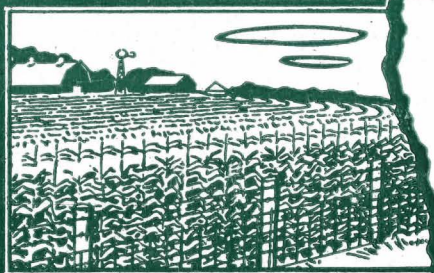


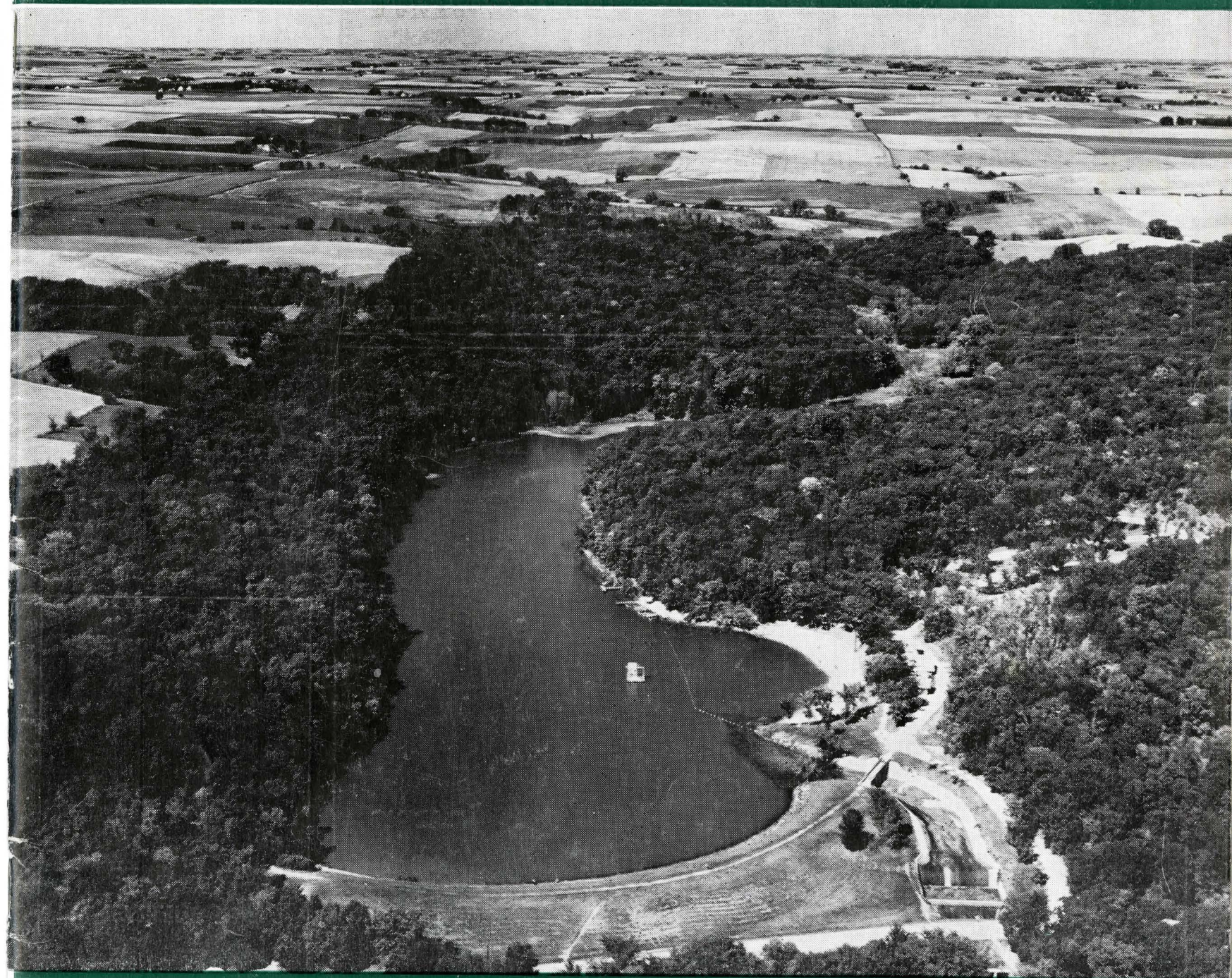
S OIL and WATER



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Official Publication of the Iowa Association of Soil District Commissioners and the Iowa State Watersheds Association



JUNE
1958

Iowa Soil & Water Features
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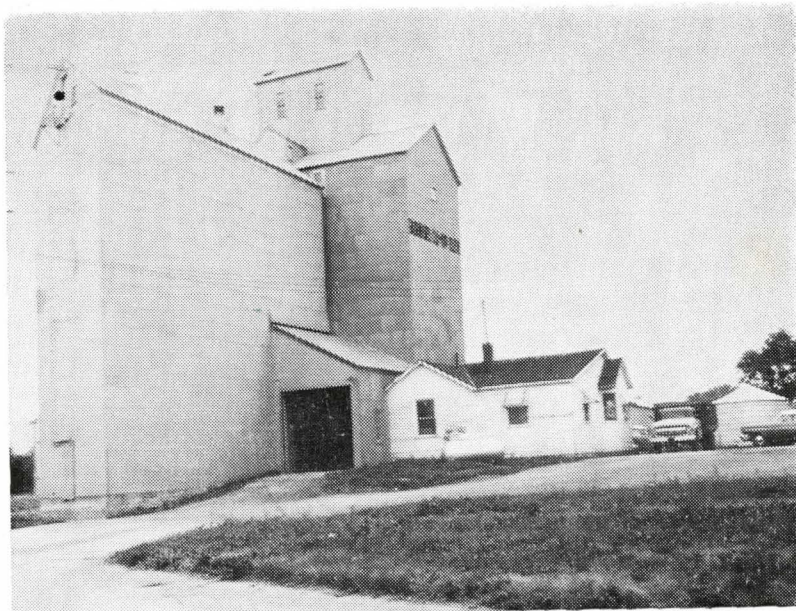
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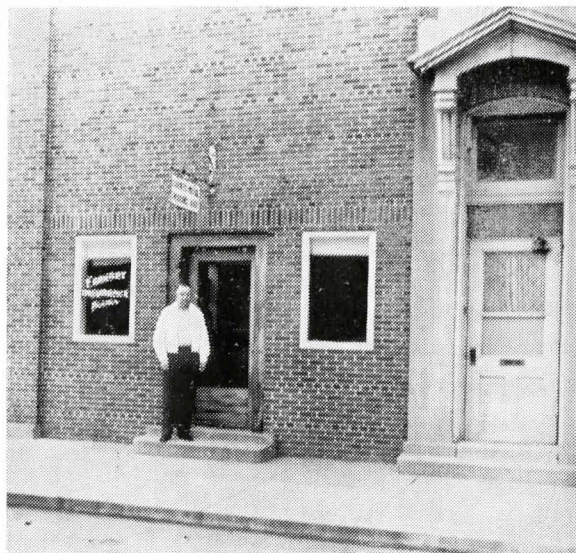
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GUTHRIE CENTER IMPLEMENT DEALERS

We wish to congratulate the Commissioners of the Guthrie County Soil District for the fine work they are doing in soil and water conservation.

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President's Corner



By Gilbert Fridley
President I.A.S.C.D.C.

I want to report that I attended the Harmony Watershed tour and the free Chicken Barbecue at Logan, Iowa, on June 12, 1958. All commissioners and Conservation enthusiasts should at some time be able to tour one of these Watershed projects in the state. It shows what cooperation of all agencies and individual farmers' hard work and time spent by a few key people can accomplish. We who attended this tour should be very thankful for the way it was arranged and the schedule they had was very closely followed. Commissioners of Harrison Soil District should be commended.

I also want to visit with you about the confusion and mistatements made in the inter-agency engagement in South Dakota. It

—Continued on page 32

The Cover



By Donald R. Cole
Park Conservation Officer

Springbrook State Park, located in Guthrie County, seven miles north of Guthrie Center on Iowa Highway #25 and one mile east on Highway #384, is

—Continued on page 23
IOWA SOIL AND WATER

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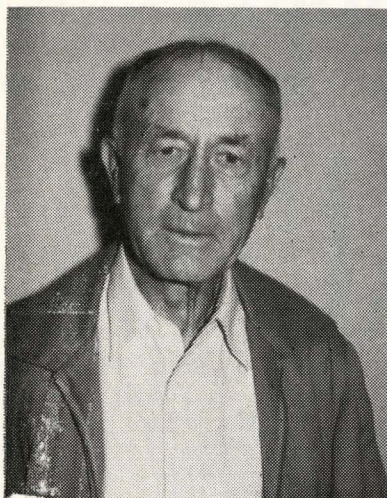
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Past & Assistant Commissioners in Guthrie Soil District

Past Commissioners



H. P. H. WEDEMEYER

Past Commissioner

H. P. H. Wedemeyer was the third member of the original three Commissioners. He served ten years before retiring from the board in 1955. He presently resides in Grant township and owns 535 acres of land.

He has been credited with having the first terraces in Guthrie county and he is a staunch advocate of Soil Conservation.



J. B. GARLOCH

Past Commissioner

Bryan Garloch served for seven years as a Commissioner. He farms 140 acres in Baker and a farm of 240 acres in Bear Grove. Bryan is still active in his farming operations and in helping to promote Soil Conservation.



CLARENCE HIDLEBAUGH

Past Commissioner

Clarence Hidlebaugh, who served as Commissioner for six years, and was also a Charter member, farms 160 acres in Dodge township.

Clarence is well known throughout the community as a man "who is ready to serve or give a helping hand" with regards to community activities.

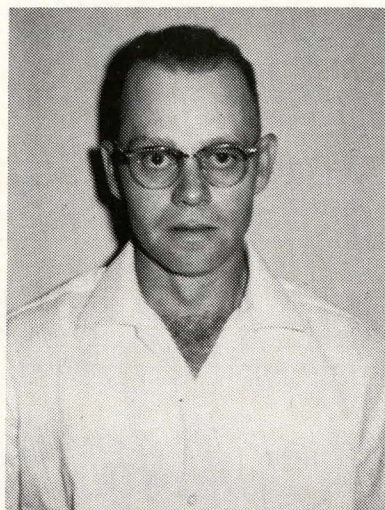
(Not Present For Picture)

STUART STRINGHAM

Past Commissioner

Stuart was elected as a commissioner from Penn Stuart township in 1954, and resigned after serving one year, due to his participation in many other activities.

Assistant Commissioners

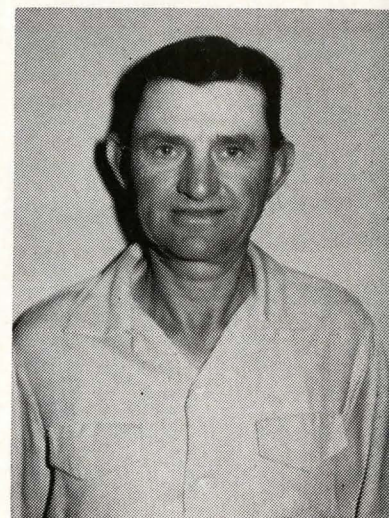


MARVIN PENFOLD

Assistant Commissioner

Marvin Penfold was appointed Assistant Commissioner for 1958. He farms 360 acres in Orange township and manages a 178-acre farm in Baker township. Marvin's address is Coon Rapids, Iowa.

Marvin is one of our outstanding "younger" conservation farmers in the District. He and his wife, Wanda, have one girl, Wilda and one boy, Kent. They are members of the Methodist Church at Coon Rapids.

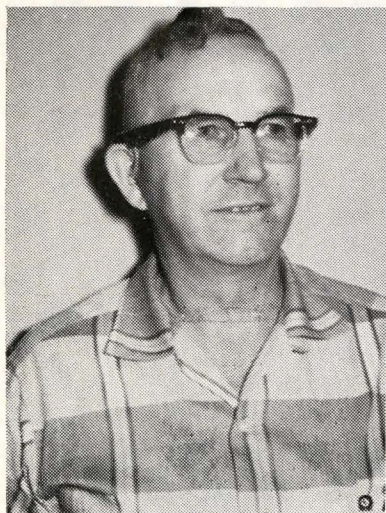


W. H. HECKMAN

Assistant Commissioner

D. H. (Bill) Heckman, resides in the Yale community, located in Cass township. Bill purchased his present farm in 1957 and moved to Guthrie county this past spring. He is a firm believer in soil conservation and is doing excellent work in a community of relatively flat topography.

Bill and his wife, Hazel, have one daughter, Rosemary.



ROSS SMITH

Past Commissioner

Ross Smith was a Charter member of the Soil District in 1945 and was the first Chairman. He owns a 350-acre farm in Union township, now being operated by Delbert Benton.

Ross presently resides in Guthrie Center and holds the position of Office Manager of the ASC.

Ross is well known for his "green thumb" in gardening.

—o—

**WASTE YOUR SOIL AND
YOU WASTE LIFE**



BERYL SHROYER

Assistant Commissioner

Beryl Shroyer farms 575 acres in Bear Grove township and was appointed Assistant Commissioner in 1958. He lives in Troublesome Creek Watershed and is an arch supporter of the watershed movement.

He has been following Conservation measures since 1941. Beryl and his wife, Frances have three boys, Beryl Lee, Thomas, Rex, and one girl, Joann.

**Assistant Commissioners
not present for pictures
were:**

KENNETH HERRIOTT

Assistant Commissioner

Kenneth Herriott lives in Beaver township on an 86-acre farm. In addition, he owns and operates a 260-acre farm in Thompson township. Kenneth has served as an Assistant Commissioner since 1955.

Kenneth has done a fine job in stopping erosion on both farms which is evident by the many conservation practices.

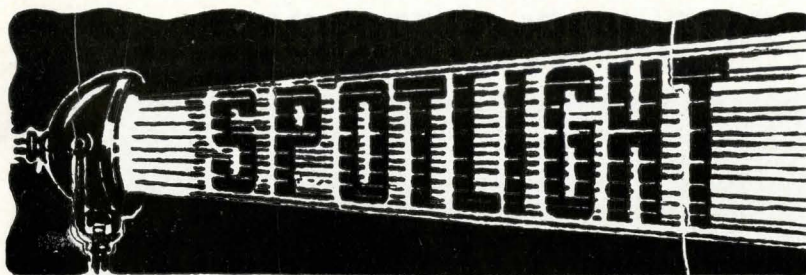
DONALD McCaffrey

Don McCaffrey, who farms 370 acres in Valley township, was appointed Assistant Commissioner in 1958.

Since he moved here from Crawford county to what was considered a "worthless, poor production" farm, Don now has one of the highest producing farms in the District from the standpoint of both grain and livestock.

Our Greatest Natural Resource in Iowa is the Soil.

IOWA SOIL AND WATER



Editorial

HONESTLY, DO YOU REALLY HAVE AN EXCUSE?

By Lee Neal
Work Unit Conservationist

Why does one state practice soil conservation more than another state? Why is there more conservation in that Soil District than in the neighboring Soil District? Why does Bill Smith practice and realize the profits of conservation, while others in the same neighborhood continue to farm the **other way**?

It is entirely possible all three questions will command more or less the same answers. A study of rural sociology and individual psychology would be needed for a justifiable and technical answer. However, this article is based on comments, opinions and observations.

At the district level, the answer to Bill Smith and his neighbors, is the problem most confronting.

The proverb "Pride goeth before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall" could possibly be the answer. Bill Smith has a sincere proudness of his conservation farming and his understanding that erosion is a waste and a sin. At one time, Bill was proud of the fact that he could plant the straightest row in the neighborhood. This proudness had to go for one with greater meaning.

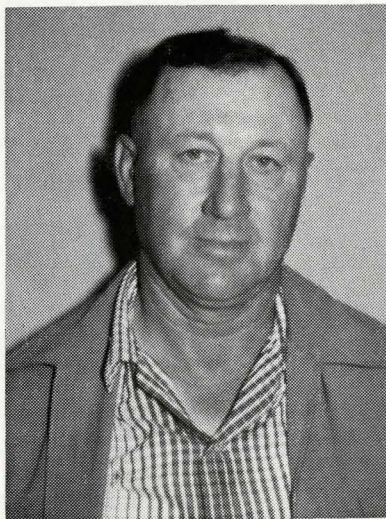
Bill's neighbor to the east is now the one with straightest rows. No progress until his pride goeth.

Bill's neighbor to the west has had too many lectures on conservation, consequently, his pride of opposition or holding his own ground prevents him from contouring. Eventually, the advantages will out-weigh his pride.

A second possible answer is lack of knowledge. Even in this day of complete newspaper coverage, radio, television, adult education and field days there are many who do not understand the workings of a Soil Conservation District.

With a new generation of farmers coming forth, the education and promotion of conservation to our youth is of vital importance. Maybe this is the answer.

—Continued on page 22
IOWA SOIL AND WATER



PRESENT COMMISSIONERS
BILL WESACK
Commissioner

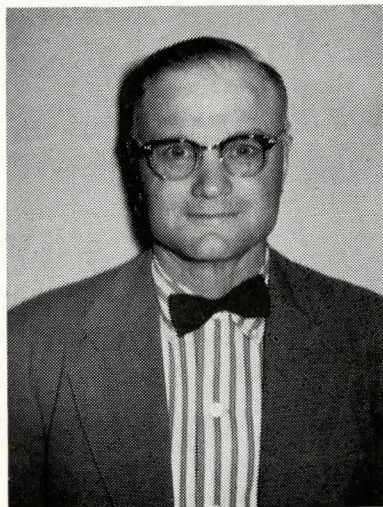
Bill Wesack, Commissioner, who resides in Grant Township, was elected to a four year term in 1955. Bill was born and has lived his entire life in the Adair community. Today, he has three farms totaling 480 acres, which are all tenanted.

In addition to being a Soil Commissioner, Bill has been appointed to the State Watershed Committee. He presently is the Chairman of the Crooked Creek Watershed, and is the Director of the County Izaak Walton League and was also a Charter Member of this organization. He was the first president of the Adair Conservation Club and has also been a former member of the ASC Committee.

Presently, he is one of the Elders of the St. Johns Lutheran Church and is a director of the Farmers Lumber Yard of Adair.

Bill is making steady progress toward a complete conservation program on all of his farms.

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ELMER MORELAND
Commissioner

Elmer Moreland, the Secretary-Treasurer of the Guthrie Soil Commissioners, retired from farming in 1957, and now resides in the town of Guthrie Center. Elmer owns a 360-acre farm in Seeley township which is being farmed by Darrell Hammond. Mr. Hammond and Elmer are now in a farming operation of Grade B milk, utilizing the bulk milk system.

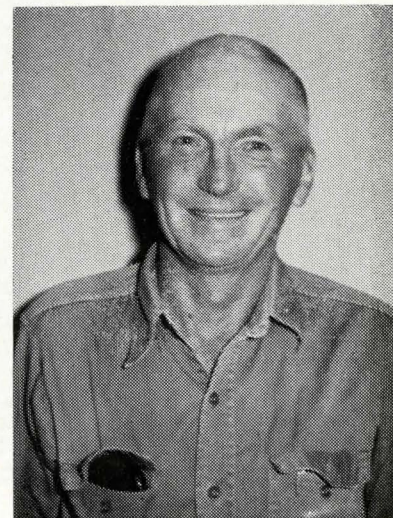
For all practical purposes, the conservation practices recommended on Elmer's farm have been applied. One can see terracing, strip cropping, waterways, farm ponds, etc., when visiting the farm.

Elmer has been a champion supporter of conservation and due to this fact, plus his many other community activities, he was selected as a Master Farmer in 1954.

In addition to being a Soil Commissioner, he is now a voting delegate of the Farm Bureau and is a Farm Bureau and Federal Crop Insurance Adjuster. Elmer has been associated with the following organizations: Chairman of the Farm Bureau, President of the Rural Fire Truck Association, President of the PTA and a member of the School Board, Secretary of the Seeley Telephone Co., an Elder of the Christian Church, etc.

Elmer and his wife, Ruby, have four daughters, three of whom are married.

If we let our soil erode away, the community will go the same route.



CLARK BULL
Chairman

Clark Bull is the present Chairman of the Soil Commissioners and recently was re-elected to a six-year term. Clark farms 160 acres in Victory township and has resided in Guthrie County all his life.

Clark started practicing conservation in 1940 with contouring. Today, his farm is a shining example of what conservation can do for a farm. One can see terraces, strip cropping, diversions, waterways, etc., now functioning.

