished by the Peoples National Bank.

Listed below are the farms

which will be visited. The farms were chosen to show a cross section of the pasture improvements completed in 1960:

Verlie Martin, stop scheduled for 9:30 a.m.

Lloyd Clark, 10:20 a.m.

Art McDonough, 10:33 a.m.

Ben Maddy, 11:15 a.m.

Lunch, 12:30 p.m.

J. E. King, 2 p.m.

Moravia demonstration plot, 2:30 p.m.

Everyone on the tour will take part in the judging.

Additional pasture entries are desired. It will not be possible, however, to visit more than those scheduled. Personnel from the Soil Conservation Service and the Extension Service will judge any entries not visited on the tour.

James Foster Recognized For Conservation Work



Foster

James Foster, Albia Rte. 4, is one of four Iowans who received recognition Monday night for outstanding contributions to the soil conservation program in Iowa.

Foster was a member of the State Soil Conservation Commit-

tee from 1939 until June 30, 1961. He has been very active in community activities and served a term in the Iowa House of Representatives.

He and Mrs. Foster live on a farm north of Albia. They have three sons: Hoyle A. Foster, in business in Texas; Delbert T. Foster, with the extension service of the University of Maryland; and James S. Foster, with the soil conservation service in Nebraska.

The others to receive the recognition were Kenneth Wagner, also a former member of the State Soil Conservation Committee, who farms near West Liberty; and Frank H. Mendell, state conservationist for the soil conservation service.

They received plaques and certificates Monday during the annual conference for soil conservation district commissioners held at the Hotel Savery in Des Moines.

Foster was also made an honorary member of the state association of district commissioners.

He was presented with a gold wrist watch at the commissioners' regional meeting.

Crane Is Second In Speech Contest

Michael Crane, 16, a junior in Albia Community High School, was second Sunday in the state conservation speech contest. Nine young people were in the state contest.

Crane is the son of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Crane, 528 S. Third St.

He was the winner in both the county and regional speech contests to qualify for higher competition. His speech was prepared under the direction of Mrs. Marie Cain.

The contest is sponsored by the State Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners. It was held as part of the state convention of the organization. Pat Carbin, a commissioner for the Monroe county district, took Crane to Des Moines for the contest. Two others in addition to Crane gave their speeches at a banquet Sunday night. He received a check for \$25.

Attend Meeting Of Commissioners

Mr. and Mrs. John Spencer of Albia are in Des Moines where they are attending the state convention of the soil conservation district commissioners. Mr. and Mrs. Robert McGinnis attended the convention Sunday and Sunday evening. Pat Carbin, the third commissioner from the Monroe county district, took Michael Crane, an Albia Community High School student, to the convention Sunday. Crane represented this region in the state conservation speech contest Sunday.

September 25, 1961

September 25, 1961

November 16, 1961

**Pasture Tour
Wednesday**

The pasture tour sponsored by Monroe County Soil Conservation District commissioners and the Monroe County Extension Service will begin Wednesday at 9 a.m., leaving from the Albia office.

Below are the stops on the tour:

Mr. Martin farm, stop scheduled for 9:30 a.m.

Lloyd Clark, 10:20 a.m.

Mr. McDougall, 10:33 a.m.

Mr. King, 11:15 a.m.

Mr. King, 12:30 p.m.

Mr. King, 2 p.m.

Mr. King, demonstration plot, 3 p.m.

**Fourth in Safety
In Plowing Match**

Tom Dougherty of Albia was fourth in the safety division of the state plowing match at Marshalltown last Friday.

Dougherty, a former state champion in level land plowing, was plowing in a contour contest at Marshalltown.

He was representing the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

**Give Awards
For Pasture
Improvement**

Awards for the pasture improvement contest were presented Wednesday night at the 23rd annual Alfalfa Banquet at the Albia Community High School fieldhouse.

Bob McGinnis, chairman of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District Commissioners, who sponsored the pasture improvement contest, presented the awards. They went to:

Mrs. Ed Agans and Everett Agans, owners, and Lloyd Clark, tenant, for the pasture improvement on the farm Clark operates near Consol.

J. E. King, owner, and William French, tenant, for the improvement on the farm French operates southwest of Hilton.

Ben Maddy, for the improvement on the farm he owns and operates southwest of Albia.

Leo Greco and His Pioneers, country and western dance band from Cedar Rapids, provided the entertainment.

Donald "Red" Blanchard was the speaker.

Hilbert Phipps of Lovilia was master of ceremonies.

**Five Conservation
Plans Approved**

Basic conservation plans for five Monroe county farms were approved Tuesday at a meeting of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District commissioners.

The farms are those of Rex McCombs, 176 acres; John Dale Sayres, 89 acres; Paul Stewart, 80 acres; Nils Burchland, 280 acres; and Roy Hayworth, 157 acres.

December 28, 1961

December 28, 1961

**Conservation Clerk
To Attend School**

Miss Janet Belzer, clerk for the Monroe County Soil Conservation District, will attend a news writing school in Iowa City in March.

Three Winners Are Named In Annual Pasture Contest

Three winners in the annual pasture contest for Monroe county farmers were announced today.

They are Lloyd Clark, who farms near Consol; Bill French, who operates a farm southwest of Albia; and Ben Maddy, whose farm is also southwest of Albia.

Clark's pasture, on a farm owned by Mrs. Ed Agans, is of alfalfa and orchard grass.

French's pasture, on a farm owned by J. E. King, and Maddy's pasture, were of combinations of grass and legumes.

The three will receive awards Nov. 15 at the Alfalfa banquet.

The pasture contest is sponsored by the Monroe County Extension Service and the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

The judges for the contest were the people—about 25 of them—who went on the tour.

The points awarded in the judging were: establishment, including soil testing, application of lime and fertilizer, seed ing methods, stand and vigor, up to 25 points; management, up to 10 points; conservation practices, up to 30 points; land use and crop utilization, up to 30 points; and general appearance, up to five points.



In Trefoil Field

Three men who took the pasture tour Wednesday examine the deep trefoil in a pasture on the Verlie Martin farm northwest of Lovilia. They are (left to right) Leon Packard, Albia Rte. 2; John Spencer, Albia, a farmer and soil conservation dis-

trict commissioner; and Robert Palmer, an employe of Peoples National Bank. The pasture is part of the diverted acreage on the Martin farm, and has not been grazed or clipped.

Oct 2, 1961



At Experimental Plots

Part of the group on the pasture tour is shown at the experimental corn plots at the north edge of Moravia. The corn plots were a project of the Monroe and Appanoose county extension services, the Moravia Community School District and several

other organizations. The corn will be harvested and weighed soon—probably on Saturday—and comparisons will be made of the effects of plant populations and amounts of fertilizer.

Soil Service Group Meets

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District commissioners met this week and approved tentative plans for 1962 activities.

On the list of events are:

March — Cooperate with the Wapello County Hay and Silage Show.

April—Banquet and election.

June — Tour for the Chamber of Commerce, Junior Chamber of Commerce and Business and Professional Women.

June — Tour for ministers, people who have helped with the Queen of Conservation contest, and people who have helped with Soil Conservation Week.

August—County Queen of Conservation contest.

October — Pasture tour and contest.

The conservation tour may be either in Monroe county or in the Honey Creek watershed area near Russell.

A revision of the conservation plan for Roy Hayworth's farm (240 acres) was approved. Three cancellations of conservation plans were approved. The farms are those of John Cernich Sr., 120 acres; D. E. Wynes, 232 acres; and Mike Kurimski, 80 acres.

Will Award Albia Firm Conservation Certificate

Monroe County Truck and Implement Co. is one of three farm equipment dealerships in Iowa which will be awarded certificates Tuesday for their contributions to the promotion of soil conservation.

The certificates will be awarded by the Iowa Retail Farm Equipment Association, Inc., at the annual convention business session.

Frank Mendell of Des Moines, state soil conservationist and chairman of the judging committee, will make the presentations.

Other firms to be recognized

for promoting soil conservation are De Voe Tractor Co., and Corning and Severns Implement Co. of Knoxville.

Farmers are invited to view the 140 booths of equipment which will be displayed at Veterans Memorial Auditorium on Tuesday. They will also hear Mrs. Ila Huff, assistant manager of Boyd Personnel Service, Memphis, Tenn., speak on "Getting Along with Others," and in the afternoon hear Allan B. Kline, former president of the Iowa and American Farm Bureau.

On Wednesday and Thursday several hundred farm equipment dealers will view the exhibits and hear several speakers representing farm equipment manufacturers.

January 25, 1962

February 25, 1962
5-17

Conservationists' Accomplishments In 1961 Listed

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District commissioners this week listed 1961 accomplishments in their annual report.

In several types of conservation work, the 1961 accomplishments were above those for the year before.

