

The governing body of the district is made up of three commissioners and in this district three assistant commissioners. ~~Ed~~ Douglas who ~~served three~~ ^{served three} ~~years of his 6 year term~~ ^{when he left the state} ~~and was replaced by Joe Steffen~~ who completed ~~the~~ Joe Steffen completed that term. Ed Lortz completed ten years of service to the district in 1956. ~~Ed~~ Lortz was a commissioner for eight years. The present ~~commissioners~~ ^{assistants} are Harold Bauer, Wayne Mark, and Gerald Bedard with ~~assistants~~ Wendell Glisener, Harold Buck and Ed Lortz ~~as assistants~~ to serve as the governing body at the present time.

(E. E. Lortz's notes)

The first fifty years of farming in B'H
County ~~showed~~ was a period when production was
emphasized rather than conservation. ^{little} ~~the~~ concern
was shown ~~the maintaining for maintenance~~
for soil management. The rich virgin soil
was thought to have unlimited ^{fertility} ~~resources~~. ~~The~~
~~pioneers had to use~~ ^{and the} ~~the~~ ^{all the} ~~the~~ ^{farmers} ~~the~~ ^{last} ~~the~~
^{was} ~~had to use~~ these soil resources. ~~to the limit of their ability~~
P The lighter sandy soil along the Cedar River was
the first to show evidence that ~~management~~ ^{was} ~~was~~
a change in methods would have to be made. The
first group action ~~made~~ in the county was made
on this type of soil north of C. F. in 1912. The
Black Hawk County Crop Improvement Assn. ^{the formation of the C. F.} was set up
to cooperate with ^{the} Extension Service of Iowa State
College. These two organizations, with the ^{help} ~~cooperation~~
of business ^{men} ~~an~~ C. F., set up an experimental plot,
with different crops and varying treatments
~~for~~ ^{with} the purpose of showing how and what crops
could be profitably ^{grown} on land ^{which} ~~was~~ had been
partly abandoned. ~~One result of this plot was the~~
^{the crop} alfalfa, ~~as a result~~, got its start as ~~a~~ result of this
program. This plot created much interest and

through the cooperation of the Extension Dept and the Farm Bureau ~~and~~ educational program on all phases of soil management was carried on very successfully.

In 1937 an Agricultural Land Use Planning Comm was formed of farmers representing all townships ~~of the~~ and other interested organizations & P.M.A. & Sportsmen Club. They studied the problems and made a series of recommendations which later were sent to ^{all} the farmers ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ the county. The Extension Service ^{made} ~~used~~ these recommendations as a guide in ^{educational} ~~their~~ ^{programs} in ~~this~~ ^{the} county.

Problems created by the drought in ~~the middle~~ and results ~~for~~ ^{the} soil conservation part of the A.A.A. ~~in~~ ^{at} 1934 to 36 caused the interest in soil management to increase to the point so that in 1939 the Farm Bureau Soils Comm set up 5 cooperative demonstration farms in different parts of the county. The Extension Service and the Federal Soil Conservation Service joined in these demonstration farms. These farms created much interest, ~~so that~~ ^{so that} the Soil Conservation Service set ~~up~~ ^{up} a demonstration project area north of Waterloo. 3 C.S. men worked in the county and complete farm plans were ~~made~~ ^{and put into effect} on ~~several~~ farms. World War + 2 stopped this work.

~~III~~

The need for increased production due to war ~~needs~~, the educational programs ^{carried out} by the Extension Service ~~and~~ with the Farm Bureau, the benefits from the soil conservation phase of the A.A.A., and an increasing sense of responsibility of the individual farmer toward his land were all factors in ~~creating~~ getting people interested in forming a Soil Conservation District in ~~the county~~. In the spring of 1945, the Farm Bureau Soils Committee circulated petitions among the landowners of ~~the county~~ and obtained 673 signatures ~~favouring an election for the~~ asking for an election ~~to decide whether~~ on the formation of a district. ~~and~~ The committee also received ~~many~~ nominations for district commissioners. Early in May a hearing was held at the Bx County Court house with ~~members~~ ~~the members~~ of the state soils committee present, Elijah, Jensen and Buntley. The Farm Bureau Soils Committee had charge of the hearing and were very much gratified to receive support from the Waterloo Chamber of Commerce, ~~and~~ Sportsmens Clubs and many interested individuals. ~~Some individuals~~ ~~and one farm wife~~ The state committee granted the request for an election with Earl Elijah as ~~the~~ state soils committee in charge. The election was held ^{of 1st district} in July. 220 voted for the formation and 29 against. E.R. Douglas was elected for the 6 year term of commissioners. E.J. Entz for the four year term and a tie between Vaughn, Craft & E.L. Sage. ^{upon the two year term} was decided by the State Com. in favor of Sage.