His farm is used as a teaching aid for explaining the workings of a Conservation Farm Plan to the teachers who attend the teachers camp at Springbrook Park.

In 1957, Clark represented the State of Iowa as the Level Land Plowing Champion at the National and World Plowing Matches in Ohio.

Clark has been a member of the School Board, Extension Council, ASC Committeeman, and the Three Rivers Watershed Council.

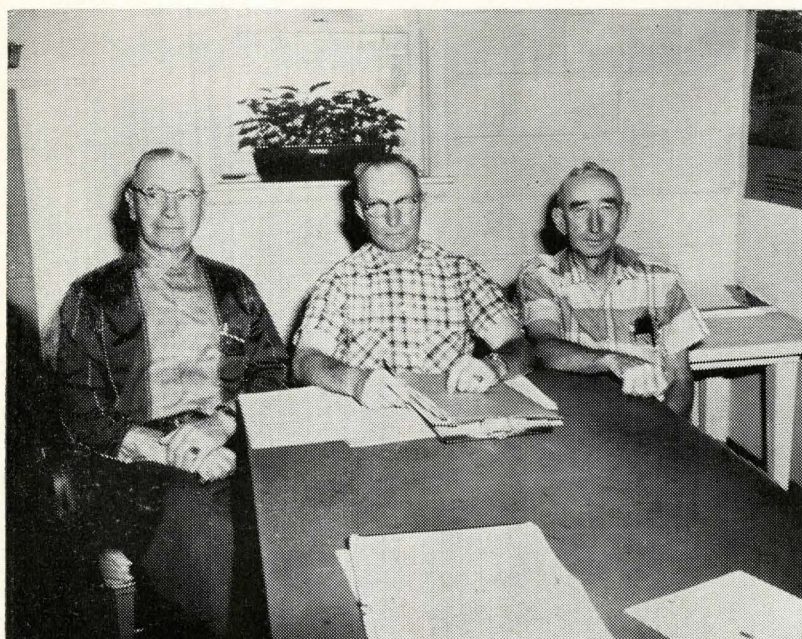
Clark and his wife, Marilla, have four children, one girl who is married, and three boys who are at home. They attend the Methodist Church.

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ASC PERSONNEL IN GUTHRIE DISTRICT



The ASC County Committee, left to right: Frank P. Cline, Rex Hayes, Chairman, and Harmen Miller.



ASC Office Personnel, seated left to right: Delores Downing, ACP Clerk; Ross T. Smith, Office Manager; Lorraine Banks, Chief Clerk. Standing, left to right: Jolene Downing, Planimeter Operator; Beulah Grove, Price Support Clerk; Bethene Ohm, Planimeter Operator; William Kesseling, Acreage Allotment and Marketing Quota Clerk; Harley Martin, Price Support Clerk; and Frank Phippen, Acreage and Conservation Reserve Clerk.



ORAL NELSON
ASC Fieldman

COOPERATION IN CONSERVATION

By Oral Nelson
Farmer Fieldman, District 7

It is not a privilege of man, but his duty, to keep intact as far as possible, one of our greatest resources, the soil, not only for future generations but for national security. It is man's duty during his tenure, to protect his interest and also that of posterity.

Guthrie County is recognized as one of the leading counties in our district, safeguarding these interests through their work in soil conservation. It is gratifying to us in ASC to work with a group such as the personnel in the Soil Conservation Service. We have pooled our efforts. Working with the personnel in the State Office of both ASC and SCS, we can achieve the duties with which man has been charged, as custodian of the soil.

ACP PROGRAM FOR 1958

By Loraine Banks
Chief Clerk

Again in 1958, the Federal Government will share with farmers throughout the states the cost of carrying out soil and water conservation practices as in the past with one or two exceptions. In 1958 stress is laid on not bringing into production new or additional farm land by measures such as drainage and land clearing. The term "cropland" has been substituted for the statement "agricultural land" formerly used. Briefly, no payment will be made on tile or open ditches made in pasture. The area drained must be cropland. This is defined as farm land, which in the year immediately preceding was in a regular crop; it also includes land that was established in permanent vegetative cover, other than trees since 1953 and was classed as cropland at that time. The construction of wells is another practice deleted from the Iowa ACP handbook for 1958.

Cost-sharing will be paid only for those practices for whom cost-sharing was requested **before** practice was started. The amount of money that can be earned on cost-sharing has been increased from \$1,500.00 to \$2,500.00. On practices such as liming or establishing permanent pasture, soil test results must be obtained before request can be made by the farmer. For practices requiring approval of Soil Conservation Service, SCS must approve and make recommendations before work is started, or no payment can be made. No sign-up meet-

ings were held out in the townships this year, but rather to have you sign up shortly before actual time you plan to start the work. This has eliminated the signing for many practices that never will be completed and affords more money for practices that will actually be completed during the 1958 program year.

OVER 20,000 ACRES IN GUTHRIE COUNTY SOIL BANK

By Rex Hayes
Chairman ASC

Soil Bank operations will take 21,424.7 acres of Guthrie County cropland out of production this year, according to Rex Hayes, —Continued on page 31

ASC IN GUTHRIE COUNTY

By Ross Smith, ASC Office Manager

Conserving soil and water has been one of the chief aims of the Guthrie County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee. Through our government's cost-sharing program, the farmer is assisted in protecting and conserving our farm lands. Since we are the caretakers of the land, it behooves us to guard and protect it for future generations.

During the past few years livestock and erosion dams, terraces, etc., are ever-increasing on the "hills of Guthrie County."

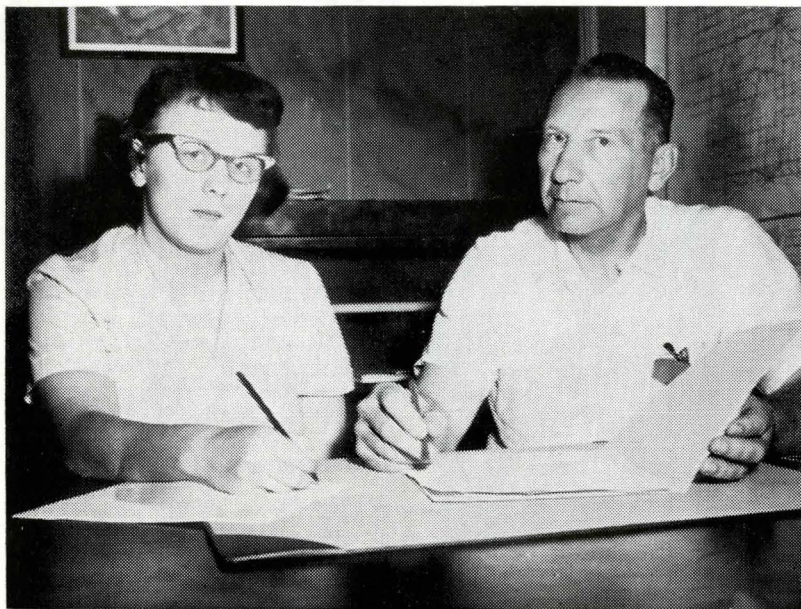
An appropriation of \$104,294.00 made for ACP work in Guthrie County in 1957 was exhausted by midyear and \$32,000.00 of practices were completed from 1958 funds and will be reported this year. Under the ACP plan, the government paid a limit of 50 per cent for most practices and 60 per cent for a few having a high initial cost or a slow return of benefits.

The following report of ACP assistance for each practice and the number of farms served does not include practices completed after July 1, 1957.

No. of Farms	Practice	Total Payment
90	Initial establishment of permanent cover	\$15,883.62
8	Establishment of Additional Acreage (seeding)	902.44
130	Limestone	14,613.75
2	Establishing contour stripcropping	243.75
8	Initial improvement of permanent grass	678.72
22	Controlling competitive shrubs	7,114.92
14	Constructing Wells for Livestock Water	2,285.03
13	Dams for Livestock Water	5,450.79
68	Establishing Sod Waterways (filling and seeding)	11,593.88
3	Initial establishment of Grass Headland Waterways	566.75
57	Constructing Standard Terraces	9,302.15
9	Constructing Diversion Terraces	621.90
1	Dam for Erosion Control	755.08
3	Construction of Open Farm Drainage Ditch	300.00
19	Tile Drainage	3,231.59
27	Establishment of Vegetative Cover for Green Manure	1,083.00
3	Shaping or grading land to permit effective surface drainage	442.50
338	Establishment of a vegetative cover to protect cropland	27,228.05
62	Contouring intertilled crops	2,197.00

IOWA SOIL AND WATER

Guthrie District and SCS Area Personnel



Sally Scarborough, Area Clerk, taking dictation from the boss, Charles Hood, Area Conservationist for Area 8.



Elton King, SCS Area Soil Scientist

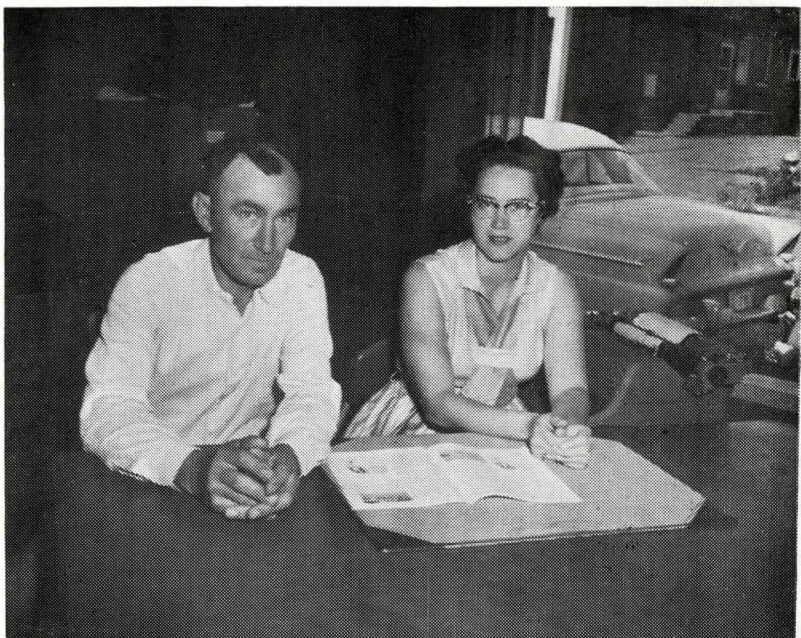


Area Personnel of the Engineering Staff, left to right: Dean S. Glen, Agricultural Engineer, and Harry L. Darling, Engineer Aide, located at the Soil Conservation Service Office in Greenfield, Iowa.

IOWA SOIL AND WATER



Soil Conservation Service Personnel, left to right: Don Betts, Conservation Aide; Lee Neal, Work Unit Conservationist, and Myron Allen, Five per cent Aide.



Personnel employed by the State Funds in the District are Harold Benton, Technician, and Janet Hayes, Clerk.

STATE AID

By Janet Hayes, Clerk

As a Clerk in the Soil Conservation Office for the past six years, I have come to understand that my duty is more than office routine. Of course, the record keeping and the numerous reports that are made are important, for they are the means by which the work of soil conservation is proved to be a necessary part of this State and of our County.

But aside from this part of my work, I feel that I am the representative of our District to the Soil Conservation Service, the farmers themselves, and also to Extension, the ASC, and all other agencies. It is my duty therefore, to see that the District program in connection with all these people runs smoothly.

It has become more than just a duty to be of help to our co-operators. To watch them develop and to have a part in that development gives me the satisfaction of knowing that our District is becoming more "Conservation Minded" every year.

Our State has the best, when it comes to assistance. The financial aid provided by the General Assembly each year goes a long ways in helping to carry out a successful District program.

Funds are allotted on a needs basis which are used for Clerical and Technical assistance in the District. Besides these funds, each of the 100 Districts receives \$500.00 which is used for various expenses in the Districts. Some of these items are stamps, stationery, and the Commissioners mile-

—Continued on page 27

GUTHRIE COUNTY EXTENSION



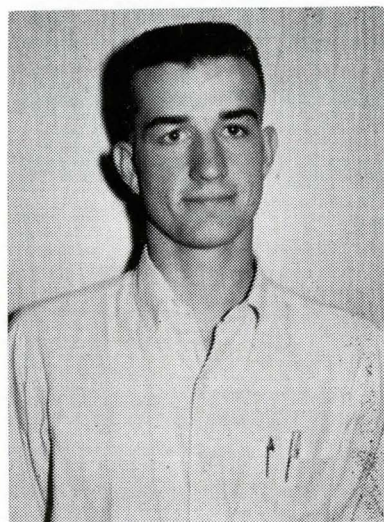
Guthrie County Extension Personnel, seated, left to right: Janice Jean Kopaska, Office Assistant and Louie O. Hansen, County Extension Director.

CONSERVATION BACKGROUND OF SOIL DISTRICT ACTUALITY

Conserving soil is nothing new to the Extension Service as may be seen from some of the items in the old annual reports according to Louie O. Hansen, County Extension Director. Back in 1925 H. A. Stafford, then the County Agent, reported as follows. "Two soil erosion demonstrations were conducted, at which 18 farm owners learned how to construct dams to stop washes and fill ditches. One was held on the farm of W. G. Harlan, Stuart township, and the other on the farm of W. G. Wilcox in Dodge township."

In 1926 Mr. Stafford reported as follows: "A large portion of

Guthrie county's tillable land has been heavily cropped and needs rejuvenating to restore its supply of plant food, to improve its physical condition and to prevent erosion in the rougher districts." The report indicates that a large percentage of the agent's time was spent in an educational program in an attempt to get farmers interested in using alfalfa, red clover, and sweet clover and in liming and using phosphate in order to get the best growth of these crops so that much of the land would have a cover crop and not only raise the productivity of the soil but to control soil erosion. In 1927 he records that a petition was circulated by the people in the county asking that a



JAY VAN WIRT
County Youth Extension Asst.
Summer Trainee in Guthrie
County.

soil survey be made for Guthrie county so that the soil types might be located and mapped in order to form a basis for many of the soil experiments being run in the county.

One can read through the reports of other County Extension Directors in the years from 1925 and up and find reports such as, "base line for contour planting for row crops have been laid out on approximately 2,000 acres of crop land in twenty demonstrations given by the Extension Director during the months of April and May. One hundred fourteen farmers were in attendance at these demonstrations." Other reports give similar reports on terracing, waterways, and other soil conservation work.

Many years later from the reports of Donald E. Gardner, then the County Extension Director, we find the development of what is now the present Guthrie County Soil Conservation District.

The Guthrie County Soil Management Committee composed of eleven farmers, upon the recommendations of the extension program planning committee and the Guthrie County Farm Bureau Board proceeded with the educational work on the organization of a Soil Conservation District for Guthrie county. Publicity meetings, letters, and newspapers was widespread and much favorable comment and interest was given to the idea. Petitions were circulated to land owners for their signatures so that the first step of organizing the soil conservation district would be accomplished. The necessary 20 per cent of the landowners were secured and the petitions forwarded to the soil conservation committee, who granted a hearing which was set especially for the purpose of presenting evidence showing the need of the Soil Conservation District in Guthrie county. At the

hearing which was well attended, evidence supporting the necessity of a good soil management program was given and the state committee approved the holding of a referendum in the county and petitions were circulated for the nominations for Soil Conservation Commissioners.

At the referendum held on December 1, 1945, the Soil Conservation District of such became a legal body. The referendum count became a legal body. The referendum count was 127 votes cast with 124 cast favorable to having a Soil Conservation District. At a governing body of the district the following commissioners were elected: Ross T. Smith, Chairman; H. P. H. Wedemeyer and Clarence A. Hidlebaugh.

It is only to be expected that in Guthrie county, the Guthrie County Extension Service is vitally interested in the promotion of Soil Conservation and good soil management practices on Guthrie county farms. The Extension program planning committee on crops and soils in planning the 1957-58 extension program stated of the over-all problem as follows: "Not all Guthrie county farmers are farming in a way so as to maintain a permanent agriculture. Soil and soil fertility is being lost. Often natural resources are not conserved and used to the best of their ability. Many farmers are not trained in the use of proper conservation practices."

Long-time objectives put forth by the committee as a solution to this problem include educational work on the use of increased livestock numbers where too much grain lowers the productivity of the land, thus reducing income. They further set forth the goal that soil building rotations should be used on all but permanent pastures. Also included in this long range objective is the use of lime where needed in order to make the best use of green manure and other pasture crops. The use of fertilizer and soil tests, contouring, terracing, and strip chopping practices used where needed.

In addition to county meetings and programs carried on by the Extension Service in the area of Soil Conservation the Extension Service has worked with the soil district in contour plowing matches, tours, training schools for contour layout, soil conservation field days, soil conservation air tours, and other events.

The Topsoil is more valuable than most of us realize. LET'S KEEP IT!

IOWA SOIL AND WATER



Forty-two new alfalfa fields were established back in 1925 as a result of the lime and legume project carried on that year. The use of limestone was relatively new to most Guthrie County farmers as was the practice of seeding legume. Shown above are Guthrie County farmers on a tour of the alfalfa fields in 1925 checking a plot seeded in August 1924. Perhaps some of you can identify some of these folks.



**BE KIND
TO
YOUR
LAND!**

It's your greatest asset. Buildings can be replaced; so can worn-out machinery. But what can you do with land when its fertility has been destroyed?

Crop rotation, contour cultivation for erosion control, and similar modern methods of promoting farm prosperity are very important. This bank is strongly in favor of making safe loans, giving advice, or doing anything that contributes to the permanent welfare of our farmer friends.

Guthrie County State Bank

Guthrie Center, Iowa

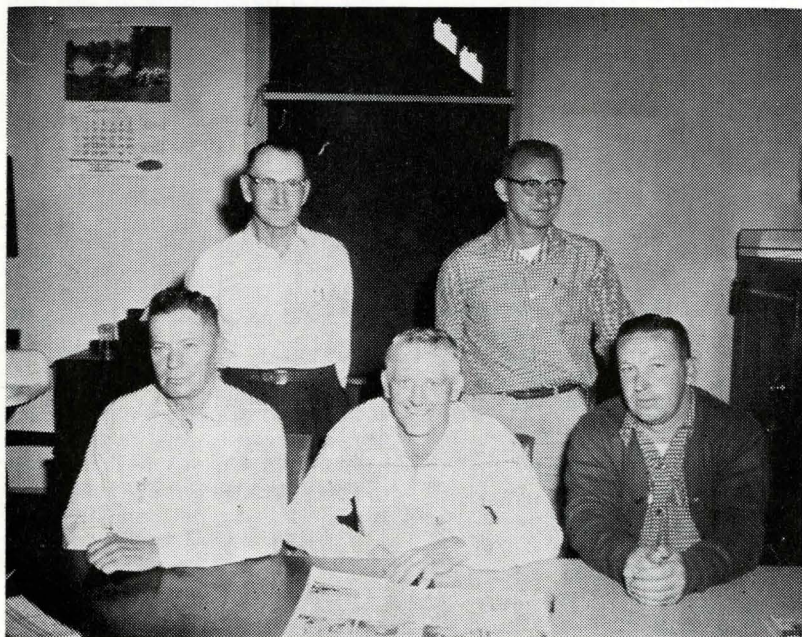
Phone 58



Office at Panora, Iowa

Phone 120

Guthrie County Board of Supervisors



Pictured above are the Guthrie County Board of Supervisors. Left to right, seated: Frank Drake, Herman Heires, Bob Shelley, Chairman. Standing, left to right: Art Knauer and Eddie Stark.