The report states that the prolonged wet condition of the soil in the spring and again in the fall probably contributed to a drop of about 50 per cent in terracing. There was a bright spot in terracing, however, the report said. Farmers and contractors seemed more willing to spend time and money on parallel terraces. Fifteen per cent of all terraces built in 1961 were of the parallel type. The total is equal to the amount of parallel terrace built before last year.

Contour guide lines were established on twice as many acres in 1961 as in 1960. The accumulative total is now 29,000 acres.

Waterway construction hit an all-time high in 1961. Seventy acres of water ways were constructed and seeded, doubling the total of any previous year.

Pond construction was down 30 per cent. The report says this is the usual pattern when rainfall is high. However, the stocking of ponds with fish was up tremendously. The 1960 figure was only 10. In 1961, there were 58 ponds stocked. The total number of ponds in the county now stocked with fish is 506.

Six erosion control structures were completed in 1961, which is a normal figure. The high years were 1956 with 15 structures, and 1957 with 14.

The six structures completed in 1961 were of the earthen fill variety with a pipe outlet. The average for the six fills was 7,200 cubic yards of earth, with a range of 1,700 cubic yards to 16,500 cubic yards.

Most of the other conservation work was about average.

The amounts of different practices for 1961 were:

- Contour farming, 738 acres.
- Brush control, 282 acres.
- Pasture planting, 296 acres.
- Pasture renovation, 12 acres.
- Tree planting, 19 acres.
- Wildlife area established, seven acres.
- Fish pond improvement, 53 ponds.
- Hedge row planted, 3,500 feet.
- Waterways constructed and planted, 70 acres.
- Standard terraces constructed, 8.9 miles.

ALBIA UNION-REPUBLICAN 6
Albia, Iowa (Monroe County)
Thursday, February 8, 1962

Parallel terraces constructed, 1.4 miles.

Diversion terraces constructed, 3.65 miles.

Open drainage, 301 acres.

Open drainage ditch, 1.4 miles.

Tile drainage, 2,300 lineal feet.

Ponds, 36.

Drop inlets, six.

Farms services, 166.

Follow-up on farms, 90.

Other activities of the district in 1961 listed in the report are:

Soil stewardship booklets were distributed to ministers in the county for Soil Stewardship Week.

A hay and silage day was held.

Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. presented a plaque to Melvin Clark for the Goodyear Award Program.

Two meetings were held concerning the Iconium Watershed.

Two meetings were held with the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service committee.

The district commissioners participated in the Des Moines Register and Tribune contest.

The district had a booth and display at the Monroe County 4-H Fair.

The district held the Queen of Conservation contest.

Tom Dougherty represented the area at the State Plowing Match held at Marshalltown.

Mike Crane represented the district and received second place in the State Conservation Speech Contest.

The district sponsored the Pasture Improvement Contest with the following winners: Mrs. Ed Agans, Everett Agans, Lloyd Clark, J. E. King, William French and Ben Maddy.

The district cooperated with the Monroe County Farm Bureau and the Albia Chamber of Commerce on the Alfalfa Banquet.

A total of 33 conservation news articles were printed.

Soil Conservation Banquet Is May 8

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District commissioners annual banquet and election will be held May 8.

The date was set at a meeting of the commissioners on Tuesday.

The commissioners also voted to hold a Queen of Conservation contest on the first night of the Monroe County 4-H Fair and Albia Fall Festival.

The district has requested that it be host to the regional Queen of Conservation contest. However, it is not known if the Farmers Grain Dealers Association, which has sponsored the state contest in the past, will sponsor it again this year.

If there is no state contest, a local contest with local sponsorship will be held.

Four basic conservation plans were accepted and one cancellation was accepted.

The four basic plans are on these farms: Carl Stewart, 114 acres; Frances Daub, 160 acres; Neil LaMar, 220 acres; and Roy F. Chidester, 118 acres. The cancellation is on the Leo Coady farm, 308 acres.

Attend Regional Meeting For Agricultural Personnel

Seven people from Monroe county Tuesday attended a regional meeting for agricultural personnel sponsored by the Iowa Association of District Soil Conservation Commissioners.

Those attending the meeting were Joe Phillips, extension agronomist for Monroe, Appanoose, Wayne and Lucas counties, Robert McGinnis, John Spencer, Frank Bell, James Foster, Miss Janet Belzer and Pat Carbin.

Subjects discussed at the meeting were: Economic evaluation of soil, presented by Everett Stoneberg, economist at Iowa

State University, and Art Thorsen, from the Soil Conservation Service state office; the 11-county rural area development program, presented by Art Johnson, executive secretary of the 11-county steering committee; conservation needs for the 10 counties in the region; Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service-Soil Conservation Service relations in the Agricultural Conservation Practices program; and a panel discussion on conservation programs. Phillips was a member of the panel.

It was predicted that at the present rate of progress, it could take from 800 to 900 years to get some of the basic conservation needs on the land.

Those at the meeting also discussed conversion of land in this region to pasture use, real estate taxes, and the head tax on cattle.

Miss Belzer attended a meeting for clerks of Soil Conservation Districts.

Agencies represented at the meeting were the Soil Conservation Service, the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, the Extension Service, the Farm Home Administration, the State Conservation Commission and Forestry Service.

Counties in the region are Madison, Warren, Marion, Mahaska, Clarke, Lucas, Monroe, Decatur, Wayne and Appanoose. The meeting was held in the American Legion Hall in Chariton.

Basic Conservation Plans Approved

Two basic conservation plans were approved Tuesday afternoon at a meeting of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District commissioners.

The basic plans are for the Felix Salato farm, 315 acres; and the Frank Woodward farm, 200 acres.

Seven initial agreements were approved, for the Edward H. Clark farm, 316 acres; Ted Wilson farm, 148 acres; Delbert Gray farm, 155 acres; John Patrick Jr. farm, 435 acres; Gerald C. Peterson farm, 200 acres; Ollie Kandenberg farm, 240 acres and Donald Berto farm, 186 acres.

One re-plan was approved, on the William Hughes farm, 181 acres.

Cancellations of plans on the Ralph Tubaug farm, 171 acres; and Mrs. Elizabeth Berto farm, 200 acres, were also approved.

Conservation Camp Grants Authorized

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District commissioners voted Tuesday to sponsor two teachers at the Iowa Teacher's Conservation Camp to be held this summer.

The camp is sponsored jointly by the State Conservation Department, State Department of Public Instruction and State College of Iowa.

Each three-week session is worth three semester hours of college credit.

The camp will be held at Springbrook State Park near Guthrie Center.

One of the three-week courses will be held from July 1-21. It will deal with soil nutrients, wildlife and balance in nature.

The other course will be offered from June 10-30 and again from July 22-Aug. 11. It will deal with rocks and minerals, soil, water and forest resources.

The course will include field trips by bus totaling about 1,000 miles during which the students will get a view of conservation in action.

State Soil Conservation Committee
of Iowa

NOTICE OF ELECTION OF COMMISSIONER FOR THE MONROE COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT, EMBRACING LANDS LYING IN THE COUNTY OF MONROE, IN THE STATE OF IOWA.

To all owners and/or operators of lands lying within the Monroe County Soil Conservation District, comprising the territory described as follows:

All land lying within the boundaries of Monroe County, Iowa, exclusive of incorporated cities and towns.

Notice is hereby given that on the 24th day of April, 1962, between the hours of 1:30 P. M. and 8:00 P. M., an election will be held for the election of a commissioner for the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

All owners and/or operators of lands lying within the above mentioned territory are eligible to vote.

Polling place for the election is as follows:

Service Center, First Christian Church, Albia, Iowa.

Eligible voters residing within the district shall cast their ballots at the polling place. Eligible voters not residing in the district or who will be absent from the district on the day of election may apply in person or in writing to the County Auditor at Albia, Iowa, for "absentee ballots." Each applicant for an absentee ballot shall state his name, residence, location, and acreage of land owned or possessed, and interest therein.

STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

By Bryon Weberg, Chairman.
April 9, 1962.

Conservation Banquet Is Tuesday

The annual banquet and election of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District will be held Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the First Christian Church Service Center.

Al Bull, managing editor of Wallace's Farmer, will be the speaker.

One district conservation commissioner will be elected. The two candidates are Robert McGinnis, incumbent, and Francis Hamilton. Each landowner is allowed one vote. Polls will be open from 4:30 to 8 p.m.

Two types of awards will be presented at the banquet. They are the commissioners' conservation awards, and the Des Moines Register and Tribune awards.

Awards Given for Conservation



Robert Dykstra (left) and Lyle Hasselhuhn, both of Pleasant township, received Des Moines Register and Tribune conservation awards Tuesday evening at the banquet.

