

1944

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

CASS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Ia-SCD-27

Atlantic, Iowa.

1944

ANNUAL REPORT

CASS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

January 1 to December 31, 1944

of various artists available for use in farm ponds and erosion control dams. This meeting was worthwhile from the standpoint of education.

The Cass County District completed its second year of operation in August. The term of Mr. Clarence Pellett, chairman for the last two years, expired at that time. We held our election in connection with the L-H Club Fair in Atlantic on August 24. Mr. Pellett was re-elected for the six-year ensuing term. During that year we held five regular meetings. We will have a smaller unit basis, possibly as small as a school of the

Annual Report of the

At the organization meeting following the election Carl Euker was elected as chairman of the CASS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT next two years. Mr. Euker as resigned as County Extension Director and a successor has not been named as secretary at the end of the year. One will be chosen at a later date.

Atlantic, Iowa

In reporting on activities of the year we would first like to report on the further work done in this District and neighboring districts on the post war planning which we reported in our 1943 report. Early in January of 1944 we were able to secure an interview with the Hon. Ben F. Jensen, Congressman from the Seventh Congressional District in Iowa. Mr. Jensen took a considerable amount of interest in our suggested post war plan for immediate soil conservation work in Cass County and suggested that we call in neighboring districts in order to draw up a set of resolutions. We appointed a Resolutions Committee composed of local people interested in post war planning and sent invitations to other commissioners in the Seventh District to come to a joint meeting. This meeting was held on January 17. All but two counties were represented. A joint resolution was prepared and approved at this meeting and was sent to the various state and national officials.

We also acted as hosts to the commissioners and State Post War Planning Committee. At this meeting a delegate and an alternate was chosen from the commissioners of the various districts in southwestern Iowa to act as a sub-committee to the State Committee on post war planning. It and local people within the District. It has been recommended that this

Commissioners

Early in the year we gave some thought toward the selection of assistant commissioners to serve as representatives of the District in their respective townships. A group of men including AAA Committeemen, Farm Bureau and soil conservation leaders, with the idea these men would be called in as a committee to help with furthering the work plan of the District and to pick out men to be partly responsible for their home communities. We set up this meeting in April and included interested contractors and farmers. We also called in a representative of the Armco Pipe Company who spoke during the next few years to determine what place it may have in this section of the country.

Clarence Pellett, Chairman
Joe Laughton
Carl Euker

Signed /s/ Clarence Pellett
Chairman

ANNUAL REPORT

CASS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

January 1 to December 31, 1944

of various artists available for use in farm ponds and erosion control dams. This meeting was worthwhile from the standpoint of education. The Cass County District completed its second year of operation in August. The term of Mr. Clarence Pellett, chairman for the last two years, expired at that time. We held our election in connection with the L-H Club Fair in Atlantic on August 24. Mr. Pellett was re-elected for the six-year ensuing term. During the year we held five regular meetings. We will have a smaller unit basis, possibly as small as a school of the

Annual Report of the

At the organization meeting following the election Carl Euker was elected as chairman of the CASS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT next two years. Mr. Euker as resigned as County Extension Director and a successor has not been named as secretary at the end of the year. One will be chosen at a later date.

Atlantic, Iowa

In reporting on activities of the year, we would first like to report on the further work done in this District and neighboring districts on the post war planning which we reported in our 1943 report. Early in January of 1944 we were able to secure an interview with the Hon. Ben F. Jensen, Congressman from the Seventh Congressional District in Iowa. Mr. Jensen took a considerable amount of interest in our suggested post war plan for immediate soil conservation work in Cass County and suggested that we call in neighboring districts in order to draw up a set of resolutions. We appointed a Resolutions Committee composed of local people interested in post war planning and sent invitations to other commissioners in the Seventh District to come to a joint meeting. This meeting was held on January 17. All but two counties were represented. A joint resolution was prepared and approved at this meeting and was sent to the various state and national officials.

We also acted as hosts to the commissioners and State Post War Planning Committee. At this meeting a delegate and an alternate was chosen from the commissioners of the various districts in southwestern Iowa to act as a sub-committee to the State Committee on post war planning. It and local people within the District. It has been recommended that this

Commissioners

Early in the year we gave some thought toward the selection of assistant commissioners to serve as representatives of the District in their respective townships. A group of men including AAA Committeemen, Farm Bureau and soil conservation leaders, with the idea these men would be called in as a committee to help with furthering the work plan of the District and to pick out men to be partly responsible for their home communities. We set up this meeting in April and included interested contractors and farmers. We also called in a representative of the Armco Pipe Company who spoke during the next few years to determine what place it may have in this section of the country.