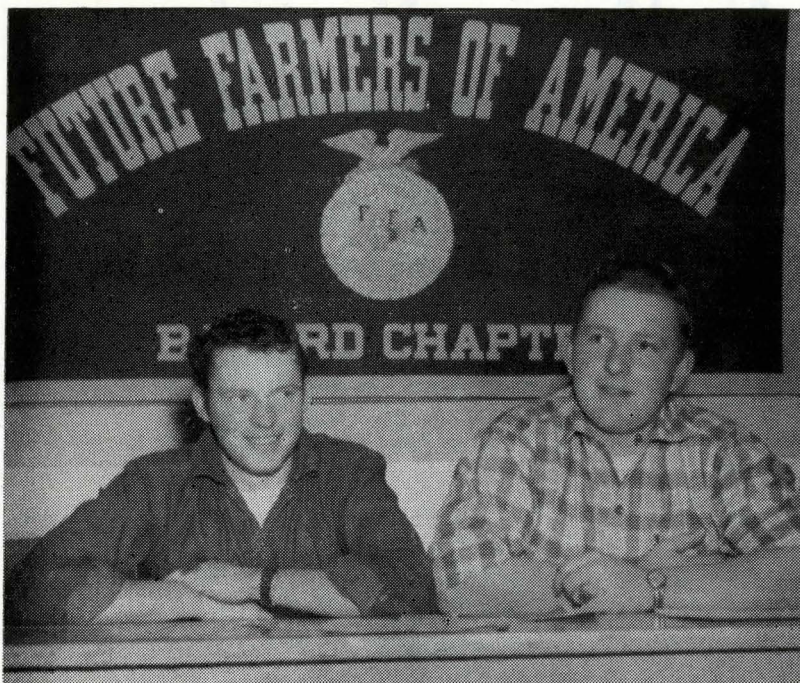
District Commissioners Meeting



Those attending Guthrie Soil Conservation District Commissioners meeting in June were, from left to right: Clark Bull, Chairman of the Commissioners; Bill Heckman, Assistant Commissioner; Beryl Shroyer, Assistant Commissioner; Don Betts, Conservation Aid; Ross Smith, former Commissioner; Marvin Penfold, Assistant Commissioner; Louie Hansen, County Extension Director; Clarence Hidlebaugh, former Commissioner; H. P. H. Wedemeyer, former Commissioner; Bill Wesack, Commissioner; Bryan Garloch, former Commissioner, and Janet Hayes, Clerk.

Treat Your Land Right And It Will Treat You

Guthrie County F. F. A. Activities



Clifford Jensen and Raymond Free, winners of the 1956 FFA Farm Planning Contest sponsored by the Farm Youth Foundation and the Guthrie County Soil Conservation District. These boys representing the Bayard FFA Chapter were the winners of the first contest of this kind held in the county.

OUTLINE FOR FFA FARM PLANNING CONTEST

I. PREPARATIONS

- All FFA Chapters within the District are eligible.
- Preparations for contest should begin after first of year so that contest can be held in October and November.
- Two farms are selected for each school—this means one farm for each section.
 - The farms must be soil mapped.
 - They should be located within a radius of three miles to the school.
 - They should be between 160 to 200 acres in size.
 - The selected farms should not have any, or at least a minimum of conservation practices.
 - The selected farms should have similar physical features and problems.
- Be sure to obtain permission from farm owners of farms selected, or try to sign them with the District.

II. INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENTS

- Only Junior FFA students may participate.
- Each class is divided into two sections.
- The boys are to work in teams—two boys make a team.
- Each FFA Class is visited for orientation.
 - Use an enlarged farm plan sketched on heavy cardboard—for brief explanation of a farm plan.
 - Three farm sketches to be used
 - Soil Capability map
 - A "before" map of farm
 - A "planned" map of farm
 - Explain Plan of Conservation Operations and its importance to the clarification of the plan written.
 - Usage of SCS Farm Planners scale.
 - Set up date for field trip, explain all details necessary, etc.
- Each team is furnished with:
 - Two sets of farm planning maps, including soil maps.
 - Corresponding guide sheets.
 - One Farm Planners map scale.
 - Suggestion sheet and sample copy of score sheet.
 - Conservation Symbol sheet.
 - Blank forms of Cropping Plan.

III. WITHIN SCHOOL CONTEST

- There is a winning team from each section, making two winning teams from each school.
- For the "within school" contest, the FFA Instructors are allowed to coach and help instruct on the preparation of the plans.
- For the "within school" contest, the time limit is three weeks from the day SCS personnel introduce the farm to the boys.
- The "within school" contest plans are judged by local SCS personnel and Soil Commissioners.

IV. FINAL CONTEST

- The two winning teams from each school are all to compete on a neutral farm which is called the "county farm."
- From the "county farm" two winning teams are selected and awarded the top prize.

- For the final "county farm" contest, the instructors are to give no assistance. They should not even make a walk-over on the farm.
- For the final contest, the time limit is two weeks from date of initial walk-over by contestants.
- The final contest is judged by Work Unit Conservationist from other Soil Districts.

ADAIR-CASEY FFA COOPERATIVE FARM

By Orville Cooper
Voc. Ag. Instructor

A one-hundred-and-two-acre farm has been the cooperative project of the Adair-Casey FFA Chapter for the past three years. The farm is leased from the Rock Island Railroad on a standard 50-50 crop share lease and has land which ranges in productivity from average to sub-marginal.

When first taken over by the Chapter in the spring of 1956 the farm had only 21 acres of land in production. The balance had not been tilled for several years and was full of gullies and in general run-down condition.

The Chapter decided upon an extensive program to reclaim the farm with the first main objective being to get all of the land into production and the second being to work hard toward a comprehensive soil conservation plan, realizing such an ambitious scheme would take at least three years of careful management and hard work.

Because of rank growths of weeds and the numerous gullies, certain selected fields were left out of cultivation the first year,

—Continued on page 18

VOC. AGR. AT MENLO COMMUNITY SCHOOL

By T. E. Young
Voc. Ag. Instructor

Vocational Agriculture in the Menlo School is a two-phase program. Today, classes consisting of a ninth and tenth grade class and and eleventh and twelfth grade class make up one phase.

A four-year program is offered. The freshman and sophomore class study livestock and crop production and Beginning Farm Carpentry for freshmen, and Beginning Welding and Steel Work for sophomores. The junior and senior classes deal with Farm Management and Advanced Farm Mechanics. The shop work includes advanced welding, with both acetylene and electric; tap and die work, farm electricity, advanced farm carpentry, machinery adjustment and repair, and a limited amount of motor mechanics.

FFA officers and seniors attend the National FFA convention in Kansas City each October. Here they gain a broad prospective of the FFA organization

—Continued on page 32

GUTHRIE CENTER FFA CHAPTER.

Arch Silletto, Instructor

The Future Farmers of America Chapters in Guthrie County have always enjoyed fine co-operation with the County Soil Conservation Service and the Soil Conservation District.

The first cooperative project involving the organizations was an annual all-day field trip. The trip was organized by the SCS personnel and consisted of a tour to study the Soil Conservation programs on four farms.

Two school buses provided transportation and about eighty Vocational Agriculture students participated. The trips were planned so that the farm owner or operator could take part in the discussion of his soil conservation problems.

The second project was begun about eight years ago under the direction of the County Farm Planner. It was a county-wide soil judging contest. Apparently, Guthrie County was the first in Iowa to hold a soil judging Contest. This project developed into a Four County Soil Judging Contest. Two such contests were held near Dexter, Iowa. This program culminated in the Guthrie Center FFA Team being sent to the National Land Judging Contest near Oklahoma City. Most of the planning and fund-raising for this trip was managed by the local Soil Conservation District.

Land Judging was abandoned three years ago. At that time, Mr. Lee Neal, present Farm Planner, met with the Guthrie County Vocational Agriculture instructors and outlined a Farm Planning Contest. This met with unanimous acceptance by the instructors and has been in use for two years.

A local contest is held for each school and the two top teams of two students compete for the Championship. The two best teams are given an educational trip, financed by the Farm Youth Foundation and the Soil District.

This Farm Planning Contest has become very popular with

—Continued on page 24

STUART CHAPTER

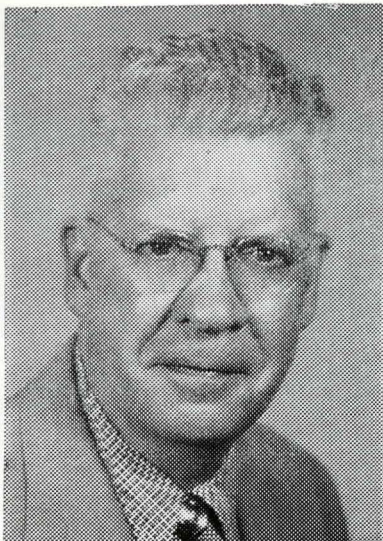
FFA REPORT

By Beryl Hall
Voc. Ag. Instructor

The Stuart Chapter, Future Farmers of America, is made up of the boys in the Stuart Community School.

—Continued on page 28

Newspaper Publishers Boost Conservation



W. E. LITTLER
Publisher Adair News
and Fontanelle Observer

By W. E. Littler

Publisher Adair News and
Fontanelle Observer

Several years ago a farm publication printed a picture of a deserted farmhouse in a desolate, sandswept field, then offered a prize for the best 100-word essay on the disastrous effects of land erosion. A bright Indian lad from Oklahoma bagged the trophy with this graphic contribution:

"Picture show why white man crazy. Cut down trees. Make too big teepee. Plow hill. Water wash. Wind blow soil. Grass gone. Door gone. Window gone. Squaw gone. Whole place gone to hell. No pig. No corn. No pony.

"Indian no plow land. Keep grass. Buffalo eat grass. Indian eat buffalo. Hide make plenty big teepee. Make moccasin. All time eat. Indian no hunt job. No work. No hitch-hike. No ask relief. No build dam. No give dam.

"White man heap crazy."

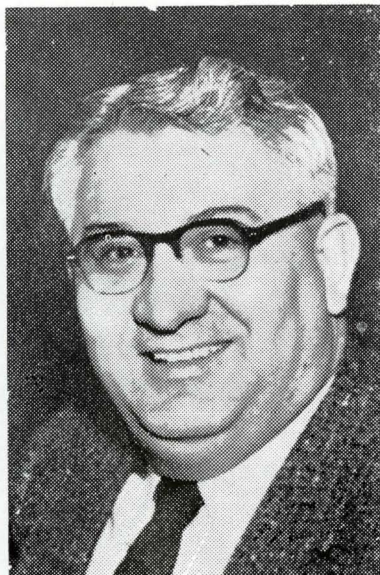
The young Indian's essay applies to many areas in this land of ours. Until comparatively recent years it applied to much of our great state of Iowa and particularly to the areas of hill country.

Much topsoil has been washed into creeks and rivers—lost to us forever. However, soil and water conservation practices have been tried out in this area and have been found to be practicable.

As a result, more and more farmers are learning how they can assure the future of their land—at the same time increasing their earnings—through the wise use of soil and water conservation practices.

Much still is left to be done. But we definitely are on our way toward the conservation of our natural resources—vital to the welfare of everyone in this area.

IOWA SOIL AND WATER



KEN ROBINSON
Editor, Bayard News

LET'S GUARD OUR RESOURCES

By Ken Robinson
Editor Bayard News

Soil Conservation during the
past few years has become a part

—Continued on page 37



Charles P. Gonzales, Publisher of the Times Guthrie on the right, and Tom Downing, News Editor.

THE NEWSPAPER—ANOTHER TOOL IN PROMOTING SOIL CONSERVATION

By Charles Gonzales
Times Guthrie Publisher

Soil Conservation in a rough
terrain such as Guthrie county is
a must in the economy of a com-
munity.

—Continued on page 32

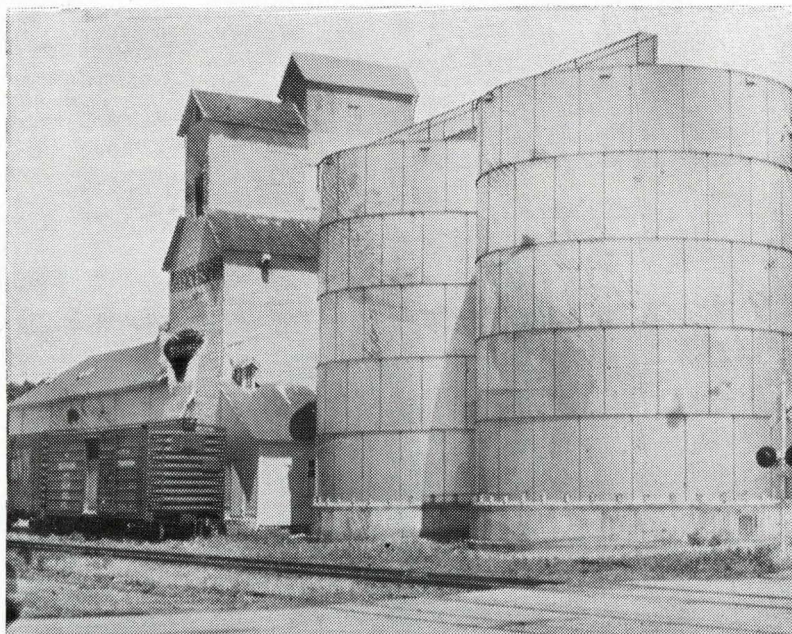
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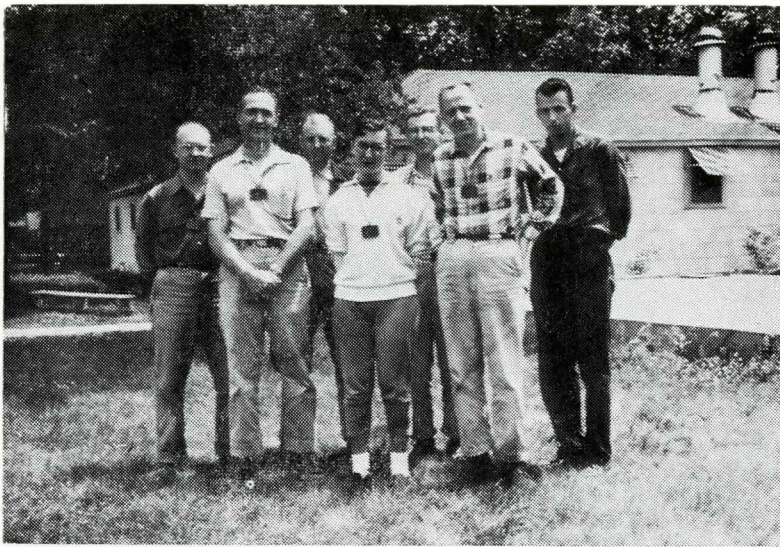
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CONSERVATION CAMP FOR IOWA



Instructors and Camp Director of the Springbrook State Teachers Camp are left to right: Fred Hubbard, Biology Department, Grandview College, Des Moines; George W. Worley, Camp Director, Iowa State Teachers College; Dr. Frank Schaller, Extension Agronomist, Iowa State College, Ames; Carolyn Peters, Camp Secretary, Iowa State Teachers College, Woodward, Iowa; David Slusher, Soil Scientist, U. S. Soil Conservation Scientist, Ames; Verlin Lee, Science Department, Iowa State Teachers College; Gene Seehusen, Ind. Arts Supervisor, College Community School, Cedar Rapids.



Frank Schaller, Extension Agronomist, ISC, explaining different soil types to group on a tour of Guthrie County, studying soils.



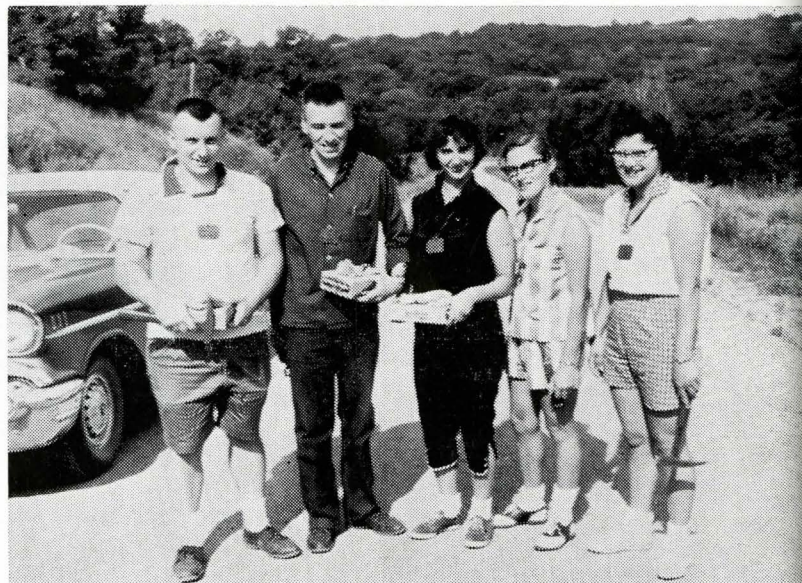
Teachers attending Conservation Camp at Springbrook State Park, inspecting sandstone outcropping along the road west of camp.



George Worley, Camp Director and Frank Schaller demonstrating the difference between Glacial and Windblown soils. Mr. Schaller and David Slusher, Soil Scientist with SCS, spent two days at camp instructing teachers on soil formation and type.

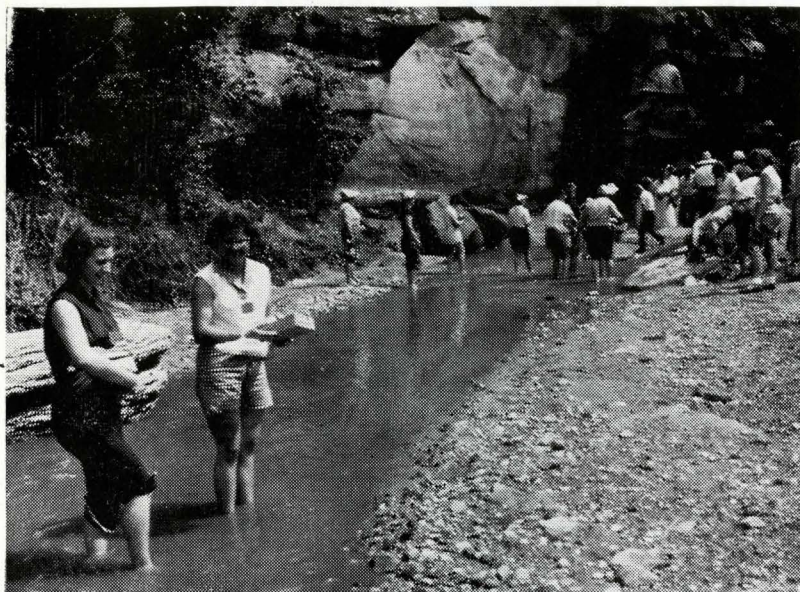


Group of teachers collecting different species of rock along the road east of Springbrook Park. This is along the edge of the glacial till. Five teachers exhibiting rock collections picked up during tour.



Teachers attending first session at Springbrook exhibit rocks gathered for their collections.

TEACHERS AT SPRINGBROOK STATE PARK



Gathering rocks and cooling their feet at the same time in the stream at Ledges State Park near Boone.



Dr. Charles S. Gwynne, Professor Emeritus, Geology Department, Iowa State Teachers College, explains rock formation and origin to a group of the teachers during the tour.

STATE CONSERVATION EDUCATION CENTER IN GUTHRIE COUNTY

By George W. Worley, Director

Iowa Teachers Conservation Camp Science Dept., Iowa State Teachers College, Cedar Falls, Ia.

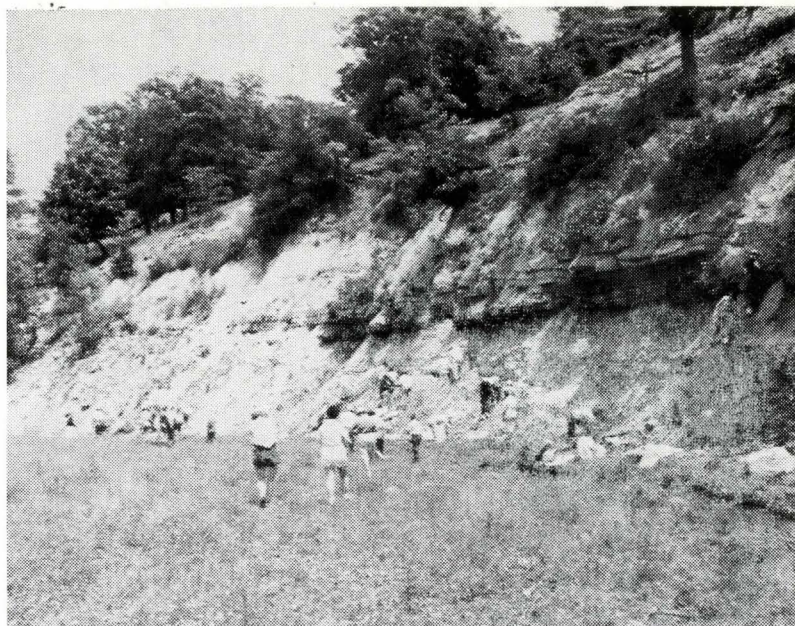
The Iowa Teachers Conservation Camp, held each summer since 1950 in Springbrook State Park, is one of the largest and best known camps of its kind in the United States. By August 10, 1958, over 700 Iowa teachers will have spent at least three weeks at the camp. About 150 of these will have attended two sessions, so that the total teacher-sessions will exceed 850. It is estimated that over 50,000 Iowa boys and girls have benefited from better conservation teaching as a result of the Camp's operations.