Monroe County Soil Conservation District commissioners' awards, which are provided by the Albion Rotary Club. They are (left to



Three farmers received district commissioners' awards, which are provided by the Albion Rotary Club. They are (left to

right) Everett Gardner, Troy township; J. V. Nash, Cedar township; and Joseph C. Evans, Guilford township.

McGinnis Is Re-elected At Banquet

Five Monroe county farmers received plaques Tuesday evening at the banquet of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

Robert McGinnis was re-elected to a six-year term as a district commissioner. Francis Hamilton was also a candidate. Forty farmers owners voted in the election which was held along with the dinner.

Three farmers received the district commissioners' awards provided by the Albion Rotary Club. Two received Des Moines Register and Tribune awards.

The commissioners' awards went to:

J. V. Nash, who farms 421 acres in Cedar township. Conservation accomplishments include: contour farming, 40 acres; diversion terrace, 6 miles; standard terrace, 14.1 miles; sod waterways, two; hedge row, 121 rods; and Wildlife area, six acres.

Joseph C. Evans, who farms 80 acres in Guilford township. Conservation accomplishments on his farm are: contour farming, 51 acres; strip cropping, 20 acres; pasture planting, 50 acres; diversion terrace, 9 acres; and pond, one.

Henry Kolling, who presented the awards for the Rotary Club, pointed out that Evans keeps 20 dairy cattle on the 80 acre farm. This is an example of how conservation practices can increase farm income in Monroe county, Kolling said.

Everett Gardner, who farms 160 acres in Troy township. Conservation practices are: strip cropping, 70 acres; pasture planting, six acres; sod waterways, 2.8 acres; and diversion terrace, .2 mile.

The Register and Tribune awards were presented to: Lyle Hasselhuhn, who farms 176 acres in Pleasant township. His conservation accomplishments are: contour farming, 120 acres; pasture planting, 21 acres; brush control, 13 acres; tree planting, two acres; pond, one; sod waterways, 1.4 acres; and standard terrace, 1.9 miles.

Robert Dykstra, who farms 293 acres in Pleasant township. Conservation accomplishments on the farm are: contour farming, 105 acres; brush control, 15 acres; standard terraces, 2.1 miles; and sod waterways, one acre.

Al Bull, the speaker at the banquet, is managing editor of Wallace's Farmer. Bull advised farmers to convert to efficient beef operations.

He predicted that trends in agriculture will continue, including:

1. A further decrease in the number of farms and corresponding increase in size of farms. Most farmers, he stated, could add an additional 80 acres if it became available without buying any more machinery.

2. Continuing increases in prices farmers pay in order to operate their farms.

3. Continuing declines in prices farmers receive for their products.

Bull estimated Monroe county with one-third of its land suitable for pasture, could raise 30,000 beef cows rather than the present 10,000. This would require some good pasture management, he stated.

The 20,000 additional cows would, with good management, produce an additional 18,000 calves a year. Of these, 3,000 might be used for replacements and the other 15,000 sold as feeder calves for an increase in gross farm income of about \$1,500,000 a year for the county.

Rather than selling the calves, however, he recommended feeding them on farms in the county. The third of the county suitable for crops would produce sufficient corn to produce the silage needed for the beef herds.

Farm income can be increased through some improved farming methods, such as lighter feeding during the winter. Bull stated.

While a farmer is interested in his net income, Bull pointed out, the people in the city make their living from the farmers' gross income.

Conservation Awards

Awards from Rotary Club



Speaker Is 'Paid'

John Marlin Sr. (right), Albion, presents a four-pound bass to Al Bull, who spoke at the conservation banquet in Albion Tuesday night. Bull had told the conservation commissioners he had no fee for conservation dinner speeches, but would like to fish in the pond on the farm of Pat Carbin, one of the commissioners. Marlin caught this fish and two two-pound bullheads in the pond and gave them to Bull.

and Mrs. [Name] 200 acres, were also approved.

Apr 1
26, 1962

Area Conservation Queen Contest Will Be Held Here

Regional Queen of Conservation contest will be held at Albia, Aug. 6 as part of the Albia Festival and Monroe County Fair.

Monroe County Soil Conservation District commissioners are meeting Friday night approving holding the regional contest.

The county contest, which is part of the Fall Festival and Fair, has been tentatively scheduled for June 18 as part of the semi-annual dinner meeting of the Albia Chamber of Commerce. The approval of the conservation commission is subject to the approval of the Chamber of Commerce.

The conservation commission is meeting Friday night also: The election is being held for the 1962-63 year conservation con-

Approved sending Miss Janet Johnson, 360 acres; James Starcevic, 225 acres; and Lloyd McDowell, 80 acres.

Approved four initial conservation agreements. They are for Earl Griffin, 105 acres; and Ray McCloud, 100 acres.

Soils Queen Contest to Be June 18

Somewhere in Iowa there is a pretty farm girl who could become Iowa's 1962 "Queen of Conservation" and she could be from the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

The 1962 "Queen of Conservation" Contest is being co-sponsored by the Soil Conservation Districts of Iowa and the Farmers Grain Dealers Association of Iowa (Cooperative) of Des Moines.

The lucky winner will receive a wrist watch and a check for \$250.00. Besides her prizes, the new queen will act as official hostess for the 1962 State Conservation Field Day and Plowing Match to be held at Atlantic.

The contest is open to all single girls between the ages of 16 and 21 who reside on farms in Iowa. The queen will be chosen for her poise, personality, intelligence, and personal attractiveness.

The district contest for the Monroe County Soil Conservation District will be held on June 18 at the Albia Country Club, with the District Commissioners and the Agricultural Bureau of the Albia Chamber of Commerce as sponsors.

The two district winners will receive a bracelet and will compete in their area's regional contest to be held at the Monroe County 4-H Fair at Albia Aug. 6.

One winner from each of Iowa's nine soil conservation district regions will compete for the title of 1962 "Queen of Conservation" in the statewide contest to be held during the Plowmen's Banquet at Atlantic, Iowa Sept. 12.

Official entry blanks can be obtained at the Monroe County Soil Conservation District Office, Post Office Building, or from any member company of the Farmers Grain Dealers Association of Iowa in the area.

Handling the arrangements for the Monroe County District Contest are Robert McGinnis, chairman of the District Commissioners, Albia; Pat Carbin, Melrose; and John Spencer, Albia.

Melvin Sinclair To California

Melvin E. Sinclair, who has been an engineering aid with the Soil Conservation Service here for the past six years, will move this week with his family to Moorpark, Calif.

Sinclair will be employed as a Civil Engineering Technician on the Calleguas Creek Watershed Protection project.

His wife and three children will accompany him.

Sinclair is a native of Corydon.

Conservation Office Has New Employee

James Brownlee has been employed to work during the summer in the Monroe County Soil Conservation Service office.

Brownlee will work with Tom Brown, conservation engineer for a four-county area.

Brownlee is single. His home is in Coin, Iowa. He has attended Iowa State University, Ames, for three years, and will attend Northeast Missouri State Teachers College, Kirksville, Mo., this fall.

He worked as a trainee in Chariton last summer.

Shehan Attending Conservation Camp

John Shehan of Albia is spending six weeks at Springbrook State Park near Guthrie Center attending the Iowa Teachers Conservation Camp.

The camp is sponsored jointly by the State Conservation Commission, State College of Iowa and the Department of Public Instruction. Those attending the camp learn about conservation by taking field trips led by several outstanding conservationists.

About 150 teachers from all parts of Iowa are attending the 13th year of this outdoor school, which was the first of its kind in the country.

John R. Vincent of the State Conservation Commission says that teachers are staying in the camp at the state park. Part of the work is in the park, and each three week session teachers travel approximately 1,000 miles to study various areas of interest in conservation.

Shehan will be at the camp from June 16 to July 21.

Queen of Conservation Contest in Albia Monday

Two winners of the local Queen of Conservation contest will be chosen Monday at 3 p.m. in a contest at the Chariton Valley Rural Electric Cooperative office, 203 S. Main St.

Eight girls are entered in the contest. They are Mary Jo Ryan, Melrose Rte. 2; Virgene Shovlain, Melrose Rte. 1; Judy Lawless, Albia Rte. 2; Barbara J. Newell, Eddyville Rte. 1; Kathryn Schippers, Albia Rte. 3; Patty Schippers, Albia Rte. 3; Christine McGee, Melrose Rte. 1; and Marilyn Conway, Melrose Rte. 2.

The girls will be presented and the winners announced by Ray Gilger, president of the Albia Chamber of Commerce, at the semi-annual dinner meeting of the Chamber of Commerce. The dinner will be held at the Albia Country Club at 6:30 p.m. Monday.

The two winners will compete in the regional Queen of Conservation contest, to be held at the Monroe County 4-H Fair and Albia Fall Festival Aug. 6. Girls from 10 counties will compete in the regional contest.