Clarence Pellett, Chairman
Joe Laughton
Carl Euker
Signed /s/ Clarence Pellett
Chairman

Annual Report
of the

CASS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

January 1 to December 31, 1944

Atlantic, Iowa

Copy for your file

Commissioners

Clarence Pellett, Chairman
Joe Laughton
Carl Euken

Signed /s/ Clarence Pellett
Chairman

ANNUAL REPORT
CASS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
January 1 to December 31, 1944

The Cass County District completed its second year of operation in August. The term of Mr. Clarence Pellett, chairman for the last two years, expired at that time. We held our election in connection with the L-H Club Fair in Atlantic on August 24. Mr. Pellett was re-elected for the six-year ensuing term. During the year we held five regular meetings.

At the organization meeting following the election Carl Euken was elected as chairman and Oscar Rauh as secretary for the next two years. Mr. Rauh as resigned as County Extension Director and a successor has not been named as yet. Consequently we had no secretary at the end of the year. One will be chosen at a later date.

In reporting on activities of the year, we would first like to report on the further work done in this District and neighboring districts on the post war planning which we reported in our 1943 report. Early in January of 1944 we were able to secure an interview with the Hon. Ben F. Jensen, Congressman from the Seventh Congressional District in Iowa. Mr. Jensen took a considerable amount of interest in our suggested post war plan for immediate soil conservation work in Cass County and suggested that we call in neighboring districts in order to draw up a set of resolutions. We appointed a Resolutions Committee composed of local people interested in post war planning and sent invitations to other commissioners in the Seventh District to come to a joint meeting. This meeting was held on January 17. All but two counties were represented. A joint resolution was prepared and approved at this meeting and was sent to the various state and national officials.

We also acted as hosts to the commissioners and State Post War Planning Committee. At this meeting a delegate and an alternate was chosen from the commissioners of the various districts in southwestern Iowa to act as a sub-committee to the State Committee on post war planning.

Early in the year we gave some thought toward the selection of assistant commissioners to serve as representatives of the District in their respective townships. A group of names was suggested from each township including AAA Committeemen, Farm Bureau Directors and soil conservation leaders, with the idea these men would be called in as a committee to help with furthering the work plan of the District and to pick out men to be partly responsible for their home communities. We set up this meeting in April and included interested contractors and farm managers in the County. We also called in a representative of the Armco Pipe Company who spoke

of various outlets available for use in farm ponds and erosion control dams. This meeting was worthwhile from the standpoint of education. However, we have changed our thinking somewhat in setting up the assistant commissioners because of the fact that it has been difficult to determine what specific duties these men could perform. We are now looking to the chairman of each farm planning group as representative of the District in that particular community. Eventually this will mean that we will have assistant commissioners on a smaller unit basis, possibly as small as a school district. Because of the responsibilities given these men in their group planning work, such as organizing the groups, arranging for group demonstrations and group layout, we feel that they will naturally become representatives of the District. We feel this a more sound policy than merely picking one representative in each township.

We have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Soil Conservation Service, Extension Service and College in the production of certified Fisher bromegrass. We have received our allotment of 160 pounds of this seed, and have selected three cooperative farms to aid us in producing seed. We hope that in 1945 part of this seed program will materialize in the production of enough seed so that in another year we can expand our program.

In addition to this type of seed production we have secured the cooperation of the Cass County Farm Bureau in purchasing 1000 pounds of southern Iowa brome, which has been sold to interested farmers. With the interest being shown in bromegrass for this area and with the start we have made in getting seed available, we feel that the grassland management in the County can be greatly improved with favorable results in getting these seed plots established.

Mr. Frank Pellett, the local farmer and bee man, has for several years been interested in the propagation of new grass plants. We are tremendously interested in one new type of clover which Mr. Pellett is propagating. Through the efforts of the associates of Mr. Pellett and local people within the District, it has been recommended that this clover be named Pellett Clover. The District is sponsoring some further experimental work with this clover and has selected six farms in various parts of the District for the purpose of planting a few plants of this clover to determine its adaptability to pasture conditions. One of these was put in an old bluegrass pasture, and another near a road fence in a bromegrass pasture one year old, another was placed in a front yard to test the effect of frequent mowing. One was placed in a 35 year old brome field and another one in a garden spot to use as test plots for observation. We intend to watch this new plant closely during the next few years to determine what place it may have in this section of the country.