IOWA SOIL AND WATER

Each of the three three-week sessions of the Conservation Camp is a separate college course in conservation. A teacher receives three semester hours of undergraduate or graduate college credit in biology from Iowa State Teachers College for each session. Two sessions may be attended for a total of six semester hours. The first and third sessions are alike, and in 1958 will deal with rocks and minerals, soil, water, and forests. The second session offers experiences in soil nutrients, wildlife, and balance in nature. In odd-numbered years the sequence is reversed.

Cost of attending a camp session is about \$95.00 to \$100.00, including tuition, fees, board, and room. Scholarships often pay all or part of the cost.

A Conservation Camp session is unique as a college course in many ways, but two features



The group as they move in to gather rocks at a limestone outcropping near Madrid.



Teacher students hunting fossils on the bank of Preston Branch, one mile west of Madrid, Iowa.

merit special mention. First, the teachers learn conservation by **seeing** and **doing**, rather than by reading and listening. Every morning is spent in the field actually working with natural resources. Between 500 and 1,000 miles are traveled each session. Second, instruction in the field comes from specialists selected because of their ability to give practical, usable experiences and information. Fifteen to twenty specialists may come and go each session, as different phases of conservation are studied.

The history of the Camp is a story of unselfish and purposeful cooperation. The State Conservation Commission provides group camp buildings and facilities for camp headquarters, as well as many visiting instructors in wildlife, recreational resources, forestry, and balance in nature.

Iowa State Teachers College brings staff members, laboratory equipment, industrial arts tools, and much other equipment and supplies from Cedar Falls. The State Department of Public Instruction, U. S. Soil Conservation Service, U. S. Forest Service, the State Soil Conservation Committee, U.S.D.A. Extension Service, and a dozen or more other state, federal and private agencies provide expert instructors, printed materials, films, and other services. Soil Conservation Districts and Commissioners, Izaak Walton Leagues, All-Iowa Conservation Council clubs, garden clubs, women's clubs, civic groups, and individuals contribute scholarships which in 1957 alone amounted to over \$3,500.00.

Teachers have come to Camp at Springbrook from all but two

—Continued on page 18

A CONSERVATION MINDED FARM FAMILY



Conservation Farmer, Jerry Eischeid, and family. Standing left to right: Joyce, age 10, Judee 14, Marietta 17, Carlene 15, Carol 12, Lois 9. From left to right, seated: Gail 5, Mrs. Eischeid holding Cindy, age 2, Leon 8, Jerry Eischeid holding Sherry 3, and Beverly, age 4.

CONSERVATION PLUS

One of the top examples of Soil Conservation practices in Guthrie County can be found in Jerry Eischeid's 160-acre farm northwest of Guthrie Center, in Seeley township.

He moved his family here from Carroll County eight years ago. He had been used to farming relatively flat ground there, and he found that cultivating the hilly land on the Seeley place was difficult and unprofitable.

"The corn was so bad when I came here I just turned the cattle into it," he says.

Then, ten bushels to the acre was good for the farm. But now with the terraced rows holding the moisture, Jerry says "the land will yield between 60 and 80 bushels of corn per acre, depending on the elements of nature."

Under the Department of Agriculture's cost-sharing program, Eischeid has done four and one-half miles of terracing in his fields.

This includes not only the 37 acres of corn that he put in this year, but also the oats and pasture plots.

In 1956, the Eischeid farm placed second in the Register and Tribune outstanding Conservation Farmer Contest.

Another mile of terracing and a farm pond are yet to be done on the farm. Leo Neal of the Soil Conservation Service says that with those improvements, the farm probably would have won first place in the contest.

Eischeid is following a double four-year rotation program. One-half of his land is put into corn for two years, oats a year and meadow a year. The other half is rotated on the basis of corn one year, oats one year and meadow two years.

Besides the hills, Eischeid was also faced with drainage ditches so deep "you could drive a car in and not be able to see it" from the field. Bulldozers have turned the ditches into waterways and added to the cultivatable acreage of the farm.

To Jerry, who is representative of our younger future farmers, conservation farming is "the only way."

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ADAIR, IOWA

Springbrook Teachers Camp From A Teacher's Viewpoint



Helen Weigel is one of the teachers sponsored by the Guthrie District to the Teachers Conservation Camp. She taught for seven years in a rural school and has been teaching for the past three years in the Bayard Community Schools.

Helen is a veteran of two Summer sessions at the Teachers Camp, having attended in 1951 and 1953.

"A MUST—YOU'LL ENJOY READING"

A DAY AT SPRINGBROOK STATE TEACHERS CONSERVATION CAMP

By Helen Weigel

The sound of birds in the hazy distance slowly penetrates a drowsy brain. They seem to come closer and closer as I gradually "regain consciousness" from a deep restful sleep. The Towhee seems to be saying "Drink your tea—drink your tea," as it urges me into wakefulness. Then the low, encouraging and enthusiastic voice of the Camp Director, George Worley says, "It is now five o'clock. Time for a bird hike."

Even though it is early morning, a group of enthusiastic teachers soon gather at the "Hall of Smoke Signals." We are all clad in jeans, jackets for the early morning breeze, and boots to protect our feet from the heavy dew in case we spy an unusual species and have to venture into the tall grass for closer inspection. Field glasses have been checked out to those who are not fortunate enough to have them.

We are divided into groups and quietly follow our "Chiefs" as they lead us to the habitat of the birds. As we follow Chief George, we seem to hear birds from all sides. Then we discover that he is answering the call of a bird in the nearby bush. We watch breathlessly as the bird comes within a few feet of us before dis-

covering the ruse and fluttering away.

We made a list of the birds seen, and identified. After breakfast, the lists were read, compared and comments made. At the ends of the lists were apt to be the names of such things as Purple People Eater, and One Horned birds of various descriptions.

After breakfast, the fun is temporarily exchanged for an atmosphere of learning, as we gather in the council room for a discussion of the plans for the day. Today, we are taking a field trip to see the three soil associates typical of Iowa.

We are told that we are very fortunate to be located in an area where we might see soil associations within a twenty-mile radius of Springbrook. This comes as a surprise. Oddly enough, we had thought that soil was all alike.

Now, we are told we are going to see three different kinds of soil—(This, we got to see.)—Enthusiastically, we climb aboard our bus, the Green Hornet, and proceed with our visiting specialists as Chiefs. Today, they are Frank Schaller, Extension Agronomist of Iowa State College and David Slusher, Soil Scientist of the U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service.

We turn north from the park and climb up to level land to see the Clarion Webster association. We find that this is soil formed from material left by the Wisconsin glacier as it pushed across central Iowa more than 10,000 years ago and gradually melted and receded.

Then we went near Coon Rapids to see the Marshall association. We found that this was a loess or windblown soil found typical in southwestern Iowa.

After a close scrutiny of this soil, we turned south and stopped a few miles south of camp where we studied the Shelby-Sharpsburg-Winterset association. This is a loess soil on top of a Kansan till and is found in much of south central Iowa.

Now we have in bottles, a sample of each of the three soils and are surprised to see that they look and feel differently. The soil has new meaning to us as we look at the fields while we drive along.

After lunch, we made little oblong samples and mounted them on cardboard for future use in our classroom. Then we viewed the films "Grass Roots In The Soil," and "Our Soil Resources." In the afternoon from 3:30 to 5:30 we rest or work on individual projects.

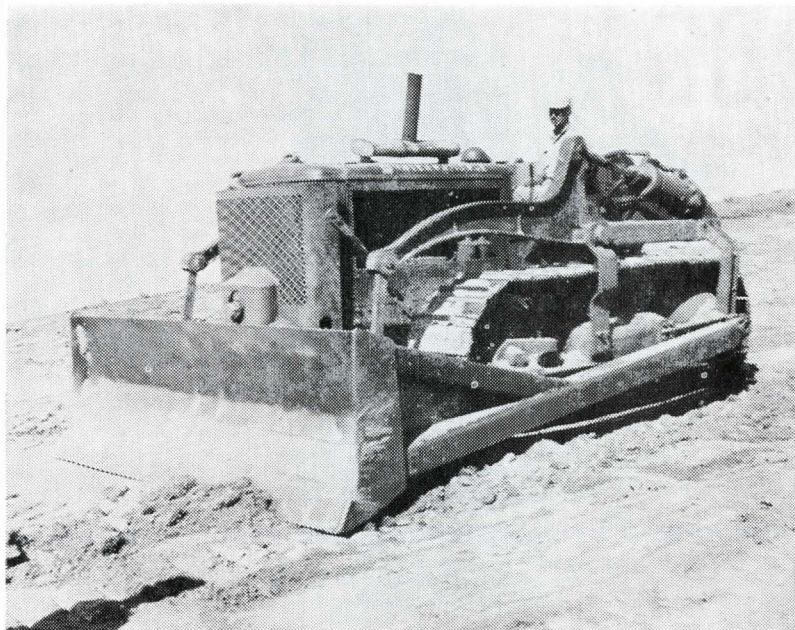
The evening meal is usually the big meal of the day and is looked

—Continued on page 25

IOWA SOIL AND WATER

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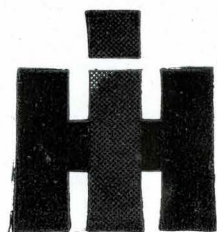
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GUTHRIE CENTER, IOWA

Guthrie Sale Pavilion

LAUGHERY BROS., Owners

Sale every Thursday

Sale Barn where Buyers and Sellers Meet

Consign your livestock to our weekly market

Guthrie Center, Iowa

ADAIR-CASEY FFA —

(Continued from page 12)
but the remaining fields were plowed, fertilized and planted to corn. The rate of fertilizer application was 150 pounds of 16-20-0 plowed under and 100 pounds of anhydrous ammonia side-dressed. Through yield checks it was determined that the fertilized corn averaged 57 bushels per acre while the unfertilized corn averaged only 32 bushels per acre. In isolated cases the fertilizer return was \$18.00 for every dollar invested.

In August of that first year the previously by-passed fields were prepared for production in 1957. This operation entailed filling the gullies, mowing and fall plowing. Fall wheat was sown in these fields after the application of liquid fertilizer 6-18-6 at the rate of 200 pounds per acre, and at harvest the wheat averaged a yield of 31 bushels per acre. Since the fall of 1956 was a particularly dry one, it had been decided not to seed a legume under the first planting of wheat and for this reason these same fields were placed back into wheat in the fall of 1957. Happily, because of the good ability of wheat to "choke" weeds, the fields were fairly well cleared of them in just one season.

Now at the beginning of the third year of operation, the cropping plan for 1958 is for all the land to be under cultivation, with 15 acres in corn and a considerably larger area in small grains, using alfalfa as the legume seedling. An experimental two acres of the farm has been reserved for the planting of new crops. This season the farm will be soil mapped by the SCS and a soil conservation farm plan applied.

The Chapter owns its own farm machinery which includes a tractor, disc, corn planter, mower, weed sprayer and roller. The machinery was financed through the local bank and has a present indebtedness of \$550.00.

The Adair-Casey FFA Chapter feels it can point with pride to the improvements made in this particular parcel of land and as a cooperative and somewhat experimental project hopes it has been beneficial not only to its own members but to the community as a whole.

CONSERVATION EDUCATION —

(Continued from page 15)

counties in Iowa and from several other states. Linn County has sent 27, Guthrie County sent 25, and Polk County 23. The record summer attendance was 118 in 1952. In that same year 63 campers attended the third session to set a record for single sessions.

The Iowa Teachers Conservation Camp has become a part of Guthrie County and a powerful force in bettering resource-use education in Iowa. Without positive local cooperation and assistance this could not have come about.

IOWA SOIL AND WATER

F.H.A. BORROWERS PRACTICE SOIL CONSERVATION



Preparing a farm plan in connection with an application for an operating loan in the FHA office in Guthrie Center, are left to right: Mr. and Mrs. Lindyn E. Andreasen, young farm couple; Dallas Rolph, Assistant County FHA Supervisor; and Arden Newell, County FHA Supervisor.

Mr. and Mrs. Andreasen are practicing conservation on their farm, using contouring, waterways, and strip cropping.

FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION

By Arden Newell
FHA Supervisor

The services of the Farmers Home Administration are provided for Guthrie County from the unit office in Jefferson. The Jefferson unit office serves the farmers of Calhoun, Carroll, Greene and Guthrie counties. At the present time there are seventy-one Farmers Home Administration loans of various types in Guthrie County. At the time these loans were written a farm and home plan was developed with the family, at which time an attempt was made to provide sufficient funds to develop a well balanced livestock and crop program for the farm. In developing this farm plan with the individual applicant quite often the aid of the Soil Conservation Service is requested for recommendations as to acceptable rotations and land development practices.

The personnel of the unit office in Jefferson has been very appreciative of the cooperation which has been extended to them by the Guthrie County Soil Conservation district. They have been most helpful in developing sound land use practices. This has been particularly true on the farm ownership loans which are made on a long-time basis.

The Farmers Home Administration has available various types of loans, such as the operating or chattel loans which are made to farm owners or farm tenants who have sufficient land resources for the refinancing of present debts, the purchase of ad-

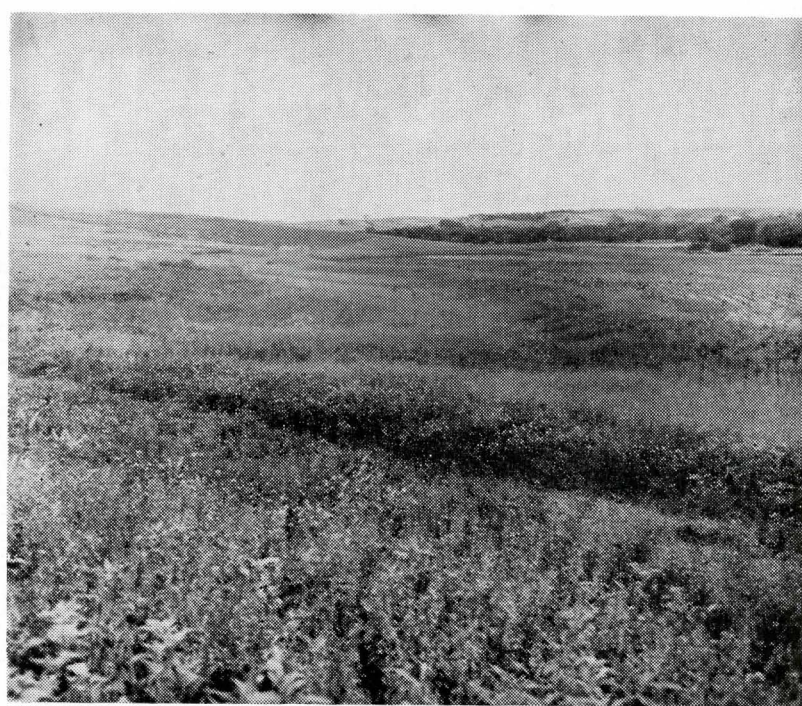
IOWA SOIL AND WATER

ditional livestock or machinery, and for current operating expense.

The farm ownership program provides either direct loan funds, or loans are made on an insured basis, for the purchase of land where farms can be found of sufficient size to maintain a satisfactory standard of living, pay the year-to-year operating expenses and retire an indebtedness.

The farm housing loan provides funds on a thirty-three-year basis at four per cent for the modernizing of present buildings, the building of essential new buildings to help in the operating of a farm, and install water systems, needed fencing, etc.

The soil and water conservation loans are available for land development such as providing funds for terracing, diversion ditches, building of dams, farm



A diversion terrace used to keep the hillside water away from the buildings and bottom cropland. This is located on the Roger Chalfant farm in Baker township, which was recently purchased through the F. H. A.

An example of the fine cooperation which the Farmers Home Administration has received from the Soil Conservation Service is shown in the above picture of the Roger Chalfant farm ownership farm. The Soil Conservation Service personnel gave very valuable advice and assistance in developing the farm plan in connection with the Farm Ownership loan. They have given the family good sound advice in helping them with their land use program.

At the present time the personnel of the Farmers Home Administration serving Guthrie County are Arden H. Newell, County Supervisor; Dallas C. Rohlf, assistant County Supervisor and Mrs. Don Monthei, secretary. The Farmers Home Administration maintains office hours at Guthrie Center in the ASC office each Wednesday afternoon.

ponds, tiling, pasture improvement, clearing of land. The funds may also be used for providing wells.

It is with these particular types of loans that the Soil Conservation Service has helped in many ways in providing sound recommendations and work in surveying terraces, contour lines, ponds and waterways.

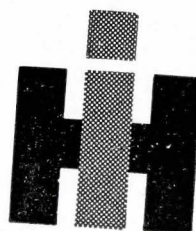
Farm housing and soil and water conservation loans may be made to farm owners whether

they actually live on the farm or not.

Applications are usually filed with the FHA supervisor and are then presented to the Guthrie County FHA committee, who pass on the eligibility of the applicant. The Guthrie County FHA committee at the present time is Joe Wall, Bagley; Owen Brady, Guthrie Center; and Glenn Dickson, Menlo. Each member of the committee is appointed for a three-year term.

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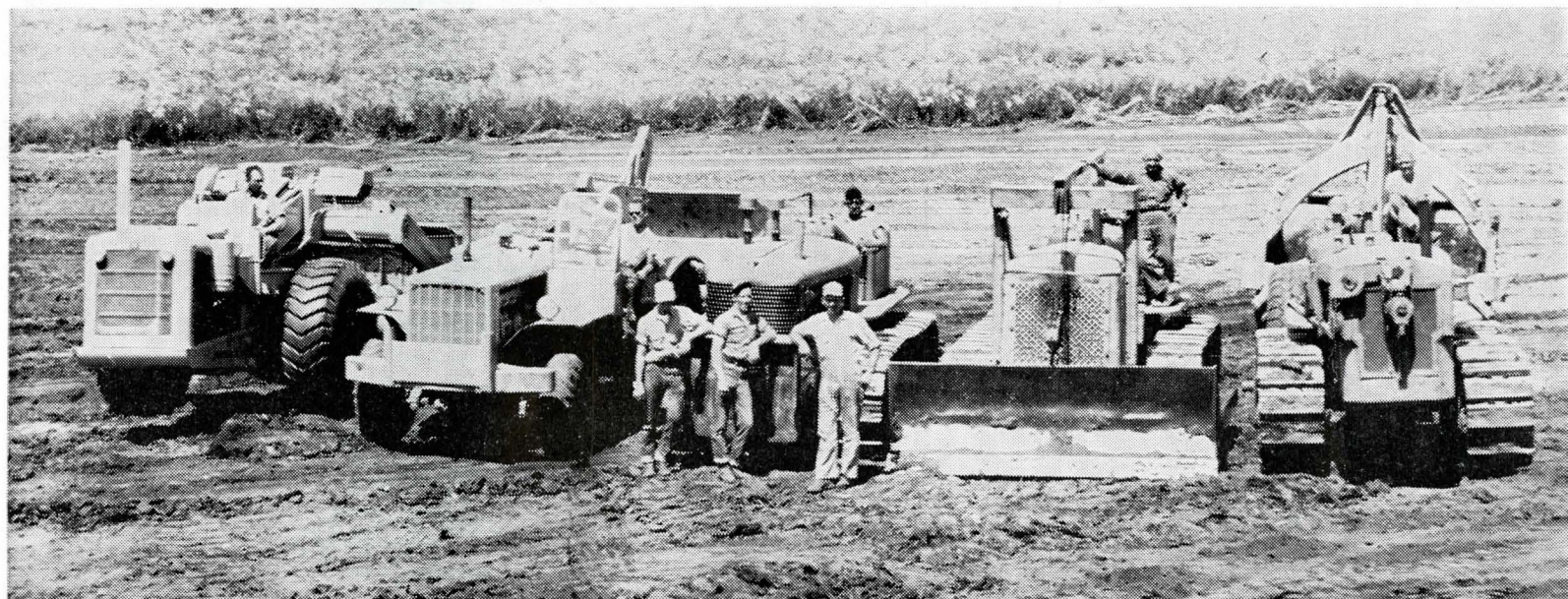
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WAYNE McGLOTHLEN, Guthrie Center
W. J. STOLK, Casey