The county winners will receive charm bracelets. Judges for the contest Monday will be James Foster, Mrs. Whitney Brenner and Mrs. Clair Bates.

The contest is sponsored by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

Two Conservation Queens To Compete in Regional

Winners of the Monroe County Soil Conservation Queen contest were announced Monday night at the annual dinner of the Albia Chamber of Commerce held at the Albia Country Club. They are Miss Mary Jo Ryan, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clark Ryan, Rte. 2, Melrose, and Miss Marjorie Beary, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Beary, Rte. 1, Lovilia. Runner-up is Miss Barbara Newell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Newell of near Eddyville.

Miss Ryan attends Albia Community High School, where she is a cheerleader. Miss Beary, who has attended Lovilia High School in the past, will be a senior at Albia Community High School this fall.

The winners will compete in the regional contest to be held Aug. 6 during the Monroe County 4-H Fair.

The girls were chosen from eight candidates who appeared before the judges Monday afternoon at the Chariton Valley Rural Electric Cooperative offices here. Among the things considered in the judging were natural attractiveness, complexion, neatness, poise, ability to converse, taste in clothes selection, and whether or not they would be at ease before

a large crowd as well as on television or radio. They were also judged on their knowledge of soil conservation practices and were required to give a one-minute speech on the subject.

The girls were guests of the Chamber of Commerce at the dinner along with their parents and the judges. Judging the contest were Mrs. Whitney Brenner, Mrs. Clair Bates and James Foster. They were introduced by Ray Gilger, president.

Rino Della Vedova, master of ceremonies, introduced the officers of the chamber and welcomed the guests. Door prizes included two \$25 savings bonds, and \$5 in silver dollars were also given during the evening. Winners of the bonds were Mrs. Walter McGee, Rte. 1, Melrose, mother of one of the queen contestants, and Kenneth Geyer. The silver dollars went to Harold Sheesley, oldest member present; George Adams, newest member present; Paul Kausalik, the youngest member present having belonged the longest; and Frank Novak and O. J. Duca, who won the drawing. Joe Zaputel won the drawing for the floral centerpiece.

Entertainment was furnished by the Playboys, an instrumental quartet of teenage boys from Des Moines, who presented rock and roll and twist music in typical teenage fashion.

Business places which donated toward the prizes were Richey Florist, who donated the centerpiece; Peoples National Bank, Illingworth Jewelry, First Iowa State Bank, Iowa Southern Utilities, United Telephone Co., Albia Auto Supply, J. C. Penney Store, Western Auto, Gambles, Trophy Glove Co., Loeb's, Albia Variety, Iowa Cleaners, Davis Paint and Williams Clothing.

Aug. 10 Is Deadline For Plowing Match

August 10 has been set as the deadline for local entries in the State Contour Plowing Match to be held Sept. 13.

The match will be held at Atlantic and will have competition between representatives of each of the 11 soil conservation districts in the state.

If more than one entry is received from the local district, there will be an area plowing match to determine the area contestant in the state meet.



Queen Contest Winners

Winners of the Monroe County Soil Conservation Queen contest were announced last week at the semi-annual Chamber of Commerce dinner meeting held at the Albia Country Club. They are Miss Mary Jo Ryan, above left, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clark Ryan, Rte. 2, Melrose, and Miss Marjorie Beary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Beary, Rte. 1, Lovilia. The girls will compete in the regional contest at the Monroe County 4-H Fair this August.

Discuss Queen Contest At District Meeting

Plans were made for the Regional Queen of Conservation Contest at the regular meeting of the conservation district commissioners.

The queen contest will be held August 6 at the Monroe County Fair and the Albia Fall Festival. The queen selected at the regional contest will advance to the state contest.

The candidates for the conservation queen from Monroe county are Mary Jo Ryan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clark Ryan, Rte. 2, Melrose, and Marjorie Beary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Beary, Rte. 1, Lovilia.

The commissioners discussed the contour plowing match and set the deadline for local entries as August 10.

Lois DeTar of Albia is the only contestant that has entered in the Regional Speech Contest to date.

The commissioners agreed to

pay the tuition of John Shehan to the Iowa Teacher's Conservation Camp at Springbrook State Park.

Janet Belzer, district clerk, was authorized to attend the State Clerk's meeting in Des Moines on July 11.

Initial agreements approved by the commissioners were Keith Carder, 67 acres; Carl G. Martin, 367 acres; and Verle I. Martin, 623 acres.

Basic plans approved were Jerald Gillaspie, 105 acres; Fred Van Genderen, 280 acres; and Delbert Gray, 155 acres.

Conservation Is Everybody's Job

The following is taken from the booklet prepared by the National Association of Soils District Commissioners. The 1962 booklet, used in churches of all denominations in connection with Soil Stewardship Sunday, stressed the use of our water resources.

It is the universal liquid of life and part of our very being. It is everywhere around us, in the air and earth. Without it we could not survive, nor could any plant, animal, or other living thing.

It is a final necessity, for which man has devised no substitute.

Water can be so abundant as to invite waste and neglect. It can

be so scarce as to set man in earnest contest for its vital uses.

It demands understanding and respect. It has the power under direction to turn the mighty turbine of Grand Coulee. Unmanned, it can strike in the angry form and force of floods.

It can produce crops, trees, and grass—or the ugliness of raw gullies cut into an unpro-

tested countryside.

Water provides the drama of Old Faithful, the majesty of the Mississippi, and the grandeur of Niagara Fall. In its infinite variety it is a thirst-quenching drink for the children of Atlanta, a cooling accessory for the steel mills of Ohio, and a vital irrigation for the sunward fields of Arizona.

It appears as soaking rain on Olympia's forests, the fleecy hush of a Vermont snowfall, and the quick excitement of a Kentucky thunderstorm.

It is a miraculous gift of God,

given to us for our refreshment and endless uses. But our neglect can waste it; our misuse can turn it into offensive sewers of pollution.

Water tests our sense of responsibility to God and man. It asks for care, requires our self-discipline, and responds to management.

This priceless water has been here before and by God's plan will be returned again and again for us to use according to our maturity, either with wisdom or with shameful neglect.

Consider our water. Consider it well.

Business Firms Sponsor Farm Safety Ad Series

Monroe county farmers, observing national Farm Safety Week this week, have been urged by the National Safety Council and by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to work safely and to prevent accidents.

Local businessmen have joined in the campaign with a series of advertisements which will run in The Albia NEWSpapers every other week through November.

Businessmen in commenting on the farm safety campaign they are promoting pointed out that Monroe county farmers have been the victims of several accidents already this year and that last year the county had two deaths as the result of tractor accidents.

The advertisements urge the following farm safety rules:

Always turn off the power before adjusting or unclogging machinery.

Keep guards in place on power shafts, belts, and pulleys.

Never wear loose-fitting, torn

clothing or ragged gloves near machinery.

Never climb over or around a combine, picker or auger while it is operating.

Avoid unnecessarily high speeds. Be extra cautious on dangerous inclines.

Business firms which are sponsoring the copyrighted series of advertisements on farm safety include: Woodcock Insurance, Denzil Patton Insurance and Real Estate; Belzer Ford Tractor Co., Henderson Implement Co., Steel Feed Co., Monroe County Truck and Implement Co., Anderson Farm Service, Goode Seed and Feed Co., D. E. Wynes and Co., Oehler Bros. Firestone Store, and Chariton Valley Electric Coop., Inc.

Also Albia Sales Co., First Iowa State Bank, Peoples National Bank, Albia Granite Co., Downs Funeral Home, Humeston Funeral Home, Geyer-Lewis Funeral Home, Albia Light and Railway Co., Monroe County Farm Bureau Insurance, and B and G Produce.

Conservation Speech Contest at Chariton

The regional conservation speech contest will be held at Chariton Tuesday, July 31.

Lois DeTar, an Albia Community High School student, will represent Monroe county.

Question Late Application For Withdrawal of Water

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District Commissioners at a meeting last week raised the question of why the Iowa State Highway Commission was late in submitting an application to use stream water in construction of the new Highway 34.

The commissioners were notified July 6 that a hearing would be held July 16 on the application for a permit to use the water. The use of the water would be during the period June 1 to Dec. 1, 1962. Water could be used at a rate of not more than 165,000 gallons a day, with a total use of not more than 3,200,000 gallons.

The highway construction for which the water application was made runs from Albia easterly about 9.2 miles to the Wapello county line. Streams which could be used are those on the highway right-of-way, or on roads within a mile of the new highway.

The application was submitted to the Iowa Natural Resources Council.

A letter sent by the commis-

sioners to the Natural Resources Council asked why they were notified so late, when actually about three-fourths of the highway construction was completed.

The Natural Resources Council replied that the application was received June 25, and was processed as fast as possible. "With as many highway projects as there are in Iowa, however, occasionally there is a delay in preparing the application, such as undoubtedly happened in this case. Highway people, particularly the Highway Commission, are aware of the general restrictions on use of stream flows," the reply stated.