The educational phase of our program for 1944 was hindered particularly during the spring months when we usually have our contour line laying demonstrations. Because of the wet weather it was not possible to have demonstrations in each township, although they were scheduled to be held and were postponed several times. Even though we failed in our demonstrations we believe that a satisfactory amount of spread of the practice was accomplished in the District. In 1943 it was estimated that 760 individuals contoured 23,430 acres. It is estimated that in 1944 this number has increased to well over 850.

One rather large field day was held during July at which time all equipment operators were invited to demonstrate terrace construction and gully control equipment. This demonstration was well attended. We estimate that about 250 people were there. The Ford-Ferguson people demonstrated their disc terracer and various types of earth moving equipment. Five sets of terraces were constructed with the various kinds of equipment. One was built using the Ford disc terracer, one with a road patrol blade, another with a tractor and blade, and one with an ordinary farm plow. An experiment was run with the farm plow in attempting to build the terrace all from the uphill side.

Another terrace demonstration was sponsored by us in cooperation with the John Deere Plow Company, in which they used their disc tiller. This demonstration was well attended and much interest was shown. We feel that these two demonstrations in the District have increased the interest in terracing.

At our reorganization meeting at the end of the year we reviewed our work plan and planned to revise it somewhat to form a policy for taking care of applications for assistance. We have recommended the use of group action wherever possible in the District. To improve our method we are setting up a definite schedule of meetings, first calling an organization meeting for the explanation of the District policy and for securing of signatures of farmers interested in farm plans. If interest is expressed, further farm planning meetings will be held with these groups and plans made to hold contour schools on group layout work. We recommend that each group select a chairman to represent the District in that area.

During the year, 20 farm plans were written on 3440 acres, making a total of 32 farm plans to date on 5735 acres. At the end of the year we had requests from 10 groups for farm plans on a total of 70 farms. Three of the organization meetings of these groups have been held and planning meetings scheduled. On our farm plans to date, the following

practices were planned and established:

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Planned</u>	<u>Established</u>
Contour Planting	Acres	2378	991
Contour Strip Cropping	Acres	71	-
Seeding Pastures	Acres	149	89
Outlets & Farm Water-	Acres	56	14
Courses	Lin. Ft.	82,000	20,700
Soil Saving Dams	No.	4	-
Terracing	Acres	109	83
Reorganization of Fields	Feet	221,650	69,100

With 10 farm planning groups ahead at the end of the year and the interest being shown in the formation of new groups, we expect to have an increased showing of conservation on the land in 1945. It is hoped that technical assistants can be made available as the work load increases. A small number of conservation surveys has been made and many of the groups will require soil surveys during the year. Technical assistants will be required to give aid to those desiring the layout of farm plans, as well as assistance in the education work prior to the formation of groups. We have recommended that technicians confine their efforts to farm planning, application work on farm plans, assistance to the Extension Service in the over all educational program, and a considerable amount of time on tests to observe various species of grasses and to the seed increase production program.

We wish to express our appreciation to all agencies cooperating with the District. We have had excellent cooperation from the Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service, AAA, FSA, and businessmen. We want to particularly thank those individuals working with us as a committee on post war planning work. We also want to encourage the interest on the part of our group leaders toward improving the District program in their areas. We realize that the success of the District program will depend a great deal on the efforts of these men.

SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT OF EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

DISTRICT IA-SCD-27
(Name)

Atlantic, Iowa
(Supervisor's Headquarters) (State)

Period Jan. 1, 1944 to Dec. 31, 1944

ACTIVITY		This Period	To Date
Educational Meetings	Number	9	26
	Attendance	203	1086
Tours	Number	0	5
	Attendance	0	62
Demonstrations	Number	13	36
	Attendance	348	700
Training School Meetings	Number	0	5
	Attendance	0	69
Exhibits	Number	2	3
Radio Talks	Number	0	0
News Articles	Number	31	107
Commissioners Meetings	Number	5	

Annual Report
of the

CASS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

January 1 to December 31, 1944

Atlantic, Iowa

Commissioners

Clarence Pellett, Chairman
Joe Laughton
Carl Euken

Signed /s/ Clarence Pellett
Chairman

ANNUAL REPORT
CASS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
January 1 to December 31, 1944

The Cass County District completed its second year of operation in August. The term of Mr. Clarence Pellett, chairman for the last two years, expired at that time. We held our election in connection with the 4-H Club Fair in Atlantic on August 24. Mr. Pellett was re-elected for the six-year ensuing term. During the year we held five regular meetings.