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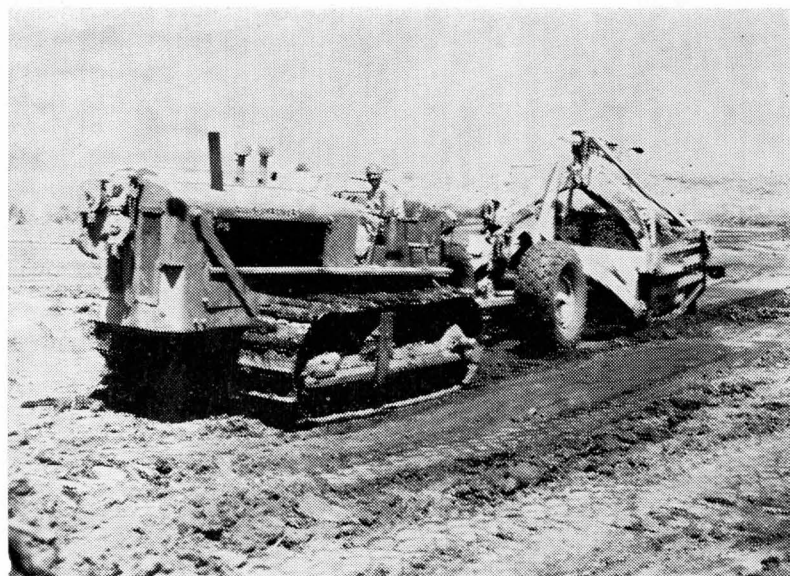
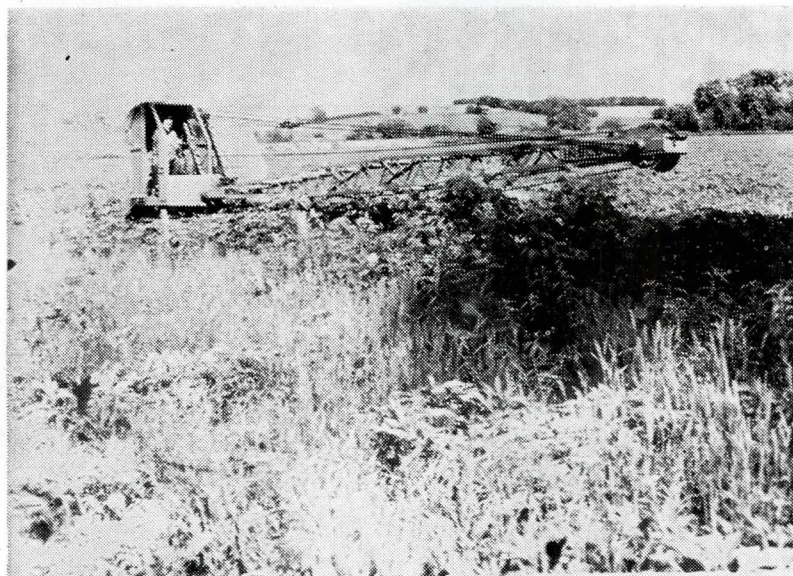
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We wish to congratulate the Commissioners of the Marshall County Soil District
for the fine work they are doing in Soil and Water Conservation



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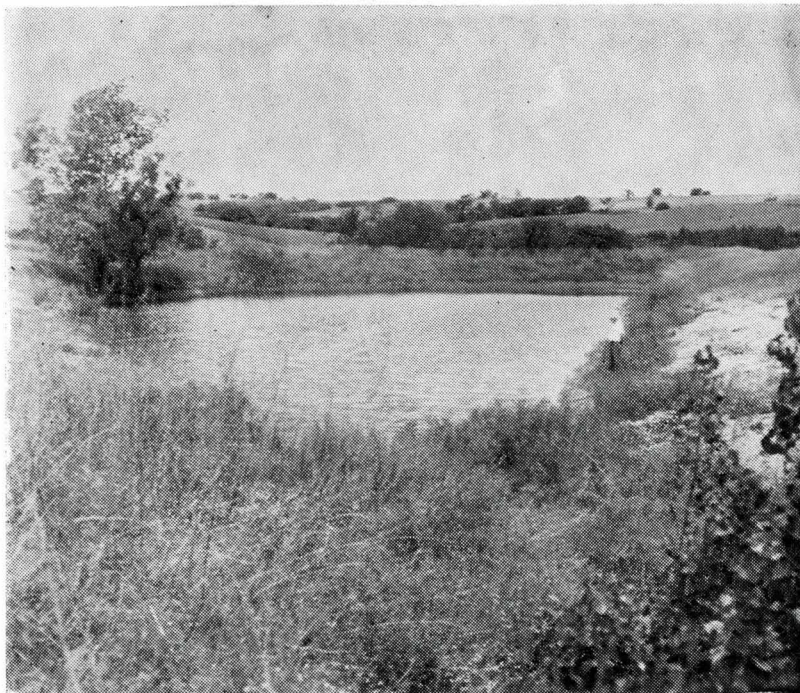
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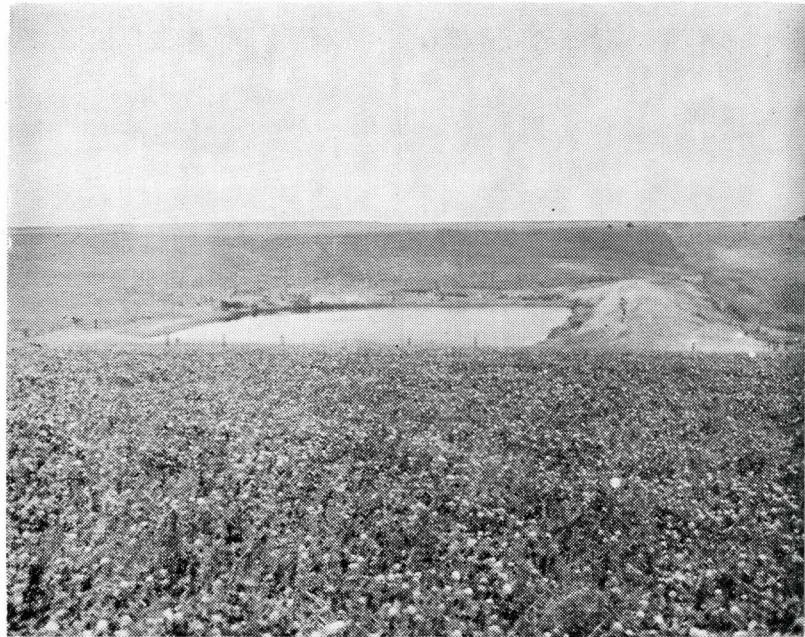
McALISTER BROS., Phone 3322, Bayard, Iowa

STENSTROM CONSTRUCTION, Phone 344J, Coon Rapids, Iowa

PONDS FOR LIVESTOCK WATERING



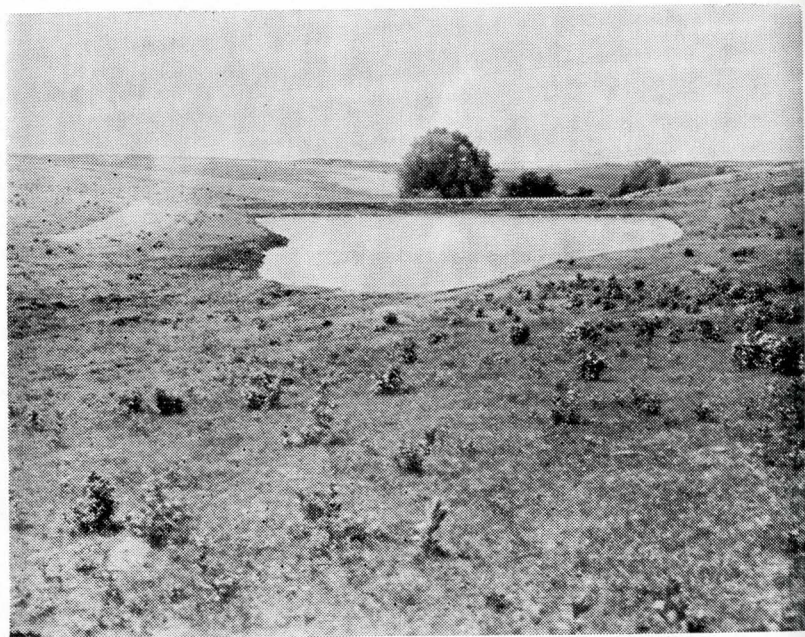
Structure on the Vernon Leisner farm in Penn Stuart Township. It was constructed in the fall of 1956. Drainage area of 16 acres, pond is .5 acre in size.



Structure on the Clyde Rochholtz farm, tenanted by Wid Garrett, in Grant Township. Structure was installed in conjunction with a Field Day in the fall of 1955. Watershed above the structure is terraced.



Livestock water pond on the Verna Sloss farm in Baker township. Terraces are also shown in the watershed draining into the pond.



Farm pond on the Jimmy Dudley farm, south of Panora in Jackson Township. Pond was completed in the fall of 1955.

EDITORIAL —

(Continued from page 7)

The third possible answer for not practicing conservation is fear. Yes, some farmers have an actual fear of terracing. They possibly don't have such a realization since it's hidden in what could be termed "reasons (or) excuses."

Some unvalidated excuses for not terracing are: Too many short rows; knocks down too much corn; hard on machinery; costs too much money; too many weeds, etc.

Talk with your better conservation farmers and you'll find out these reasons do not "hold

water." Thus, fear is the primary factor.

In the final analysis, one might say, that once **this** farmer lets down his gate of pride; and **that** farmer lends his mind to the absorbing of the latest farming methods; and the **other** farmer, who actually knows what conservation can do for him, escapes from his subconscious in the progress of conservation will be made.

To some, the above is just so much water over the dam—but if one will analyze himself, it's just possible that one of the shoes will fit.

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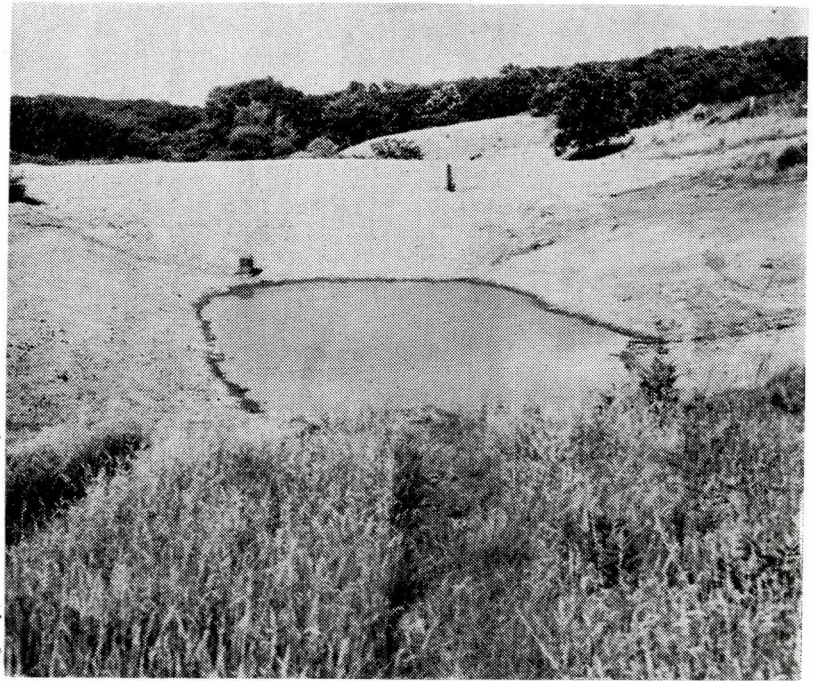
GULLY AND SOIL EROSION CONTROL

Before

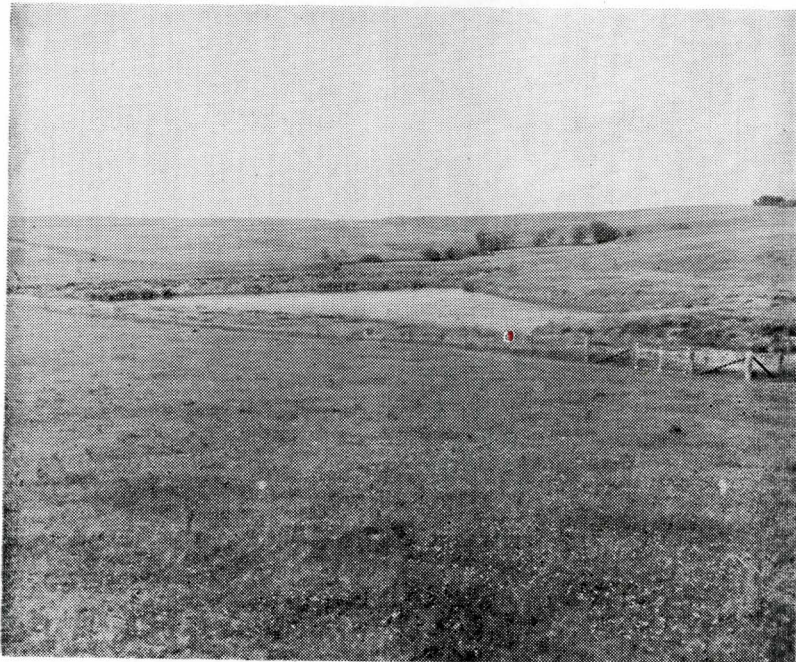


This is the "before" picture on the Elvin Rector farm, of a ditch where a structure is to be installed. The farm is three miles southwest of Panora, in Cass Township.

After



This is the same ditch after the structure was completed. Drainage area is 21 acres; pond size will be approximately .6 of an acre when full.



Structure on the Lelah Kilcoin farm in Grant Township. It was put in for the purpose of watering livestock in a large bluegrass pasture.



A drop inlet structure, constructed to control erosion on the H. C. and Charles Hansen farm located in Valley township.

COVER PICTURE STORY—

(Continued from page 5)

a beautiful area, consisting of 641 acres of heavily wooded land. It has a sparkling, little artificial lake, consisting of 27 acres, which is well stocked with crappies, bluegills, largemouth, black bass, bullheads and perch. Boats and minnows for bait are available from a concessionaire from sometime in April till in September. There is also a wonderful bathing beach with lifeline and permanent life-guard available from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Bath-house facilities are also available

and a concession stand selling pop, ice cream, sandwiches, coffee and other sundry items.

The park derives its name from the little springfed brook which was dammed up to make the lake and still feeds it, keeping it at a constant level, wet years or dry. This also keeps fresh water running in one end of the lake and out the other, making for a comparatively clean swimming area.

Family cabins accommodating four people are available for \$30.00 a week and are modern and quite well furnished. Tent and trailer camping is also al-

lowed for up to two weeks stay. Rates are 75c per family, per night or \$3.50 per week. Organized group camping is also available for a part of the summer, but the majority of the summer the camp is used by the Iowa Teachers Conservation Camp. Last year was the peak year for attendance so far, with an estimated park attendance of 180,000 people, coming from all parts of the United States and even some foreign countries.

All in all we think it's a pretty, nice place to spend a day, a week

ing, fishing, hiking or just taking life easy. end or a week, swimming, boat-

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GUTHRIE CENTER, IA.

GUTHRIE CENTER FFA —

(Continued from page 12)

both students and instructors and is resulting in some fine relationships with farmers whose farms have been used for the contests. The SCS and SCD personnel have given freely of their time and talents in advising the classes and instructors. This contest has proven to be a splendid teaching device.

The future of agriculture shall fall on the shoulders of our youth—the 4-H and the FFA students. Thus, I can think of no better place to introduce the challenge of conservation farming than through our FFA Chapters.

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Conservation Commission



MRS. JOHN W. CRABB

THE IMPORTANCE OF WATER

By Mrs. John W. Crabb
Vice-Chairman, State
Conservation Commission

From the beginning of time, men have founded their places of living and enjoyment near water. Settlements and cities were started near natural harbors, along rivers and streams, and where there are lakes.

The instinctive urge to be near water arose partly from necessity. Water provided the earliest form of transportation, and its fish life gave food. Water was a staff of life, and it always challenged men of adventurous natures, as witness both the ancient and modern mariners.

Water, through the centuries, also filled another need of man, means for relaxation, a rallying point of recreation, something of beauty and mystery.

Some Iowans, who consider themselves progressive, believe that the kinds of recreation which depend on golf courses, gymnasiums, movie theaters and television sets, can take the place of outdoor living.

But this idea is denied by over five and one-half million recreational visits to our state parks last year. It is refuted by the 600,000 people in Iowa who, in 1957, were licensed to fish and hunt and trap. It is contradicted by sharp increases in the sale of boats, motors, and water skis, and reports of heavily overtaxed bathing beach facilities, camping areas and picnic grounds. Add to this the predictions that the demand for outdoor recreation by 1965 should be 75% above 1953. To those of us in the field of conservation and recreation, this ever increasing demand is staggering.

It is hardly to be doubted that "living space" and what goes with it have been one of the features of the Iowa blessing. It would appear that our most unselfish hope for the citizens of this state hence, is a continuation of our

IOWA SOIL AND WATER

ideal of life and liberty, coupled with increased means and leisure for the pursuit of happiness.

Lowell wrote:

"New times demand new measures and new men;
The world advances, and in time outgrows
The laws that in our father's day were best;
And, doubtless, after us, some purer scheme
Will be shaped out by wiser men than we,
Made wiser by the steady growth of truth."

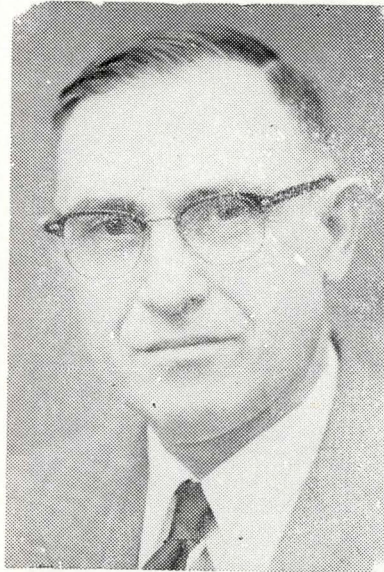
We know the changes that have taken place since the first great purposes of conservation in Iowa were set forth by Dr. MacBride at the turn of the century. Present trends provide ample vindication of the policy, adopted through the Report on the Iowa Twenty-five Year Conservation Plan in 1933, which set the pattern for a body of recreational water within 25 miles of every Iowa citizen, and which, in reality, referred to the southern half of Iowa which was lakeless. The Conservation Commission at the present time, is conducting a study of what has been accomplished during the last 25 years, what hasn't worked so well, and goals and suggestions for an new 10-year operational guide.

The Conservation Commission is concerned, interested and proud of the 15,000 miles of meandering streams and rivers, 72 natural lakes, 25 state-owned artificial lakes, thousands of additional acres of privately and publicly owned marshes and sloughs, unknown numbers of gravel pits and reservoirs, and an increasing number of farm ponds. We are especially concerned over those areas which we have pledged to protect and defend. We believe that the rights and interests which the citizens of Iowa inherently possess in Iowa waters is a vested right to be preserved, unharmed, for future generations. Every mile and every acre of this water is priceless in recreational potential, both in tangible and intangible values.

Just as surely as we know the past and present, do we hope that when our children, and their children, grow up to take the places of those of us in government, in conservation, industry, in education and in agriculture, there will be new measures and purer schemes to "lead men to still waters to restore their souls."

Conservation is not a one man job. It is the job of the entire community.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE'S VIEWS ON CONSERVATION



S. E. ROBINSON

CONSERVATION SIDELIGHTS

By S. E. Robinson
State Representative

It has been said that the human race experiences "Hills and Valleys" in many areas, in its pathway through life. Naturalists have discovered that plant life doesn't always follow a plan of normal growth. For a while, the plant may seem dormant and then show a great spurt in growth and a similarity may be seen in the physical growth of some of our youth of the spiritual growth of individuals. I believe that the conservation of soil, woods and water, has followed a somewhat similar pattern.

During the past several decades, there has been a vast difference or "Hills and Valleys" in the method of approach to stewardship of our natural resources. As a youth, I lived in an area within the county, where there were acres of water and marsh, all within a moderate walking distance. In the spring and fall, wild fowl stopped on their annual flight, north and south and the area was not only a natural haven for migratory water fowl and wildlife but also a Sportsman's paradise. Then came a period of years in which the picture changed, acres of tile were laid and the water was carried away, the reclaimed land became very productive except in years of excessive rainfall. This change was not only in this particular area but became quite general.