The commissioners at their meeting also discussed the regional Queen of Conservation contest which will be held at the Monroe County 4-H Fairgrounds Monday evening, Aug. 6.

Jane Smith of Truro, last year's regional contest winner, will be present to crown this year's queen. Judges will be Mrs. Donald Johnson of Fairfield, whose husband is a member of the state soil conservation committee, and Mrs. Esther Hubbard of Bloomfield, Davis County Extension Home Economist.

John Botts of the county conservation staff will be master of ceremonies for the contest. Mrs. Robert W. Larson is making the arrangements for the chaperones for the contestants.

Two basic plans were approved last week. They are for Keith Carder, 67 acres, and Ed Clark, 316 acres. Two cancellations were also approved. They are for J. W. A. McGilvrey, 120 acres, and Grover Brandon, 240 acres.

Wins Conservation Speech Contest

Lois DeTar, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eli DeTar, Rte. 3, Albia, won the district conservation speech contest held at Chariton Tuesday night.

Miss DeTar will compete in the state contest at Sioux City in September.

She will be a junior in Albia Community High School this fall.

The contest at Chariton was held along with a District Six meeting of soil conservation commissioners.

August 2, 1962

August 9, 1962

St. Charles Girl Wins In Contest

Donna Joanne Kennedy, a brown-haired farm girl from St. Charles, was crowned Region Six "Queen of Conservation" at the Monroe County H Fair Monday night.

Miss Kennedy represented the Madison County Soil Conservation District, and competed against 10 other farm girls from six conservation districts in the region.

Monroe county was represented by Mary Jo Ryan, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clark Ryan, Rte. 2, Melrose, and Marjorie Beary, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Beary, Rte. 1, Lovilia.

Wilbur Van Dusseldorp of Taintor, Iowa, presented Miss Kennedy with a wrist watch on behalf of the Farmers Grain Dealers Association of Iowa (Co-operative), co-sponsor of the contest. The wrist watch was the prize for winning the regional competition, and was appropriately engraved.

Miss Kennedy is 17, and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald L. Kennedy, who farm 168 acres near St. Charles. She is the oldest of 10 children in the family.

A senior at Interstate 35 High School, she enjoys all types of athletics, particularly basketball and softball. She competes in those two events, and has won awards for her participation. She is also a member of the Future Homemakers of America.

Miss Kennedy is active in church work, has attended church camps, helped teach Bible School, and is a Sunday school teacher.

She will be one of the nine regional winners who will compete in the state contest at Atlantic Sept. 12. The event will be held along with the Plowman's Banquet, and the state "Queen of Conservation" will reign over the State Soil Conservation Field Day and Contour Plowing Match to be held near Atlantic Sept. 13. A cash award of \$250 will be presented to the "Queen of Conservation" at the Plowman's Banquet.

The contest is sponsored by the Soil Conservation Districts of Iowa and the Farmers Grain Dealers Association of Iowa (Co-operative). Over 540 farm girls competed in the contest this year.

Others in the contest in Albia Monday night were Karen Paul, Osceola; Mary Louise Jones, Murray; Jeanne Baker, Humeston; Mary Ellen Peterson, Grand River; Diana Curran, Russell; Judy Riser, Winterset; Becky Kelso, Russell; and Mary Mason, Russell.



In Contest Tonight

Mary Jo Ryan (left), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clark Ryan of Melrose, and Marjorie Beary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Beary of Lovilia, will represent the Monroe County Soil Conservation District in the regional Queen of Conservation contest tonight. The contest will be held at the 4-H Fairgrounds north of Albia. Also on the program tonight are a band concert and a tractor pulling contest.

August 20, 1962

5-21

August 6, 1962

Book on Conservation Going to Libraries

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District has requested copies of "The Conservation Story," an Allis Chalmers publication, to be placed in local libraries.

The district commissioners, meeting Tuesday, also approved a donation of \$10 to help finance the trip of Arthur Rausch, Franklin county, Iowa, to the International Plowing Contest in the Netherlands.

An initial conservation agreement for DuWayne Templer, covering 374 acres, was approved. Cancellations for T. T. Brandon, 284 acres, and Ralph Shelquist, 308 acres, were approved.

Gives Talk During Conservation Day

Lois DeTar, an Albion Community High School student, gave a conservation speech Wednesday at the Madison County Soil Conservation Field Day at Winterset.

Miss DeTar gave her speech for the eighth grade students at Winterset Junior High School and also during the field day program.

She competed in the state conservation speech contest Sunday but was disqualified when she spoke longer than the time limit. She had been the winner in the district speech contest.

Miss DeTar is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eli DeTar, Rte. 3, Albion.

Miss DeTar Gives Conservation Talk

Lois DeTar, a junior at Albion Community High School, gave a speech at the state speech contest at Sioux City Sunday, Sept. 16, at Sioux City. The 10-minute original speech entitled "How Soil and Water Conservation Will Affect My Future" was one of six entries. Lois previously won the regional contest at Chariton, which entitled her to enter the state contest.

Last Wednesday, Sept. 12, Lois spoke to a group of students at Madison county's field day in Winterset.

Lois is very interested in the field of speech and plans to join the high school debate team this fall. She is thinking seriously of pursuing a career in speech.

Lois lives on a farm north of Albion with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eli DeTar.

Name Soil Winner In Monroe District

Russell Gillaspie of Albion Saturday was named winner in the Monroe County Soil Conservation District contest. Gillaspie is now eligible to compete in the region six achievement contest.

Gillaspie was entered in division I, for farm owner-operators.

Cooperating in the contests are the state department of agriculture, Iowa State University, the Soil Conservation Society of America, the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, state soil conservation committee, and Iowa Association of Soil Conservation Districts.

New Conservation Service Employee

Donald D. Redman will begin working here Monday as an engineering aide for the Soil Conservation Service.

Redman is moving here from Leon, where he had been a part-time employee in the conservation office.

He is married and has three children.

Pasture Tour and Contest Will Be Held Next Thursday

The annual Monroe county pasture tour and contest will be held next Thursday.

Those who wish to go on the tour should meet at the Albion Post Office at 9 a.m.

In addition to visiting pastures entered in the contest, stops will be made to show different methods of clearing and renovation of pastures. The tour will last all day.

Any pasture seeded in 1961 is eligible to be entered in the contest. To enter a pasture, farmers should contact John Botts at the conservation office, Dale Uehling at the extension office, or any conservation district commissioner.

The winner of the contest will be awarded a plaque at the Alfalfa Banquet.

The contest and tour is sponsored by the district commissioners, with the Soil Conservation Service and the Extension Service cooperating.

Two Conservation Plans Approved

Conservation plans for two Monroe county farms were approved this week by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District commissioners. The plans are for the farms of Matt Carmody, 253 acres; and John McGee, 459 acres.

An initial agreement for Ronald Howing, for 186 acres, was also approved.

Seeking County Soil Inventory

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District is seeking assistance under the Area Redevelopment Administration program to provide the county with a complete inventory of its soil.

The district commissioners voted this week to seek the assistance, after a complete soil survey was recommended to them by Joe Phillips, area extension agronomist.

According to Phillips, a complete soil survey would include description for all land of the following characteristics: soil type, detailed to areas of a soil type of an acre or more; drainage and size of ditches; slope of land; erosion; and location of all man-made objects, such as roads, fences and buildings.

About 10 man-years of work is required to produce so detailed a soil survey. The cost is about the equivalent of the price of three farms, Phillips said.

A soil map was prepared for Monroe county in 1931. While the map is still very valuable, Phillips said, the division into soil types is not as complete as is used in current soil surveys.

Phillips pointed out that the division between productive and non-productive soil can be quite sharp. He said in a field within a 10-foot boundary can be found soils which will yield 20 bushels of corn per acre, and also soils which will yield 70 or 75 bushels per acre.

A complete soil survey would have many uses, Phillips stated, including some not related directly to agriculture.

Nationally, soil surveys help provide an inventory of the nation's natural resources. A survey of this county would provide the same sort of an inventory for state and local uses.

Other uses of a soil survey could be:

1. Individual farmers could use the results for their own farm planning.
2. The results could be used in preparing a plan for county zoning.
3. The survey could be used for re-evaluating property values for tax purposes.
4. The farmer could use the inventory to help make his management decisions.
5. The Highway Commission could use the findings for locating roads, telling which land is best for cutting, filling, etc.
6. A county board of supervisors can use the same results for locating county roads.
7. A city can use the survey to help plan growth, find sites for industries, locate sites for sewage disposal plants, etc.
8. If a large building is to be constructed, the results can be used to locate a site with soil suitable to support the foundation.
9. Land can be located suitable for recreational uses. The information can be used for developing farms.
10. The information can be used for land appraisal.
11. The information is useful in watershed development.
12. The results can help define erosion control and other conservation needs.
13. The information can be used in interpretation of applied research.