The charter, making the district a legal part of the state government, was received from the state Committee in July 1945. At that time Earl Dreyer was made chairman and the District was in business. The commissioners immediately applied to the Federal Soil Conservation Service for assistance in the way of trained personnel. The agreement became effective Feb 7, 1946 and a trained SCS conservationist, John Whelan, took ~~over~~ ^{over} his duties in the county. His aid was, Henry Waldorf, the present conservationist. Mr Waldorf has spent, with the exception of ~~some~~ army duty in World War Two, ~~he~~ ^{he} spent his entire working ~~life~~ ^{type} in this work. ~~He~~ ^{He} is a very effective and active farm planner. Whelan left after three years service for an area conservationist position in Illinois. John Forbey came as ~~conservationist~~ farm planner. He had charge a few months and was sent to Dubuque Co. Henry Waldorf then took over his position and has been with the district since that time. (List directors)

Besides, farm planning, the district has been active in other ways. They have cooperated with the Extension Service, Farm Bureau and A.S.C. for the last eight years in putting on a Short Course ^{each} during the winter. Emphasis has been made on subjects pertaining to soils and crops.

Field days ^{proved} ~~found~~ to be an effective way of ^{demonstrating} ~~teaching~~ oil conserving practices. The first was held in August 1948 on the Earl Brown farm, southwest of Hudson. Waterway construction and seeding, terracing and pasture renovation were the practices emphasized. The Hudson Commercial Club cooperated with the farm agencies in making it a very good demonstration. The ¹⁹⁴⁹ ~~second~~ Field Day was ~~held~~ on the Roy Wheeler and Lee Rigdon farms east of Pemberton. The Pemberton Commercial Club, Farm Bureau and the District sponsored the program. Surface drainage, terracing, grass waterway construction, ~~tiling~~ and pasture renovation were demonstrated.

The ¹⁹⁵⁰ ~~third~~ field day ^{was held} on the Roy Ashley, Bard Buck and F. J. Buck farms, Northeast of LaPorte City, ~~it~~ was sponsored by the Veterans-on-Farm Training class, the Farm Bureau and the B. H. County Soil Conservation Service. Tiling, waterway construction, ~~tiling~~ and wild life refuge restoration were demonstrated.

^(add about cooperation) The district, for several years, has worked with the Coordinating Council of the Sportsman's clubs in the county in placing conservation work books in the schools of ~~the county~~. These ^{have} ~~schools have~~ ^{shown} ~~shown~~ great interest and many fine work books have been turned in to win prizes given by the council, ~~but not until~~ ^{this program has} ~~has~~ created an ~~interest~~ ^{the} greatest interest in conservation of all our

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optimal resources of the grade students in the schools of the county.

~~The~~ ^{One} purpose of the district is to give help to individual farmers on specific soil conservation problems. These include erosion control, drainage, terrace engineering, field planning and others. The district has 676 active cooperators in such practices. Another function of the district is to give farmers help ^{in making} ~~in making~~ complete ~~for~~ plans for their individual farms. These plans include ~~the~~ cropping rotations and all other practices needed to maintain and increase the productivity of farms. 350 such plans have been completed in ~~the district~~. This is a good record and can only have been made ^{possible} by the whole hearted and enthusiastic cooperation of all the farm agencies and the people of this district.

natural resources among the grade students in the County.

The main purpose of the district is to give help to individual farmers on specific soil conservation problems. These include erosion control, drainage, laying out terraces, ~~field~~ planning and others. ~~In this~~ The district has 676 active cooperators in such practices. There have been 350 ~~complete~~ farm plans completed. This is a good record. The wholehearted and enthusiastic cooperation of all the farm agencies and the people of the district made such a record possible.

natural resources among the grade student of the county.

The main purpose of the district is to give help to individual farmers in creating a plan for each farm best suited to maintain the production capacity for each farm. The district has 350 such farm plans.