In the course of time, the water level began to recede and erosion began to leave its ugly scar upon the upland soil, assisted perhaps by a few years that were exceptionally dry. Gradually through a slow process of education, the trend began to reverse itself and the public became aware of a need to halt the rapid run-off of the rainfall and the carrying away of the fertile top soil. This positive thinking brought about

some positive action, and practices or methods in the care of the soil began to change. Slowly but surely, under the leadership of trained personnel, the interest in conservation of soil and water has gradually increased, until now, a new high is being attained in the creation of water reservoirs, contour cultivation and terrace building. With the aid of public money, large recreational areas have been established, marsh land and wildlife refuge has been recreated and the fertility of the soil is being increased through good farm management. If we can attain the summit in our approach to conservation of our natural resources, then we will have aided in the solution in some of our closely related problems and therefore be able to give a good account of the stewardship of that which the Creator has given us.

A DAY AT SPRINGBROOK —

(Continued from page 16)

forward to with great anticipation. Much credit goes to Mrs. Bea Wyllie for the good food and pleasant atmosphere of the camp.

After the evening meal, we all met in the council room. We saw the film "From The Ground Up" and had as our guest instructors, Mr. Don Betts and Lee Neol from the Guthrie County Soil Conservation Service, and Louie Hansen, the Guthrie County Extension Director.

Mr. Betts and Mr. Neal gave us a short play in which one was a conservation officer and the other an Up-and-Down-the-Hill Farmer. They very cleverly put across their point of the merits of conservation farming.

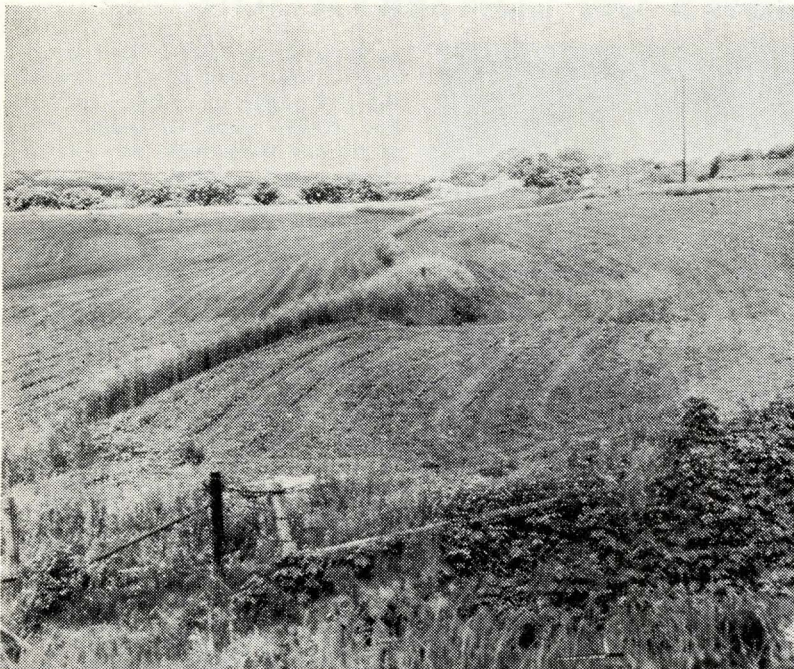
After a period of questioning, we retired to our cabins, dog tired, but full of the realization that we were now aware of many things, which we had never before noticed, that are ever present around us.

Here is only one day at Springbrook Conservation Camp. Multiply this by twenty-one and you have an idea of what may be in store for you, if you have the privilege of attending the camp.

I am quite sure that nowhere could I have so many interesting experiences, good fun, and the opportunity of meeting and being taught by so many specialists in the field of education.

What our children learn in school about conserving our resources will greatly benefit our country in the next generation.

DIVERSION AND STANDARD TERRACES



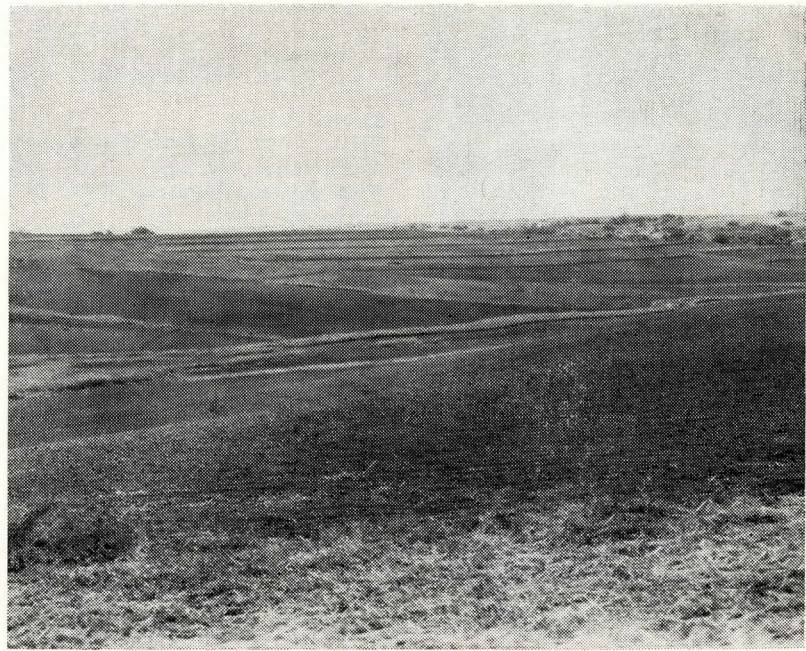
Diversion terrace on the H. E. Miller farm in Jackson Township. It was constructed for the purpose of protecting bottomground from hillside runoff. There is a standard terrace constructed below the diversion in the left hand corner of the picture. Miller is one of the ASC Committeemen, and a Soil District Cooperator.

DIVERSION TERRACES

By Don Betts
Conservation Aide

Farmers of the county have been studying the values of the

Diversion Terrace, or so it would seem, judging from the amount that have been built in the county this spring. There have been more diversion terraces built this



Terraces on the J. P. Clingam farm in Beaver Township. These were built by bulldozer in the fall of 1956, and spring of 1957. Total amount constructed at this time was 14,700 feet.

spring than the total for the twelve years the soil conservation district has been in existence.

What is a diversion? What are its uses?

To answer these questions, let us start with the definition of a

diversion. A diversion terrace is an individually designed channel constructed across the slope for the purpose of intercepting surface runoff and conducting it to a safe outlet.

The uses of diversions are numerous. Among these are:

A diversion may be used to reduce the length of slope, thus cutting the speed and erosive force of runoff.

Diversions are used to divert runoff out of an active gully overfall, preventing it from cutting back into farm land.

Diversions are used to divert water away from farm buildings and lots. This is a very serious hazard on many farms. Wet muddy lots are breeding grounds for many livestock diseases and parasites, not to mention the inconvenience of having to chore in lots that are knee deep with mud.

In many cases, a properly placed diversion could have saved an expensive tile job. In cases where runoff from the hill is allowed to spread over bottom land causing it to remain wet, a properly placed diversion would carry this water around the base of the hill and deposit it in a previously designed waterway to be carried to the main watercourse. Water that is not allowed to reach the bottomland will not need to be carried away through tile.

Diversions are used to cut off the headwater from the top terrace where the land above is not terraceable because of topography or land ownership.

Some important points to consider when planning a diversion:

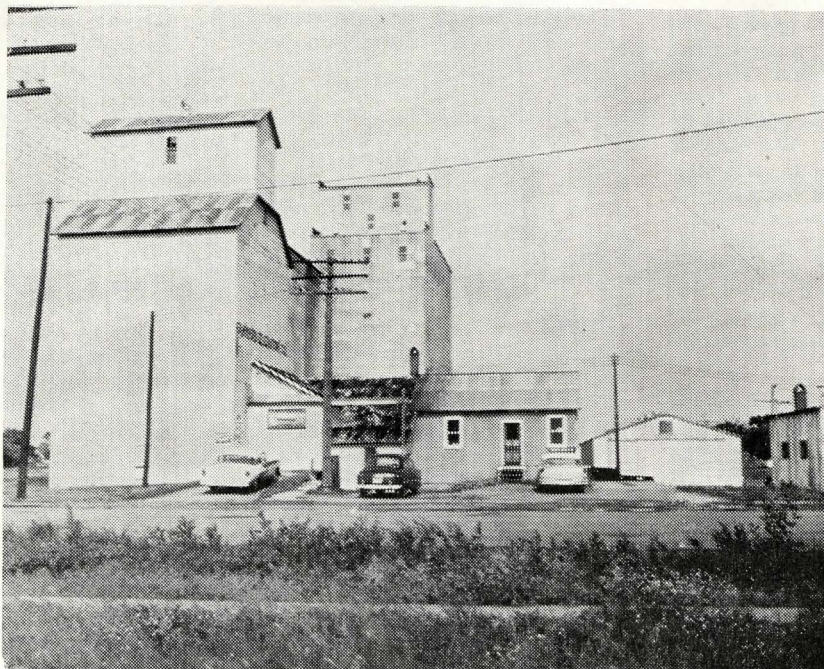
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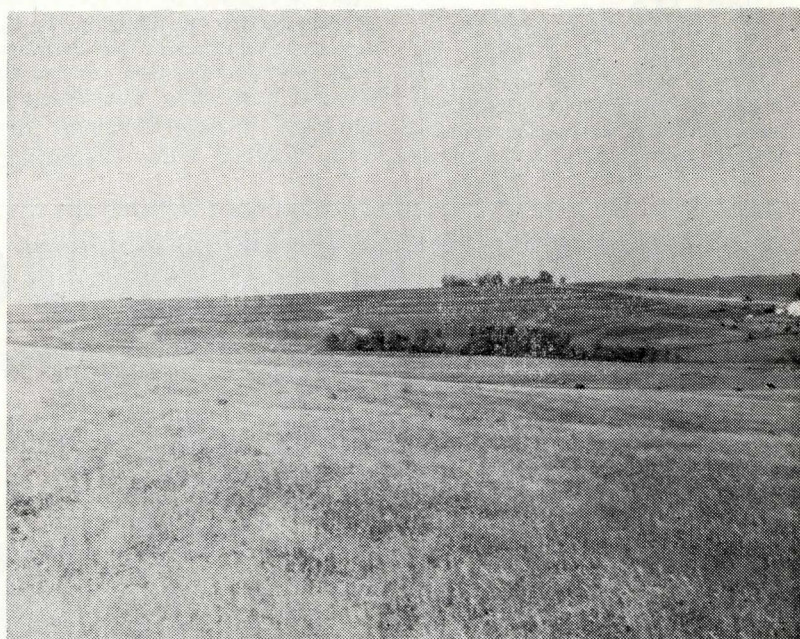
Terraces and farm pond on the Wayne Laughery farm in Seely township. A diversion above the pond carries farmplot drainage away from the pond. Note also where fence has been removed and terraces built through the old fence line. Field divisions are now on terrace lines.



Terraces on the Conrad Dvorak farm in Valley township. Also shown are two silt retention dams above Springbrook State Park.



Rowcrop on terraced land on the Beryl Carrick farm in Victory township.



Terraces on the Harold Griffith farm. Harold plans to build twelve and three-fourths miles of terraces on his farms this year.

The drainage area above should be in grass or adequately supported by rotations, stripcropping, or terraces. Large soil losses filling the channel is one of the main reasons for failures.

When using diversions to support stripcropping, they should be spaced not wider than the width of three strips.

Diversions are designed with vegetated or bare channels. The presence of vegetation, or lack of it, will aid in determining the velocities for design. A diversion on too flat a grade will have a

silting problem. By the same reasoning, a diversion on too steep a grade will erode.

Mowing of the channel and ridge is important in the maintenance of diversions. The channel should be kept free from small brushy plants and trees as these will obstruct the flow and may result in failure.

Small silt deposits may be removed with a tractor and loader, however if silting extends the length of the terrace, it would indicate a cleaning or rebuilding job is in order. Excessive silting

in the channel indicates inadequate supporting practices.

Taking all things into consideration, a diversion properly placed, can be a very worthwhile improvement on the farm.

STATE AID —

(Continued from page 9)
age and other travel expenses, which is their only compensation.

The Soil Conservation Service has provided technical assistance to the District so that conservation measures can be carried out.

The District belongs to you, the farmers, and on behalf of the District Commissioners, we are here at the office to be of service to you in your conservation problems.

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GUTHRIE CENTER, IA.

Terraces Prevent Erosion

REGIONAL MEETING FOR SOIL DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

The Directors of the Iowa Association of Soil District Commissioners will hold regional meetings in each of their regions in July and August.

All commissioners are urged to attend these meetings as this is the time when you select your outstanding commissioner for 1958 from your region. Also directors are to be elected in Regions 2, 4 and 7 for a three year term. You commissioners will select these men at your meeting.

The ladies' auxiliary will hold their regional speaking contests at these meetings.

All meetings start promptly at 7:30. Dates and locations of the meetings are as follows:

- Region 1 — July 31, Farm Bureau Bldg., Primghar, Iowa.
- Region 2 — July 29, REA Bldg., Jefferson, Iowa.
- Region 3 — Aug. 4, SCS Office, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.
- Region 4 — July 24, REA Bldg., Garner, Iowa.
- Region 5 — July 30, Farm Bureau Bldg., Nevada, Iowa.
- Region 6 — July 25, ASC Office, Chariton, Iowa.
- Region 7 — July 28, SCS Office, New Hampton, Iowa.
- Region 8 — July 22, Farm Bureau Bldg., Tipton, Iowa.
- Region 9 — July 23, Chamber of Com. Bldg., Fairfield, Ia.

STUART FFA —

(Continued from page 12)
munity high school who are studying Vocational Agriculture in any of the four years offered. The number of active members is usually about forty-five boys.

The "Green Hands" degree boys, of course, are the boys in Vo-ag I, studying animal husbandry, with one-fourth time spent in general farm shop. The Vo-ag II boys or "Chapter Farmer" degree holders, study agronomy,

with time also spent in farm shop. The Junior and Seniors, hold the Chapter Farmer degree of course, and they are together in one class, studying Vo-ag III one year and Vo-ag IV the next. Ag. III is the study of farm management with time for practical farm mechanics, while Ag. IV explores the agricultural field even higher than the farm itself, studying farm related businesses, organizations, agencies, rural sociology, in addition to review of farm management and more difficult projects in farm mechanics.

All the boys are encouraged and expected to own and manage supervised farming programs at home, for experience and profit. These home farming programs are planned to fit the needs and facilities of the boy and his folks. Some productive projects of the current year are: eleven boys have swine, eight have dairy cattle, twelve have beef cattle, seven have sheep, a few have corn, beans, poultry and commercial production of pleasure horses. The productive projects of the farming program are just part of the comprehensive program which also includes improvement projects, and supplementary farm practice projects.

The annual chapter program of work, developed by the members, contains nine main parts. There are: Supervised Farming, Co-operation, Community Service, Leadership, Earnings and Sav-

A WONDERFUL WOMAN PASSES ON

Wife of Newman Lyle, Regional
Director of the IASDC,
Region 1, Succumbs

We were all shocked and sorrowed by the report of the death of Mrs. Newman Lyle, Sheldon, Iowa, who passed away June 8, 1958.

Many of us throughout the state will miss seeing her at our Annual Conventions and other meetings relating to soil conservation, which she always attended with her husband.

I have been privileged to be in her home and partake of a wonderful meal she had prepared, and enjoyed long visits with her and Newman. A finer woman never lived.

In behalf of the officers and directors of the Iowa Ass'n and the Commissioners of Iowa, I wish to extend our heartfelt sympathy to you, Newman, in this time of sorrow in the loss of your loved one.

Your Editor

ings, Conduct of Meetings, Scholarship, Recreation, and Publicity. The chapter earns money to enable it to carry on its functions, by cooperative, selling of refreshments (many of them farm products) at football and basketball games. The money is used to send members to the State and National convention, to help put on an annual parent-son dinner, and awards and livestock chains.

Some of the community service activities include: members personally serving coffee and sandwiches to adult evening school members, testing farm seeds for germination, running rough contour lines for farmers to plant by, setting out multiflora roses and demonstration orchard pruning. A job attracting much interest right now is a "moth balled" T-9 which the boys are renovating with the idea of putting a dozer on it so that the adult and day school Vo-ag men and boys can do these small conservation practices around their farms, that the local heavy equipment men can't afford to fool with or wouldn't be done otherwise.

One of the pleasant aspects of the Stuart Chapter, is cooperative relationship that exists between it, the farmers, and businessmen, and all the agencies of the United States Department of Agriculture. A case in point is the annual farm planning contest sponsored by the Guthrie County Farm Youth Foundation, and the Soil Conservation commissioners, and carried out by the Guthrie County farm planners and technicians. This is one of the most practical and successful teaching devices ever started. Not only do the chapter members learn much in farm management, but they also learn to know the technical scientific help available to them for the asking.

IOWA SOIL AND WATER

KENNETH JONES

DRAINAGE CONTRACTOR

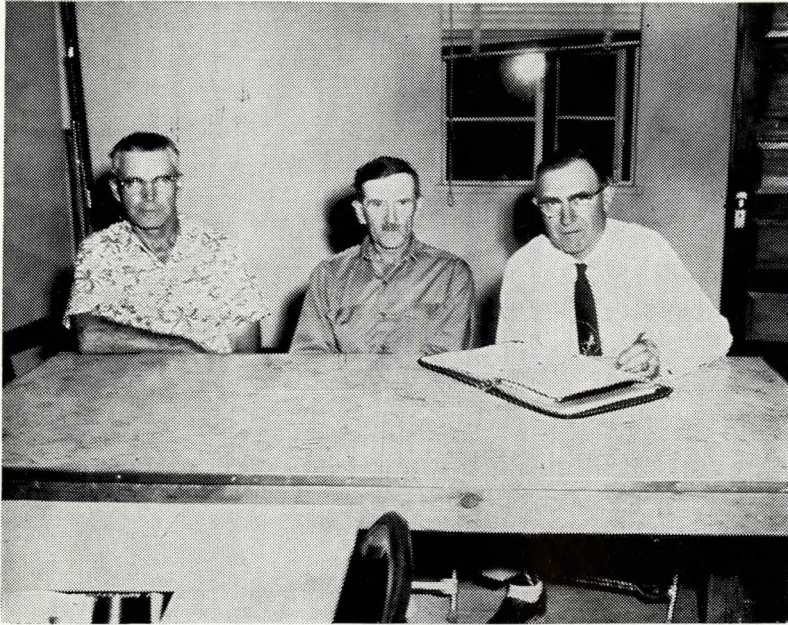


TILE DRAINAGE — — — SEWER SYSTEMS
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Stuart, Iowa

Izaak Walton League



Officers of the Guthrie County Izaak Walton League Chapter, left to right: Frank Bailey, First Vice President; Ross Merrill, President; S. E. Robinson, Secretary-Treasurer. Not present for the picture are E. E. Davis, Second Vice President; Directors, Wm. Wesack, Dean Ocheltree, Lester Newell, Ed Miles, L. W. Miller and Roy Titus.

GUTHRIE COUNTY CHAPTER, IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

By S. E. Robinson
Secretary-Treasurer

The Guthrie County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America Inc., was formed about twelve years ago for the purpose of awakening the need of the conservation of our natural resources, or to become more specifically "Defenders of SOIL, WOODS, WATERS, and WILD-LIFE."

Such a process of education is slow in being accepted by a majority of those who should be vitally interested or directly or indirectly affected by the loss of the resources of nature given us by the "Great Creator."

Realizing that the youth of today are the citizens of tomorrow, the local Chapter developed the idea, and were the first such group in the State, to sponsor a Boys' Camp, annually, whereby a limited number of boys could be brought together, and learn through proper instruction, more about the laws of nature, its animal and plant life, soils, and means of identification, water safety and some practical experience in gun safety.

Through the cooperation of Adair, Audubon, and Cass Counties, it is now a four-county project and is held annually at Springbrook State Park and is one of three such camps within the State, consisting of approximately three days of instruction and recreation.

The general supervision and instruction of the group, is under the direction of the State Conservation Officers with assistance from members of the sponsoring units. The 1958 camp consisted of 46 boys ranging from 12 to 15

IOWA SOIL AND WATER

years of age, eight coming from the Adair vicinity, 12 each from Audubon and Cass counties and 14 under the sponsorship of the local Izaak Walton Chapter.

Camp expenses include lodging, meals, and transportation of the

boys while in session and were paid for by sponsoring units, or by public-spirited citizens, and merchants, or by the individual.

The current curriculum consisted of a field trip and lectures each day on subjects covering soil conservation, wildlife, and fur bearing animals, fish identification and environment, gun safety, and trap shooting, boat and water safety, study of birds, trees and movies, with softball for recreation.