Monroe county is one of two in the state eligible to apply for assistance under the federal Area Redevelopment Administration programs.

80 Per Cent Repayment In 2 Counties

Monroe county farmers can complete over \$162,500 in pasture improvements in 1963 under a plan announced here Monday evening by the state Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee.

Next year Monroe county farmers will be eligible for 80 per cent repayment for three approved pasture improvement practices. A total of \$130,000 will be available for these ACP practices, which means the farmers will pay about \$32,500 as their share of the pasture improvements.

The plan for an accelerated pasture improvement program has been developed cooperatively by the Area Redevelopment Administration and the United States Department of Agriculture. It was part of a recommendation in the Overall Economic Development Plan for Monroe and Appanoose counties submitted earlier by local committees.

A total of \$30,102 was available to Monroe county farmers for the same three practices last year and payment was 50 per cent by the farmer and 50 per cent reimbursed under the ACP program. Thus a total of \$69,204 in pasture improvements was completed for 1961.

In 1963 an additional \$100,000 will be channeled into the three approved practices and these funds will be used to reimburse farmers up to 80 per cent of their costs. This means farmers will pay about \$32,500 as their share and the government will reimburse them in the amount of \$130,000 or 80 per cent of the cost.

The practices involved include taking cropland out of production and fertilizing and seeding the land. In 1961 this was accomplished on a total of 1469 acres on 85 farms. The cost was \$7.03 per acre or a total of \$10,349 for this practice.

A second practice is the improvement of the vegetative cover for permanent pasture. It, too, involved fertilizing and seeding and the same practices in 1961, was participated in by 19 farms, with a total of 318 acres. The per acre cost of this practice was \$5.38 per acre for a total of \$1,710.

A third practice in the improvement program will be the control of shrubbery on pasture land. Under this program a total of 1441 acres were cleared of shrubs on 80 farms in 1961. The cost totaled \$12.17 per acre for a total of \$17,544.

These figures represent the government's 50 per cent reimbursement. ASC officials stated, and the total cost of improvements on county farms by these three practices totaled \$60,224 in 1961.

Dewey Cornell of Des Moines, ACP specialist in Iowa, outlined the program for township officials at the Monday meeting and emphasized that none of the three practices for which 80 per cent reimbursement has been approved, can be started without soil samples.

Phillip O'Brien, county ASC chairman, re-emphasized this in announcing the schedule of township meetings. He stated that "these soil samples must be taken very soon in order that they can be analyzed and returned prior to the approval of the applications. No application will be approved without these soil samples."

O'Brien presided at the meeting Monday evening.

In introducing the program Arthur Johnson, Oskaloosa, extension specialist for area development, emphasized that the program is "designed to improve the economic base for Monroe county. Under the Area Redevelopment Act, at least two counties in every state had to be included, counties with unemployment and underemployment. In Monroe and Appanoose the agricultural phase of this program will concern itself first with pasture improvement and then with livestock improvement."

Others attending the Monday night meeting and taking part in the discussions and presentations included:

Fred McLain, Nevada, state ASC chairman; Maurice O'Reilly, Barnum, and Clarence Metcalf, Nichols, state ASC committeemen; Dewey Cornell, Des Moines, ACP specialist; Carol McCurdy, Oskaloosa, ASC fieldman; Maurice South, Ames, assistant director of extension; Roger Iverson, Ames, district extension supervisor; and Arthur Johnson, Oskaloosa, extension specialist for area development.

Representatives of the local agricultural agencies, the area redevelopment committees, and the Albia Chamber of Commerce also attended the meeting.

O'Brien today announced the list of township meetings at which the new 1963 program will be explained. Sign-up will begin following the completion of these meetings, he stated.

The schedule (all meetings begin at 7:30 p.m.) is as follows:

- Oct. 5—Franklin township at Voshurg school.
- Oct. 8—Mantua township at Mantua Center school.
- Oct. 9—Guilford township at Georgetown hall.
- Oct. 10—Urbana township at Urbana Center school.
- Oct. 11—Bluff Creek township at community hall.
- Oct. 11—Troy township at the ASC office.
- Oct. 12—Pleasant township at Bridgeport community hall.
- Oct. 15—Monroe township at Hilton church.
- Oct. 16—Cedar and Union townships at Legion hall, Lovilia.
- Oct. 18—Wayne and Jackson townships at the Melrose community hall.



On Pasture Tour

About 25 men attended the pasture tour Thursday, which was sponsored by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District and the county extension service.

Part of the group is shown in a pasture on a farm owned by John Goode south of Albia (top picture), and the T. J. Luse farm, north of Moravia.

Nominate Belzer For Farm Award

Clifford Belzer of Belzer Ford Tractor in Albia was nominated this week for the Iowa Retail Farm Equipment Dealers conservation award program. The nomination was made by the Monroe County Soil District commissioners.

The commissioners voted to support payment of all sign-ups in the Agricultural Conservation Practices pasture program in Monroe county. Under the special program, farmers may receive up to 80 per cent of the cost of three practices.

Four initial conservation agreements were approved. They were for H. M. Wilson, 200 acres; Elmer Vance, 340 acres; Laurence Dage, 115 acres; and Duane Wilson, 140 acres.

Two basic plans were approved. They were for D. H. Nord, 280 acres; and Merwin Gray, 132 acres. A replan for H. L. Remington, 170 acres, was approved, and a cancellation for Joe Russell, 85 acres, was also approved.

Start Acting Soon on ACP Applications

Philip O'Brien, chairman of the Monroe County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service committee, said Friday the committee would begin soon to consider special Agricultural Conservation Practices (ACP) applications.

The committee Friday received official notification that a \$100,000 increase in its ACP allocation had been approved by the state ASCS committee.

The extra \$100,000 will be used to make payments of up to 80 per cent on the cost of three types of ACP practices, with the aim of improving pastures in the county.

In addition to the \$100,000, Monroe county receives its regular allocation of \$93,281 for its ACP program. This is a decrease of about \$10,000 from the regular allocation of a year ago.

The special increase in the allocation is only about a fourth of the amount requested as special assistance under the three practices. Total requests were \$419,478, with applications being made for 434 farms in the county.

The applications will be considered in the order in which they were signed, O'Brien stated.

The three practices are:

Practice No. 1—Seeding of marginal cropland, for a period of five years. Applications asked for assistance for 4,809 acres, with a cost of \$76,944. On approved applications for this practice, the government's share of the cost will be 80 per cent.

Practice No. 7—Renovation of existing pastures. Farmers asked for \$177,184 in assistance to renovate 11,074 acres of pasture. The federal share on approved applications under this practice is also 80 per cent.

Practice No. 8—Clearing of brush (which must be followed by seeding). Requests were for \$165,350 in assistance to clear brush on 6,614 acres. The federal share of the cost on this practice is 80 per cent with a maximum payment of \$25 per acre.

Alfalfa Banquet Wednesday

The 24th annual Alfalfa Banquet will be held at the Albia Community High School field-house Wednesday evening with about 600 expected to attend.

John Spencer, chairman of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District commissioners, will present awards for the pasture improvement contest held in September. Loren Hardinger and Kenneth Bettis will present other awards.

The speaker will be the Rev. Charles Willey, pastor of First Christian Church in Moline. Rev. Willey is also probation counselor of the Rock Island court, is a member of the board of Arrowhead Ranch for boys, and is an educational consultant for the Illinois Farm Supply Co. of Chicago.

During the past year he has traveled throughout Europe, the Middle East and the Soviet Union.

Dinner music will be presented by the Sobosky Twins, who will also perform on a Trampoline.

J. Logan Cain of Albia will be master of ceremonies. Francis Hamilton, president of the Monroe County Farm Bureau, and Henry Kolling, president of the Albia Chamber of Commerce, the two sponsoring organizations, will also be on the program.

Lois DeTar, an Albia Community High School student, will give a speech with which she won a district conservation speech contest.

The Alfalfa Banquet is held annually to bring together the people from Albia and the rural area of the county.

Gillaspie, Parker, Luse, Heffron Receive Awards

Awards for two farm contests were presented Wednesday night at the 24th annual Alfalfa Banquet in Albia.

Russell Gillaspie, Rte. 1, Albia, received a plaque as the Monroe County Soil Conservation District winner in the Des Moines Register and Tribunes' Iowa soil conservation achievement awards program.

Floyd Parker, Lovilia, and T. J. Luse, Rte. 1, Moravia, received plaques as winners in the county pasture improvement contest. A third winner in this contest, John Heffron, Rte. 2, Albia, was not present to receive his plaque.

The conservation and pasture awards were given by John Spencer, chairman of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District commissioners.

The Rev. Charles Willey, pastor of First Christian Church in

Moline, Ill., was the speaker who emphasized that the U. S. placed a greater emphasis on families and religion.

Rev. Willey, who has been extensively during the past year in Russia, which was in his trip.

The featured entertainment was the Sobosky Twins, who played the piano and sang.

Because a member of the polio team was ill, a substitute was substituted in the The Mahaska Variety Club also on the program.

Lois DeTar, an Albia Community High School student, won the soil conservation speech contest which she won a district contest.

J. Logan Cain was in ceremonies.

Plan Agricultural School In Albia in December

A five-day agronomy and animal husbandry school will be held in Albia on Dec. 10, 12, 14, 17 and 19, open to any Monroe county resident interested in the principles of raising row crops and roughages in Monroe county and the management of beef herds.

The school will start at 10 a.m. and close at 3 p.m. each day, according to Dale Uehling, county extension director. Uehling says advanced registration is necessary and anyone wanting to sign up should either call or stop at the extension office in the basement of the Post Office.

The five-day school, the first of its kind to be held in the state, is a combination of the agronomy and animal husbandry schools that have been held in many of the surrounding counties.

The agronomy phase of the school will include principles in

fertilizers, soil formation, growth and the practical application of each to Monroe conditions.

The animal husbandry will deal basically with the cow and calf enterprise. Zmolek, Kenneth Drewry, John Herrick from Iowa University will cover this of the program.

The following agronomists also take part in the school: Stritzel, Frank Schaller, Thompson, Dewayne Rol and Joe Phillips. Dale Uehling, county extension director, Charles Mogged, area ecologist will also be on the program will help to apply the principles to the local situation.



Agricultural Awards

Three Monroe county farmers received agricultural awards Wednesday night at the 24th annual Alfalfa Banquet. On the right is Russell Gillaspie, Albia, who received a plaque as winner of the Des Moines Register and Tribune's Conservation Achievement Awards program in the

Monroe County Soil Conservation District. Floyd Parker (left) and T. J. Luse (center) hold the plaques they received as winners in the county pasture improvement contest. A third winner in the pasture contest, John Heffron, was not present.

Jan.
3, 1963

126-Acre Lake Is Approved

To Be Built Near Miami

Construction of a 126-acre lake in Monroe county was approved Wednesday by the Iowa Conservation Commission.

The dam and spillway for the lake will probably be built this year. The lake will principally be on the farm owned by Mrs. James Drury in Section 17 of Bluff Creek township. This is near the old mining camp site of Miami.

Cost of construction and engineering is estimated at \$123,000. This does not include the cost of purchasing land.

The two Albia reservoir lakes combined total about 50 acres, according to Waterworks Superintendent Virtus Beaumont. The new lake to be constructed will be about two and a half times as large.

The Albia lake is one of three included in a new policy approved by the Conservation Commission. It is the largest of the three. The others are a 60-acre lake near Runnels and a 42-acre lake near Greenfield.

The lake will be built with federal and state funds. Three-fourths of the cost is paid by the federal government under the Dingle-Johnson Act, with the funds coming from a federal tax on fishing tackle. The other fourth is paid by the state from fishing license fees.

The Monroe County Conservation Board will provide surrounding land and related facilities, and will develop and maintain the recreational facility. The state will retain ownership of the dam, water, fish, land under the lake, and a narrow shoreline.

Because funds for the project will come from three sources, the Iowa Conservation Commission had requested an attorney general's opinion on its legality. Final approval of the project had been delayed while the commission awaited the opinion, which stated the project would be legal.

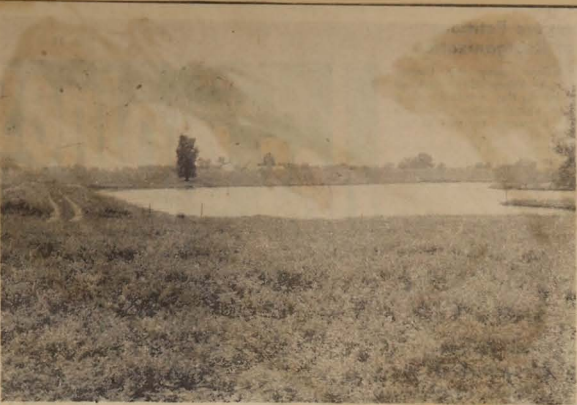
Mrs. Katherine M. Falvey, who has been very active in seeking the lake for Monroe county, pointed out that the 126-acre lake is much larger than the 99-acre lake originally hoped for.

The lake here will be a pilot project, the first built in the state under this program of small lakes. Mrs. Falvey said one reason Monroe county was chosen from about eight wanting the pilot lake is that the county is centrally located in the southern tier of counties, and is centrally located in the 10-county Rural Areas Development area. She added that a reason the lake will be larger than the original expectation is that it will be accessible to people in several counties.

The fact that Monroe county has a county conservation board was also essential in securing the lake. The conservation board was approved in the 1960 primary election, after a promotional campaign by the Monroe County Junior Chamber of Commerce. A representative of the Conservation Commission has now met with the recreation committee of the Rural Areas Development group and has urged all counties to form conservation boards.

Mrs. Falvey pointed out that the Conservation Commission is very interested in local people taking an interest in conservation, and promoting projects through conservation boards.

The original plans for the small lakes was that the state would retain ownership of the lake and the surrounding land, and would contract with the conservation boards to maintain the projects. The attorney general ruled that this arrangement would not be legal. The plans are now changed to divide the ownership between the state and local groups with the local groups owning the surrounding land.



1,493 Ponds by 1975

Monroe county farms have 1,013 farm ponds, and according to a report being distributed by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District the county should

have 1,493 ponds on farms by 1975. This pond is on a farm on Blakesburg Rte. 1 owned by R. R. Pierson of Muscatine.

Big Conservation Goals Forseen by Report

A report on conservation needs in Monroe county, being issued by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District commissioners, outlines a big conservation job to be done here by 1975.

The report estimates conservation needs with a revised distribution of land in the county according to improved land uses.

Present accomplishments in most cases are quite small compared with those projected as needed by 1975. For example, woodland plantings in Monroe county now total 224 acres, while the need estimated by 1975 is 976 acres. The eventual need for woodland plantings is 15,766 acres.

The estimates are based on this distribution of land used in 1975:

Use	Acres
Cropland	133,541
Pasture	94,835
Woodland	33,020
Other uses	8,352

The 1959 distribution according to land uses was:

Use	Acres
Cropland	129,795
Pasture	101,578
Woodland	34,044
Other uses	4,331

According to the report, Monroe county's land is divided into seven classes. The amount of land in each class is:

Cropland
Class I, no erosion hazard — 15,304 acres.

Class II, has moderate erosion — 45,824 acres.

Class III, moderate to severe erosion — 72,266 acres.

Class IV, severe erosion problem — 37,206.

Non-Cropland
Class V, subject to over-flow — 17,643 acres.

Class VI, use limited to pasture — 22,723 acres.

Class VII, use limited to pasture or woodland — 58,782 acres.

The conservation needs shown in the report are these:

Contouring
The estimated practices to be applied by 1975 total 31,194 acres. On July 1, the county had 12,170 acres with contouring, with 22,119 acres of contouring needed eventually.

Diversion Terraces
The amount to be applied by 1975 is 75 miles. The county now has 72 miles of diversions, with a need of 153 miles remaining.

Farm Ponds
One thousand four hundred and ninety three farm ponds are estimated by 1975. The county now has 1,013 farm ponds, with a need for 1,705 remaining.

Pasture Seeding and Reseeding
A total of 19,627 acres of pasture seeding and reseeding is seen by 1975. The total now is estimated at 7,441, although Soil Conservation Service employees state that some seeding is done without their knowing of it. The total remaining need is 65,234 acres.

Terraces
The 1975 estimate is 663 miles of terraces. The total on July 1 was 203 miles, with an eventual need for 2,391 miles.

Waterways
The estimate by 1975 is 889 acres of waterways. There are now 430 acres of waterways, with a total remaining need for 2,385 acres.

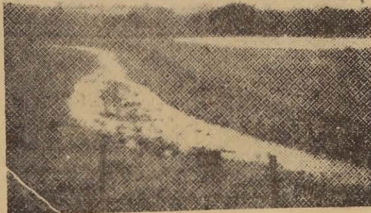
Erosion Control Structures
By 1975, the county should have 151 erosion control structures, according to the report. There are 56 such structures in the county now, with a remaining need for 448.

Woodland Planting
The 1975 total is estimated at 976 acres, with 224 acres now planted. The eventual need is 15,542 acres, according to the Conservation Service.



More Contouring

This field on the Pat Carbin farm, Melrose Rte. 1, contains some of the 12,170 acres of contouring in Monroe county. By 1975, the Soil Conservation District says, the county should have applied contouring to 31,194 acres.