Adult members of sponsoring units, who assist in any part of the organization, supervision or chaperoning, give freely of their time and effort and feel well repaid, knowing that the boys will leave with a better understanding of the laws of nature.

THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE

By Bill Riaski

Executive Secretary Iowa

Division Izaak Walton League of America, Guthrie Center, Ia.

The League is an organization of public spirited men and women dedicated to Conservation and Outdoor Recreation. It is engaged in the preservation and improvement of all our renewable natural resources. These include soils, waters, woods and wildlife.

Soil Conservation has always been a most important aim of the League, for upon the proper use of our soil, the future of our nation and its people depend. Yet, Soil Conservation, as we know it, is in its very infancy. The Soil Conservation Service has made great strides since its conception but those who are engaged in it will be the first to admit they have barely scratched the surface in the matter of accomplishing all that needs to be done.

We as Americans have been very wasteful of all the natural resources with which God saw fit to bless us. We have taken them for granted and in many cases we have ruthlessly exploited them for perhaps gain with no thought to future generations.

The League has always cooperated with the Soil Conservation Service both from an educational angle and in various types of demonstrations. We know from experience that what is good for our soil is good for all of us.

There are many members of the League who fish and hunt (as naturally do many others in any cross-section of Americans) and they are especially aware of the advantages of Soil Conservation.

—Continued on page 32

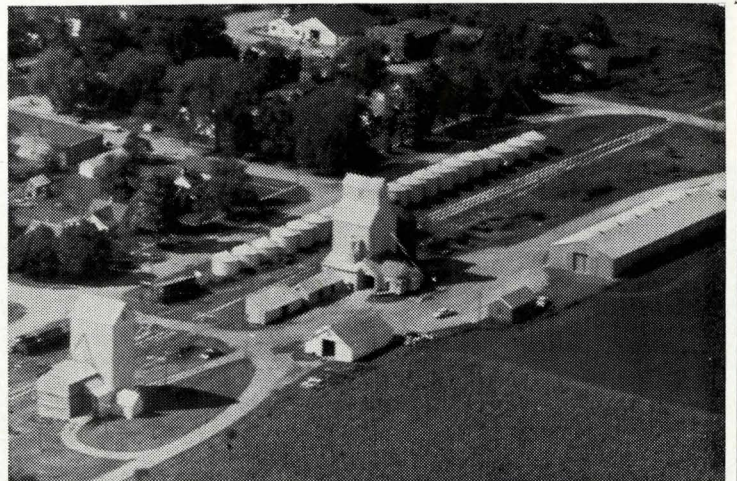
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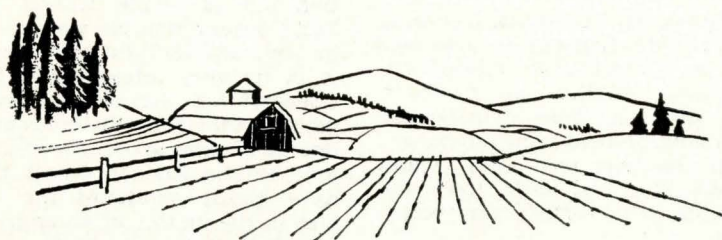
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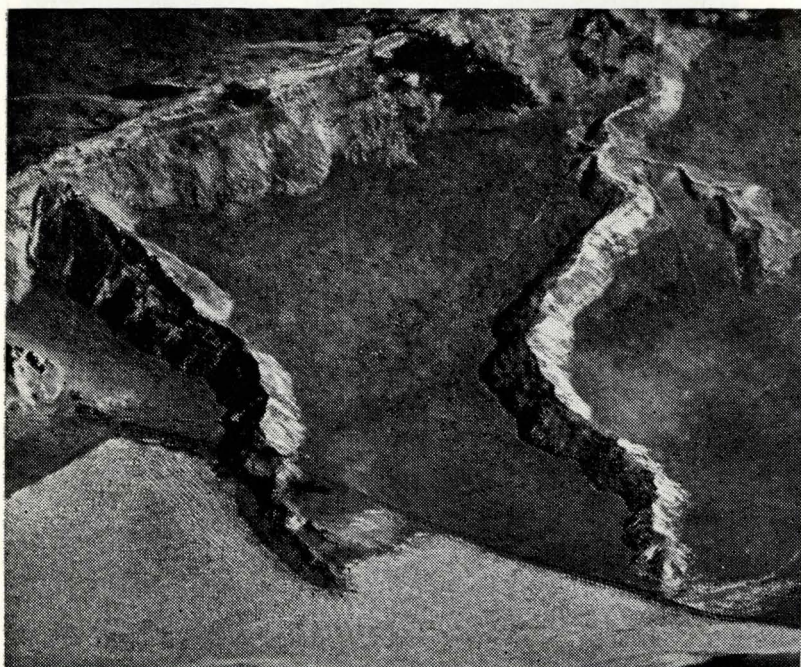
IOWA SAVINGS BANK

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IS THIS HAPPENING TO YOUR FARM?



Gullies that have eaten through the pasture and are entering the cropland. Proper farming methods could have prevented this.



This is an example of uncontrolled erosion. This picture was taken in Beaver township.

If is is you had better call at your Soil District office and let the Soil Conservation Service help you with a plan for your farm.

STRIP CROPPING IN GUTHRIE DISTRICT



Strip crop system supported by terraces on the Bernard Hayes farm in Seely township. Farm is operated by Wayne Laughery.



The Don Betts farm in Highland township, showing strip crop system, supported by terraces.



Strip cropping on the Marie Lamm farm, operated by Dale Sailer. Farm is located in Orange township.



A combination of practices on the Elmer Moreland farm in Seely township. This combination of mechanical and vegetative practices is the best way to control erosion on farmland.

SOIL BANK —

(Continued from page 8)

Chairman of the County ASC Committee.

He announced that the 701 corn and wheat acreage reserve agreements now in effect in the county will take 16,233.5 acres out of production for the current year.

In addition, he said 5,201.2 acres of Guthrie County cropland will be out of production this year under terms of conservation reserve contracts which run for three, five, or 10-year periods.

Of the 118 conservation reserve contracts in effect in Guthrie

County, 54 were entered in 1956 and 1957 and covered 2,062 acres.

Sixty-four new contracts, covering 3,139.2 acres, were signed this year before the application time expired on April 15.

In 1957, there were 520 corn and wheat acreage reserve agreements in Guthrie County on a total of 9,581.3 acres.

Under their 1958 acreage reserve agreements, Guthrie Farmers can qualify for as much as \$729,698.83 in soil bank payments.

Annual payments in the conservation reserve in the county this year will amount to \$54,938.00 if

all contracts are combined with fully.

Participants in the conservation reserve may also receive as much as \$58,600.00 in cost-sharing for carrying out certain conservation practices made available through the conservation reserve part of the soil bank.

Guthrie County, with 118 conservation reserve contracts, is listed second in the state. Only county ahead of Guthrie is Woodbury with 155.

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SOIL CONSERVATION DOESN'T COST. IT PAYS!

THE NEWSPAPER IN CONSERVATION —

(Continued from page 13)

As go the farmers in our area so goes the business trend. We are happy to assist in promoting any project we believe will add to the farmer's prosperity and well being.

Soil and water conservation in this county has made rapid strides in the past few years through the efforts of the local soil district personnel and officers. More and more farmers are becoming conservation conscious. They know their livelihood is productive soil. Without this they are in the position of a man with worn out equipment. The job cannot be done satisfactorily.

Consequently, these newspapers have taken a real interest in publicizing and promoting soil conservation in our county. The newspaper columns are open to SCS personnel and other authoritative articles on soil and water conservation.

We believe our newspapers can and should help the local soil district in selling conservation to the farmer.

Through the combined efforts of local personnel and farmers interested in a sound conservation program can a stable farm economy be increased even more.

MENLO FFA —

(Continued from page 12)

throughout the United States. They have the opportunity to meet and talk with boys from all parts of the nation.

If the local chapter enters in sub-district and district contests, then they attend and take part in the contests at the state convention held each spring.

The Junior class in Vocational Agriculture each year takes a part in the Guthrie County Soil Conservation Farm Plan Contest. This contest consists of two competitive events. First the local class is divided into two equal sections, each of which is then further divided into teams of two. Each section or group is then assigned to a farm in the community. Each team of boys compete against the other teams in their section in the development of a farm plan for better land use of the farm.

The Soil Conservation Service provides the soil maps, charts, and technical assistance. They judge the contest. There are two winning teams from each school, that is, one winner from each farm. These two teams take part in the County Contest, held on a neutral farm. There they compete against boys from the other schools in the county.

The two top teams in the county contest are awarded a free

three-day trip to Chicago, a prize well worth working for. In 1956, Paul Miller and Allen Bell, a Menlo Team, were two of the four County Winners.

This contest is the high point of the soil conservation work done by the boys in their class work. It is the beginning point for the Farm Management Class to work out a farm plan for the feeding and use of the crops produced on the local contest farm. These ideas and practices can then be applied to the home farm.

Our Adult Evening school program is a broad one. In the past seven years since its start in 1952, it has held meetings and demonstrations on every facet of farming. Some topics which have been good ones and highlight the program are: 1. Combine Adjustment and Operation Clinic, July, 1953; 2. Hog Carcass Grading Demonstration, 1956; 3. Herb Plambeck on Russian Agriculture, 1955; 4. Plow Setting Field day, 1954; 5. Tractor Tune-up and Horsepower Clinic, 1957.

With agriculture becoming more complex every day, the list of topics in the years to come will be just as varied and interesting.

The Guthrie County SCS office is to be commended for the fine cooperation they have given the vocational agriculture departments in the county.

IZAACK WALTON —

(Continued from page 29)

tion for what constitutes good soil management also results in improved hunting and fishing.

We wish to congratulate the Soil Conservation Service on the wonderful work which it has already done. We know that Conservation needs many more recruits for where there are hundreds today there should be thousands tomorrow to carry on this great work.

The Iowa Division of the Izaak Walton League pledges its continuing cooperation to the Service and we say again "Lands Green and Waters Clean" should be the ultimate aim of all Americans.

PRESIDENTS CORNER —

(Continued from page 5)

seems that every year or so a feud between some of the agencies within the department of Agriculture in Washington, D. C., has to erupt and cause confusion in some states, which hinders our Conservation program, but gives some politicians more prestige, and does not do our program any good.

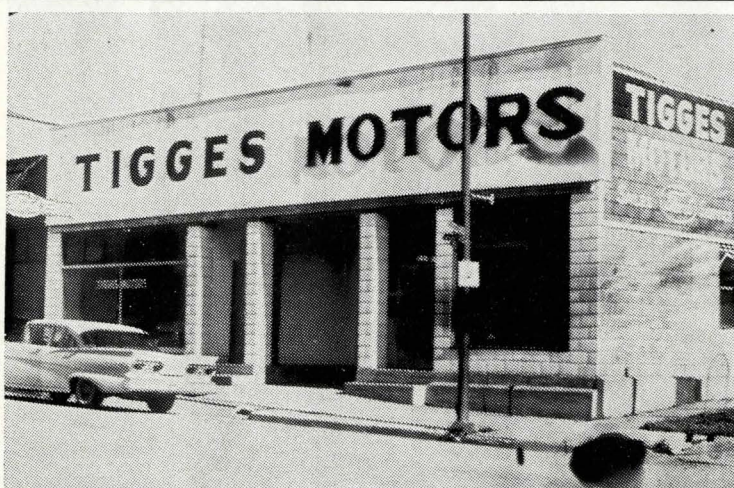
We who are interested only in doing a good conservation job where it is needed without considering the political angle of Power craze, are handicapped by these thrusts at our cooperative abilities. Therefore, we met as a group consisting of the State ASC Committee, State Soil Conservation Committee, Soil Conservation Service and Iowa Association of Soil Conservation Districts, and we agreed that we were cooperating 100% together and getting a good job of Conservation on the land and we want to continue to do so as best we can and no bickering as is being done in South Dakota will be tolerated in our State.

Out of state groups are sending information to Committees and Commissioners trying to encourage disunity in our conservation movement. I hope you will read between the lines and see that it is done solely to perpetuate the individual or promote the products he has to offer. We in the conservation field have no funds or time for this maneuvering; our thoughts are only for the best for conservation now, and in the future, not for spreading disunity among agencies and groups.

Hope all Commissioners read the joint letter sent all Commissioners and ASC Committeemen signed by Joe Carber, State ASC Chairman, George Eason, Chairman of the State Soil Conservation committee and myself in behalf of I.A.S.C.D.C.

Invite your ASC Committee to your next commissioners' meeting and discuss this joint letter and Secretary Benson's statement on the Administration of Soil and Water programs and let's settle our problems locally.

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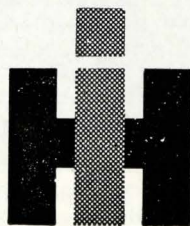
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We will have our regional meeting July 22 through August 4. These meetings are for the purpose of bringing most pertinent questions up for committee discussion at the annual convention and for election of regional Directors in regions 2-4 and 7.

It is important that all commissioners possible attend and help with the discussion. These meetings will all be held in the evenings—the schedule will be found on page 28 of this magazine. Also a list of committees and members will be published with the schedule so all members of the committees should at least be present to hear the discussion as someone from each region is on each committee.

Hope all Districts has some special activities during Soil Conservation Week.

Hope to see a good turnout at our Regional meetings.

SOIL CONSERVATION: A VALUABLE ALLY OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

By Lester C. Fleming
Unit Game Manager

State Conservation Commission

The State Conservation Commission maintains three wildlife areas in Guthrie County. McCord Pond located two and one-half miles southwest of Bayard consists of 112 acres of water and upland and is maintained as a total wildlife refuge. Lakin Slough is located one mile east of Yale and consists of 299 acres of marsh and upland. The entire area is open to public hunting. Bays Branch, a 590-acre area, is located four miles northeast of Panora. It is a new area and is slated for development in 1958. The plans call for a dam to be constructed across Bays Branch which will impound approximately 275 acres of water. About 200 acres of this will be marsh and the remainder will be deep enough to be suitable for fishing.

Each of these areas has some land which is suitable for agricultural use and this land is farmed under a cooperative share-crop agreement by adjacent farmer. It has long been recognized by wildlife managers that wise land use is an invaluable tool in game management work and through the farming program, game habitat is improved and food patches are provided for game use during the winter months. To insure wise land use, farm plans have been formulated by the Guthrie County Soil Conservation District office for McCord Pond and Lakin Slough and the same will be done for the Bays Branch Area.

Some special land management problems existed at Bays Branch. The entire area lies in the stream valley and the slopes are fairly steep. Terracing seemed the best solution for protecting against soil erosion around the immediate impoundment area and subsequent siltation of the impoundment area

itself so approximately 17,800 feet of terrace were laid out by SCS personnel and construction was completed in April, 1958. Each terrace will be straddled with a crop strip of uniform width and additional contoured crop strips will be laid out on the lower slopes. All land between the terraces which is not included in the crop strips will be permanently seeded down thus providing a good interspersed of cropland and upland game bird nesting cover.

The advantages of terracing and strip cropping on wildlife areas are several-fold. In addition to soil and water conservation, wildlife habitat is greatly improved by the large amount of "edge effect" created by alternate strips of row crops, small grain and meadow. It can well be said that good soil conservation practices and upland game management techniques walk hand-in-hand.

SPRINGBROOK PARK CONSERVATION OFFICER



Don Cole, Park Conservation Officer at Springbrook State Park, and family, standing beside the native stone entrance of Springbrook Park. Left to right: Don; son, Dixon; daughter, Donna Lynn; Mrs. Cole (Delores.)

Make Plans Now To Attend The State Plowing Matches and Field Day, September 12th.

LET'S GET A TEACHER FROM YOUR DISTRICT TO ATTEND
THE CONSERVATION CAMP AT SPRINGBROOK.

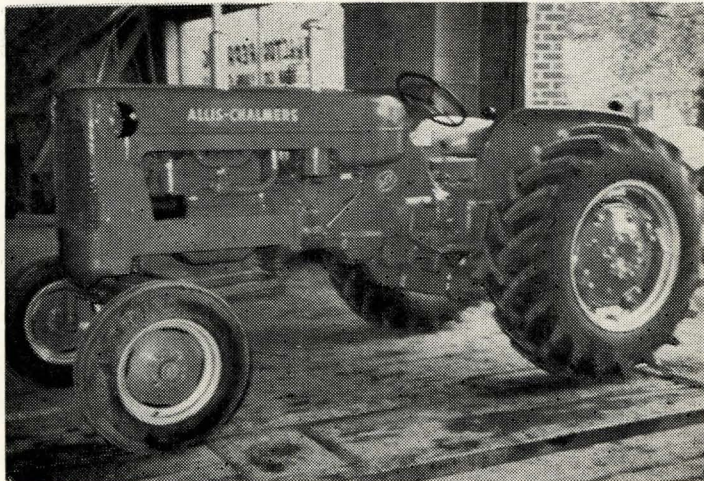
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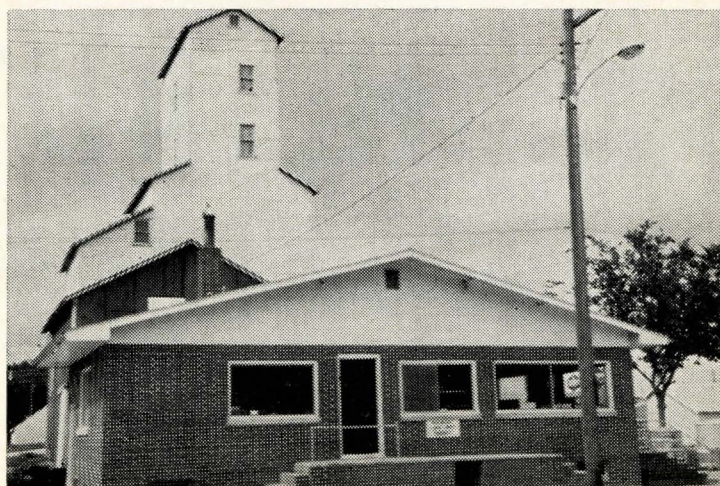
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PASTURE IMPROVEMENT IN GUTHRIE DISTRICT



Virgil Hawk, Plant Material Technician, Soil Conservation Service, standing in a road bank seeding of crown vetch, along the Elmer Moreland farm, Seeley township.



Don Caltrider examining one of his old stands of birdsfoot trefoil as it is coming into full bloom. A Guthrie County soil conservation district seed plot was established on the farm in 1949, and since that date Mr. Caltrider has been one of the more successful birdsfoot trefoil seed producers in Iowa.



Corn crib located on the Don Caltrider farm in Grant township, which was the site of the 1951 State and National Plowing Matches.

Guthrie County Provides Natural Science Laboratory

By Carol J. Henning
County Supt. of Schools

"Given a favorable climate, two things make and keep a nation great: its people and its natural resources." — Mann

Since wise use of natural resources is accepted quite generally as very important, where better than Guthrie County can the study of such resources, including their conservation, be made?

During the five years prior to July, 1956, while there were rural elementary schools in the county system, conservation and outdoor education were stressed by the county office in all rural

schools, not as isolated courses, but incorporated with other core subjects. Many first-hand learning opportunities have brought lasting experiences and understanding into the individual lives of the pupils.

Each summer the Springbrook Conservation Camp in the heart of Guthrie County has given and does give practical science in learning—while doing—situations for many teachers. Comments from some who have attended

—Continued on page 36

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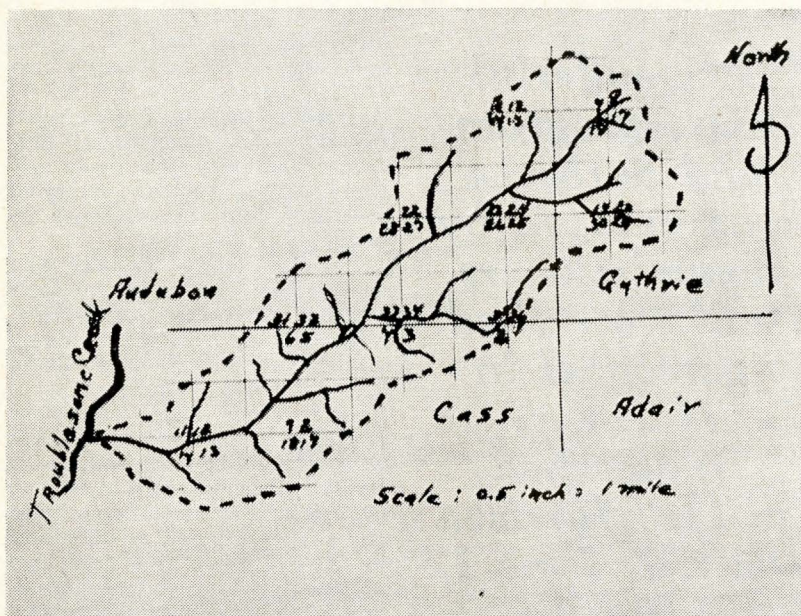
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CROOKED CREEK WATERSHED



Map of Crooked Creek Watershed which lies in Guthrie, Audubon, and Cass counties.

CROOKED CREEK WATERSHED

By Myron C. Allen
Conservation Aid

The Crooked Creek Watershed, which originates in Grant Township of Guthrie County, was first organized on March 31, 1955. At that time, it was to include the area in Guthrie County and part of Audubon County, a total of 11,000 acres.

On December 14, 1955, a meeting was held in the SCS office at Audubon, Iowa. Chairman E. A. Mueller read a request for assistance under Public Law 566 to the Commissioners of both Districts. This assistance was primarily for the control of gullies.

Public Law 566 was enacted by the 83rd Congress of the United States in 1954, and is called the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act.

The Commissioners of each District went on record as being in favor of sending in an application. This was sent in to the State Committee in January, 1956.

On February 2, 1956, a tour of the Watershed was made by 38 farmers and the State Soil Committee. At this time, it was decided to include the rest of the area in the Crooked Creek Watershed that lies in Audubon and Cass Counties. This would then include all of the land draining into Crooked Creek to the point where it empties into Troublesome Creek.

The application for the entire Watershed of 24,532 acres was submitted to the State Committee and was approved and sent to

the USDA in July 1956. The USDA gave approval for technical assistance under P.L. 566 for surveys in the Watershed in August of 1956.

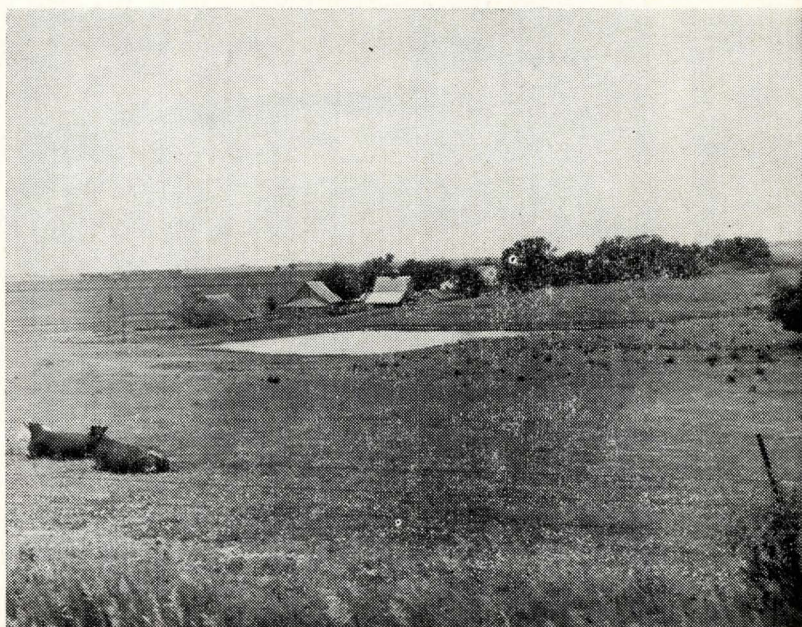
At the present time, the planning has been completed and sent to Washington for approval. The present plans call for two flood retention structures and four stabilization structures to be built in Guthrie County.

The Guthrie County portion of Crooked Creek has a drainage area of 4,300 acres, on 32 farms. All farms are under initial agreement with the District and 16 of these have basic farm plans.

The practices that the Guthrie County farmers have already applied include 32.1 miles of terraces, 31 acres of waterways and six ponds.

—Continued on page 36

STRUCTURES



Buildings and structure on the Roy Walker farm in Grant township, located in the Crooked Creek Watershed Area. Structure was installed in 1956 and has a drainage area of 96 acres, and the pond is one acre in size.



EROSION WITH A CAPITAL "E"

This large gully measuring 28 feet deep and 80 feet across the top, is to be replaced by a drop inlet structure and will impound approximately four acres of water. This gully is located on Virgil Benton's farm, south of Guthrie Center.

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District Booth At State Fair



This is the booth displayed by the Guthrie County Soil Conservation District at the 1957 Iowa State Fair.

Congratulations to Everyone Concerned With Making It A Big Success!

CROOKED CREEK —

(Continued from page 35)
The Crooked Creek Watershed is the first Watershed of its kind to be approved for planning under P.L. 566, in that three-counties, and two different areas of the state are involved.

A wonderful tour, program and barbecue was enjoyed by commissioners and watershed personnel in Harmony Watershed in the Harrison District, June 12

GUTHRIE COUNTY SCIENCE LABORATORY —

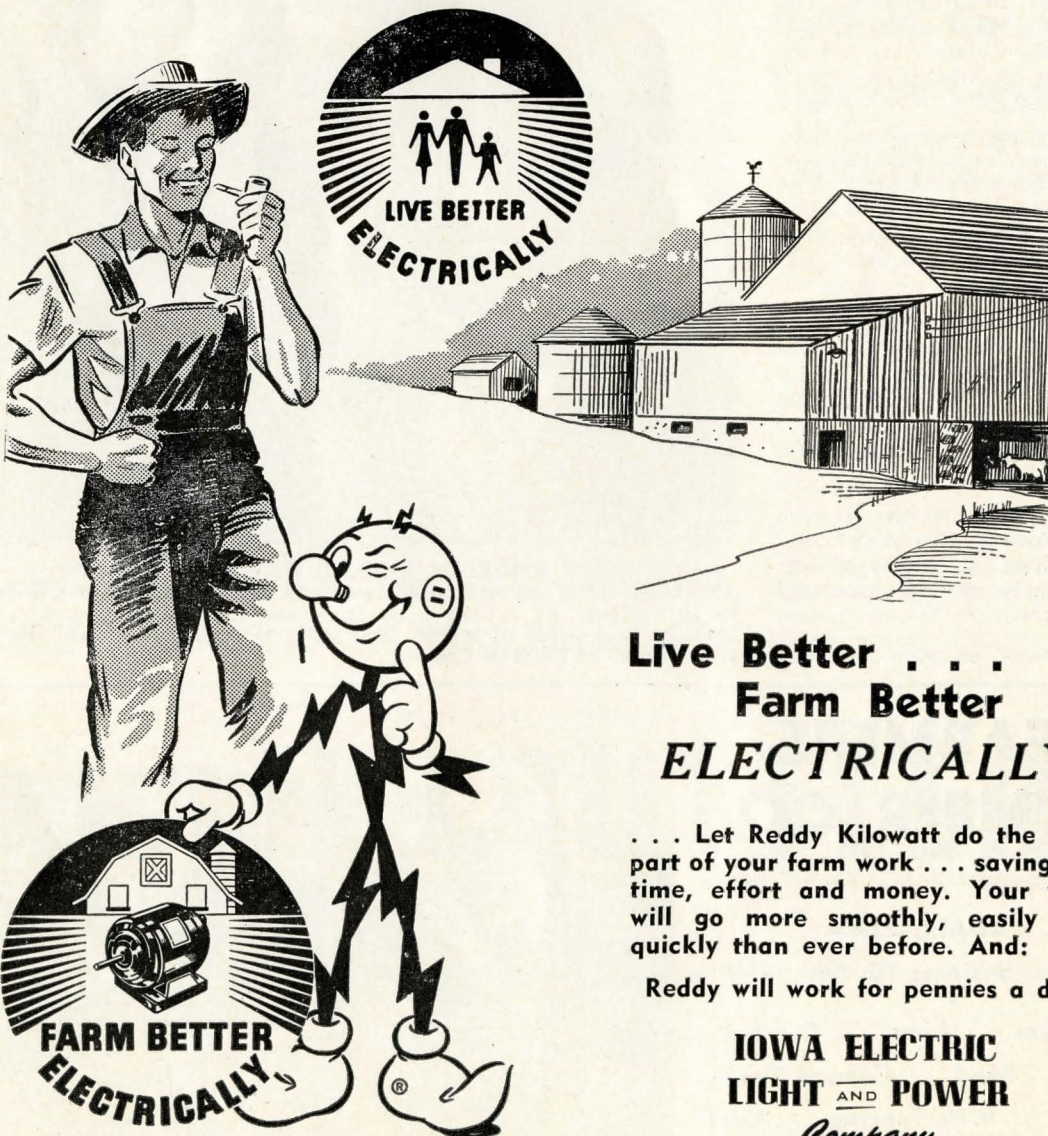
(Continued from page 34)

sessions since 1951 all include expressions of the informal, friendly, pleasant living—excellent food and comfortable quarters; the compiling of studies and collection of materials which are very practical to bring into classroom teaching. Supplementing the studies in the all-outdoors laboratory are the films, film strips, various mounted specimen, and the reference library.

Guthrie County teachers who contributed comments on their camp experiences are Delbert Mills, Edna Bohlender, Helen Weigel, Margery Sheeder, Beula Towne, and Dorothy Stotts. Phrases from their discussions are: hearing and comparing ideas with others who have similar interests; valuable individual studies and projects completed and then presented to all others in their groups; fine personnel on the staff each summer; training in seeing and recognizing specimen; still receive helpful mimeographed bulletins; materials to use not otherwise available for classrooms including insect, rock, and plant collections.

Among the unforgettable field trips are: agricultural experiment station, Lakin Slough, Little Sioux Watershed—very scenic and with terracing which used cement retainers; Waubonsie State Park; Ledges State Park; and, of course, the coon hunts.

Students are impressed by the need for funds to maintain state parks, wild life preserves, and natural formations. Consequently they look with a jaundiced eye on some federal free-hand disposals of tax funds with questionable returns, while Iowa and many other states have need for conservation funds.



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HOMER G. ARTIST, Secretary

Mutual Insurance Is Carried By 90% Of Iowa Farmers

GUARD OUR RESOURCES—

(Continued from page 13)

of the life of Guthrie County and each year more and more farmers are learning to keep their soil where it is. This is being accomplished through the practical application of sound soil conservation methods.

We in Guthrie county were not blessed with too much of that "Grade A" soil Iowans are so proud of so we must do everything possible to keep what we do have. Constant educational dinning from those who understand the need for soil conservation has paid off in a big way.

The farsighted men in our county who pioneered with sound soil conserving practices deserve a great big vote of approval from all of us whether or not we live on the land. It is a known fact in Iowa that if the farmer prospers, all of us live better.

Lee Neal, Don Betts and the other professionals in soil conservation district Commissioners in Guthrie county deserve much credit for the progress that has been made. We think they are doing a fine job and any encouragement and support we can give them is at their command.

If we seem selfish in our desire to see a better Guthrie county it is because we know that to prosper and move forward we must guard our God given resources.
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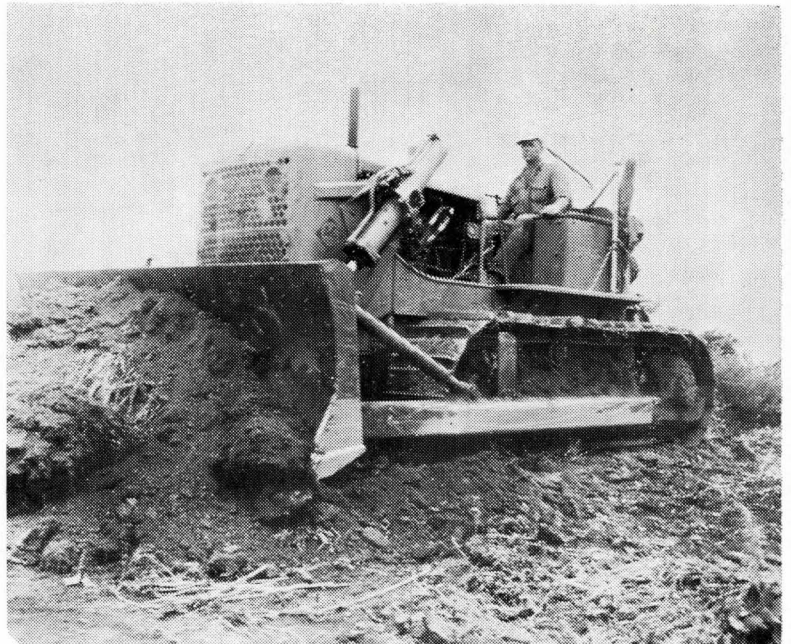
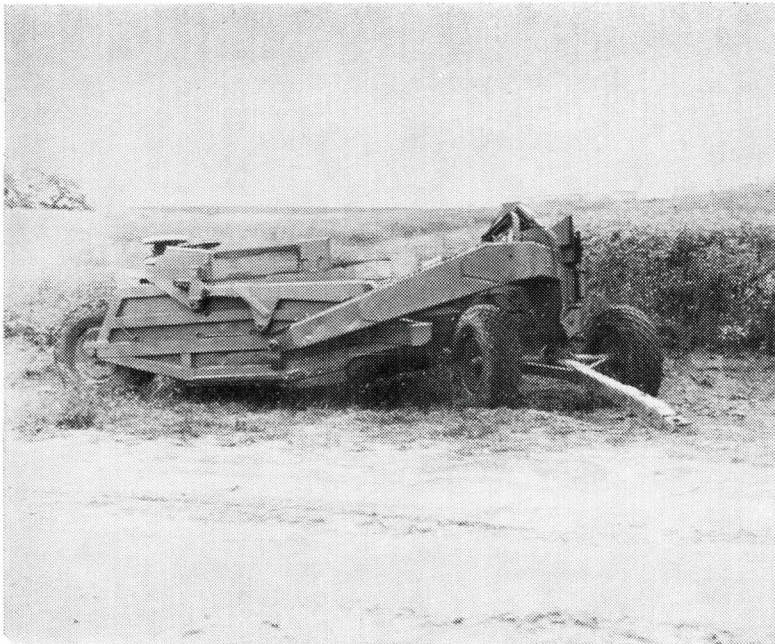
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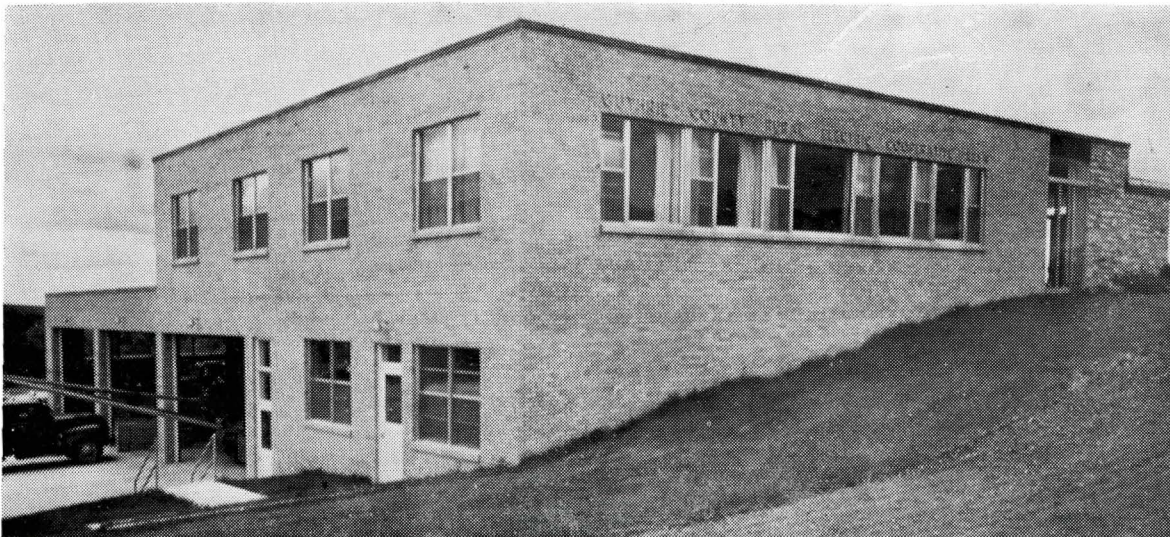
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CASEY, IOWA

Speaking For 2000 Guthrie County Farmers . . .



Guthrie County Headquarters Building



. . . WHO BELIEVE IN: A sound, perpetual soil conservation program and a sound rural electrification program . . . Through their own cooperative efforts!

GUTHRIE COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Guthrie County Farm Bureau



ROGER GARLOCH, Guthrie County Farm Bureau President and WILMA ABBOTT, Clerk.

The Voice Of Agriculture

•LEGISLATION

•EDUCATION

•SERVICE TO MEMBERS

A & G FARM SERVICE

KEN MURRAY, Manager

Office Phone 372

GUTHRIE CENTER, IOWA

Petroleum Salesmen

MELVIN KALLESEN
Phone 35F4
Guthrie Center, Iowa

GEORGE KLEIN
Phone 315W
Guthrie Center, Iowa

ANIMAL HEALTH SUPPLIES

WILMA ABBOTT in charge



- GAS
- PERTOLEUM PRODUCTS
- FERTILIZER
- PAINTS
- FARM CHEMICALS
- SERUMS

TRY A FILL OF OUR
FARM SERVICE
SUPER REGULAR GASOLINE

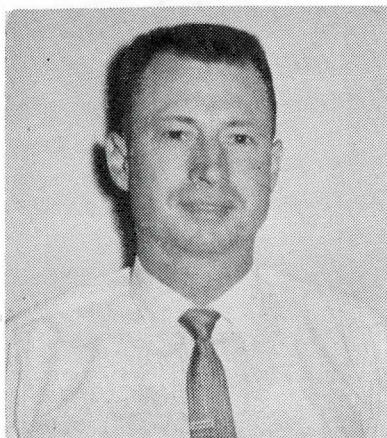
Animal Health Supplies Outlets at Yale and Casey, Iowa

FARM BUREAU INSURANCE SERVICES

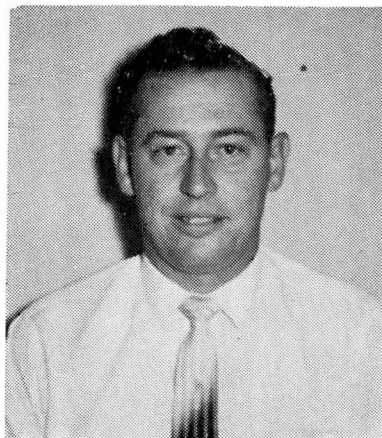
LIFE ... AUTO ... FARM PROTECTOR ... FIRE ... HAIL

BE SURE ...
INSURE

With A Company
With A Reputation
for
Courteous Service
Prompt Settlement



RICHARD (Dutch) STOFER
Agency Manager



MAX E. TITUS
Special Agent

Farm Bureau
Insurance
Services
Safeguard
the
Nation's
Greatest
Farm
State

Sherwood Construction

Earthmoving Contractor



SPECIALIZING IN SOIL CONSERVATION WORK

Dams — Waterways — Terracing — Clearing

Phone 12F4

GUTHRIE CENTER, IOWA

M & M Store

PLAN TO ATTEND

The Guthrie County Centennial Fair Sept. 2-6, 1958

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 — ENTRY DAY

7:30 P. M. Program by County Bands.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 —

9:00 A. M. Judging
1:00 P. M. Band Concert
2:00 P. M. Horse Races and Free Acts
7:00 P. M. Band Concert
7:30 P. M. Marlo Show Productions Revue & Free Acts

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 —

9:00 A. M. Judging
1:00 P. M. Band Concert
2:00 P. M. Horse Races and Free Acts
7:00 P. M. Band Concert
7:30 P. M. Livestock Parade
8:00 P. M. Marlo Show Productions Revue & Free Acts

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 —

9:00 A. M. Annual Election of Officers
10:00 A. M. 4-H Club Sale of Livestock
2:00 P. M. Sam Howard's Water Frolics of 1958
and Thrills — Spills — Comedy
8:00 P. M. Beauty — on the stage, in the water,
in the air.

SAURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 —

10:00 A. M. Free Centennial Street Parade
2:00 P. M. Gene Holter's Wild Animal Show
and Racing Ostriches and
8:00 P. M. Racing Camel Show

WAYNE LAUGHERY, President

G. W. PRINCE, Secretary