Diversion Terracing

There are 72 miles of diversion terraces in the county, according to the conservation needs report. By 1975, the county should have 75 miles. This picture was taken on the Carl Carlson farm, Rte. 4, Albia.

Seven Basic Plans Are Accepted

One initial agreement and seven basic plans were accepted Friday by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District Commissioners.

The initial agreement was for Wayne Sample, 168 acres.

The basic plans were for Ted Wilson, 148 acres; Verla I. Martin, 623 acres; James Starcevic, 225 acres; Dirk Johnson, 360 acres; Lloyd McDowell, 80 acres; William K. Post, 220 acres; and Paul Kurimski, 40 acres.

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Clifford Belzer Receives Soil Conservation Award

Clifford W. Belzer, owner and operator of Belzer Ford Tractor Company in Albia was presented the Iowa Retail Farm Equipment Association's soil conservation award plaque at its convention in Des Moines Wednesday.

Belzer was named top conservation cooperator from a field of four dealers nominated by local soil conservation officials. The other three men: Clinton Richards, New Hampton; Gilbert H. Barnhardt, Guttenberg; and W.

E. Stow, Humboldt, received recognition certificates.

The selection committee, consisting of Keith Kirkpatrick, assistant farm news director, station WHO, Des Moines; Glen Cunningham, farm news editor of the Des Moines Register; and William Greiner, secretary of the State Soil Commissioners Association, chose Belzer because he had promoted soil conservation in the following ways:

1. Served as assistant soil conservation district commissioner and attended meetings sponsored by the District.
2. Organized and carried out a waterway demonstration at a district field day and plowing match.
3. Sponsored field days demonstrating proper management of grasslands and methods of harvesting grasses and legumes.
4. Distributed bulletins on conservation.
5. Has a good conservation program on his own farm since 1947.
6. Encourages his neighboring farmers to do more in conservation and to visit the soil conservation district office.

The award was presented to Belzer by Frank Mendell, State Soil Conservationist for Iowa.

Feb. 28, 1963
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Approve Two Basic Conservation Plans

Two basic conservation plans were approved Wednesday afternoon by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District commissioners.

The basic plans are for Donald Berto, 186 acres; and Mock and Kaldenberg, 925 acres.

Initial agreements were approved for the following farms: Ed Mahoney, 147 acres; Pat Knowles, 178 acres; Lowell E. Johnson, 300 acres; Ivan Shelquist, 308 acres; Louis Kristof, 120 acres; and Verla Comstock, 243 acres.

The commissioners also voted to sponsor the 1963 conservation speech contest in Monroe county.

Feb. 28, 1963
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March 4, 1963
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4. Distributed bulletins on conservation.
5. Has a good conservation program on his own farm since 1947.
6. Encourages his neighboring farmers to do more in conservation and to visit the soil conservation district office.
The award was presented to Belzer by Frank Mendell, State Soil Conservationist for Iowa.

List 1962 Conservation Achievements

The 1962 accomplishments of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District are summarized in a report presented last week by the district commissioners.

During the year, 21 new cooperators were added, with the total in the district (county) now 585. Thirty new basic farm plans were approved, bringing the total of farm plans to 494. Three farm plans were revised.

The following conservation practices carried out during 1962 are listed in the report:

Contour farming, 869 acres.
Brush control, 471 acres.
Pasture planting, 338 acres.
Fish pond improvement, 30.

Waterways, 70 acres.
Standard terraces, 60,475 lineal feet.

Parallel terraces, 14,700 lineal feet.

Diversion terraces, 21,550 lineal feet.

Drainage field ditch, 2,060 lineal feet.

Tile drainage, 55,325 lineal feet.

Ponds, 19.

Drop inlet, one.

Other district activities during the year included:

Morris Fitzsimmons of Monroe County Truck and Implement in Albia was one of three farm equipment dealers in Iowa to

receive an award for promotion of soil conservation. The award was made by the Iowa Retail Farm Equipment Dealers.

The district election and banquet was held April 24, with Bob McGinnis re-elected for another six years.

The district commissioners awards were presented to Everett Gardner, J. V. Nash and Joseph C. Evans.

Soil stewardship booklets were distributed to ministers in the county for Soil Stewardship Week.

The district held a soil stewardship tour for the ministers of the county.

The district sponsored John Shehan for two sessions at the Iowa Teachers Conservation Camp, held at Springbrook State Park.

The district had 6,000 leaflets, "The Food You Have Just Bought Came from the Land," printed for Soil and Water Conservation Week. The leaflets were distributed with grocery orders by grocery stores in Albia, Melrose and Georgetown.

Eight contestants were entered in the county "Queen of Conservation" contest, with Marjorie Beary and Mary Jo Ryan being chosen as winners.

Educational conservation bulletins, etc., were prepared, notes

books and distributed all of the school libraries and city library in Monroe county.

The district had a booth and display at the Monroe County 4-H Fair and Fall Festival.

The district was host to the Region 6 "Queen of Conservation" contest at the Monroe County Fair and Fall Festival.

Lois DeTar represented the district at the regional speech contest at Chariton, receiving first place. Miss DeTar also competed in the state contest at Sioux City.

Twenty-five men attended the

pasture tour, sponsored by the district. T. J. Luse, Floyd Parker and John Heffron were winners.

The district entered the Good-year contest with Harlan Dunkin of Lovilia receiving the award for outstanding conservation work on his farm.

The district entered the Des Moines Register and Tribune contest with Russell Gillaspie receiving recognition in the owner-operator division.

The district cooperated with the Monroe County Farm Bureau and the Albia Chamber of Commerce on the Alfalfa Banquet.

A total of 46 conservation news articles were published.

Conservation Speech Contest Rules Listed

Rules for the annual soil conservation speech contest were listed today by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District, which will sponsor the contest locally. No date has been set for the local contest.

The topic for speeches will be "How Soil and Water Conservation Affects My Future." The contest is open to students in grades seven through 12.

Speeches must be at least five minutes but no more than 10 minutes long. They will be judged on originality, aptness of thought and manner of presentation.

To enter, students should send their name, address, name of school and name of their speech teacher to the local soil conservation district office.

Conservation Camp Deadline March 22

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District office announced today that March 22 is the deadline for applications for the Iowa Teachers Conservation Camp program.

Graduate and undergraduate students can receive three hours credit for each of two courses being offered at the camp. Iowa Conservation Problems "B" will be offered June 9-June 29, and again July 21-Aug. 10. Iowa Conservation Problems "A" will be offered June 30-July 20.

In the first course, forest resources, ecology and fish and wildlife management will be emphasized. In the second course, rocks and minerals, soil and land management, and water conservation will be stressed.

During one three-week course, students will travel by bus approximately 1,000 miles to view conservation in action.

Groups will stay at Springbrook State Park seven miles north of Guthrie Center.

More information is available at the soil conservation office in the Post Office Building.

Soil Conservation Group Meets Tuesday Afternoon

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District Commissioners met Tuesday afternoon and heard a progress report on a possible Georgetown watershed program. Dale Barker told the commissioners that a meeting on the watershed project would be held April 4 at 8:15 p.m. at Georgetown.

The watershed area is made up of branches of Cedar Creek. It has 5,200 acres and about 26 farms. The boundary, starting at Fallon corner, goes south to the Mike O'Neill farm, east to Tyronne, then follows Cedar Creek north to the Kenneth Clark farm, and has Highway 34 as its approximate north boundary.

One meeting of farmers in the area has been held with about half attending. Those there voted in favor of setting up a watershed organization. A second meeting will be held April 4. If those at that meeting vote yes, directors will probably be elected, and the directors will elect a chairman.

The tentative date for the county conservation speech contest is April 19. The commissioners have received no entries.

Ollie Kaldenberg, Carl Martin and Albert Etcher accepted ap-

pointment as assistant commissioners.

Pay increases were approved for two employees of the district. The pay of Miss Janet Belzer, clerk, was increased from \$195 to \$205 a month. The pay of Lyle Cloyd, farm planner aide, was increased from \$15 to \$15.50 a day.

The commissioners agreed to pay the tuition of Miss Peggy Collins of Albia, a student at State College of Iowa, to attend a three-week course at the conservation camp at Springbrook State Park.

Initial agreements approved were for Howard Van Zante, 160 acres; Robert Overmeyer, 130 acres; Irvin Dale Post, 173 acres; LeRoy Wilson, 160 acres; Thomas D. Casaday, 132 acres; Donald Findley, 557 acres; Clifford Belzer, 243 acres; and Haskell Daventport, 202 acres.

Basic plans were approved for Elmer Vance, 340 acres; and Ivan Shelquist, 308 acres. A re-plan was approved for Melvina Clark, 472 acres; and a cancellation was approved for Elster Cooper, 40 acres.