At the organization meeting following the election Carl Euken was elected as chairman and Oscar Rauh as secretary for the next two years. Mr. Rauh has resigned as County Extension Director and a successor has not been named as yet. Consequently we had no secretary at the end of the year. One will be chosen at a later date.

In reporting on activities of the year, we would first like to report on the further work done in this District and neighboring districts on the post war planning which we reported in our 1943 report. Early in January of 1944 we were able to secure an interview with the Hon. Ben F. Jensen, Congressman from the Seventh Congressional District in Iowa. Mr. Jensen took a considerable amount of interest in our suggested post war plan for immediate soil conservation work in Cass County and suggested that we call in neighboring districts in order to draw up a set of resolutions. We appointed a Resolutions Committee composed of local people interested in post war planning and sent invitations to other commissioners in the Seventh District to come to a joint meeting. This meeting was held on January 17. All but two counties were represented. A joint resolution was prepared and approved at this meeting and was sent to the various state and national officials.

We also acted as hosts to the commissioners and State Post War Planning Committee. At this meeting a delegate and an alternate was chosen from the commissioners of the various districts in southwestern Iowa to act as a sub-committee to the State Committee on post war planning.

Early in the year we gave some thought toward the selection of assistant commissioners to serve as representatives of the District in their respective townships. A group of names was suggested from each township including AAA Committeemen, Farm Bureau Directors and soil conservation leaders, with the idea these men would be called in as a committee to help with furthering the work plan of the District and to pick out men to be partly responsible for their home communities. We set up this meeting in April and included interested contractors and farm managers in the County. We also called in a representative of the Armco Pipe Company who spoke

of various outlets available for use in farm ponds and erosion control dams. This meeting was worthwhile from the standpoint of education. However, we have changed our thinking somewhat in setting up the assistant commissioners because of the fact that it has been difficult to determine what specific duties these men could perform. We are now looking to the chairman of each farm planning group as representative of the District in that particular community. Eventually this will mean that we will have assistant commissioners on a smaller unit basis, possibly as small as a school district. Because of the responsibilities given these men in their group planning work, such as organizing the groups, arranging for group demonstrations and group layout, we feel that they will naturally become representatives of the District. We feel this a more sound policy than merely picking one representative in each township.

We have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Soil Conservation Service, Extension Service and College in the production of certified Fisher brome grass. We have received our allotment of 160 pounds of this seed, and have selected three cooperative farms to aid us in producing seed. We hope that in 1945 part of this seed program will materialize in the production of enough seed so that in another year we can expand our program.

In addition to this type of seed production we have secured the cooperation of the Cass County Farm Bureau in purchasing 1000 pounds of southern Iowa brome, which has been sold to interested farmers. With the interest being shown in brome grass for this area and with the start we have made in getting seed available, we feel that the grassland management in the County can be greatly improved with favorable results in getting these seed plots established.

Mr. Frank Pellett, the local farmer and bee man, has for several years been interested in the propagation of new grass plants. We are tremendously interested in one new type of clover which Mr. Pellett is propagating. Through the efforts of the associates of Mr. Pellett and local people within the District, it has been recommended that this clover be named Pellett Clover. The District is sponsoring some further experimental work with this clover and has selected six farms in various parts of the District for the purpose of planting a few plants of this clover to determine its adaptability to pasture conditions. One of these was put in an old bluegrass pasture, and another near a road fence in a brome grass pasture one year old, another was placed in a front yard to test the effect of frequent mowing. One was placed in a 35 year old brome field and another one in a garden spot to use as test plots for observation. We intend to watch this new plant closely during the next few years to determine what place it may have in this section of the country.

The educational phase of our program for 1944 was hindered particularly during the spring months when we usually have our contour line laying demonstrations. Because of the wet weather it was not possible to have demonstrations in each township, although they were scheduled to be held and were postponed several times. Even though we failed in our demonstrations we believe that a satisfactory amount of spread of the practice was accomplished in the District. In 1943 it was estimated that 760 individuals contoured 23,430 acres. It is estimated that in 1944 this number has increased to well over 850.

One rather large field day was held during July at which time all equipment operators were invited to demonstrate terrace construction and gully control equipment. This demonstration was well attended. We estimate that about 250 people were there. The Ford-Ferguson people demonstrated their disc terracer and various types of earth moving equipment. Five sets of terraces were constructed with the various kinds of equipment. One was built using the Ford disc terracer, one with a road patrol blade, another with a tractor and blade, and one with an ordinary farm plow. An experiment was run with the farm plow in attempting to build the terrace all from the uphill side.

Another terrace demonstration was sponsored by us in cooperation with the John Deere Plow Company, in which they used their disc tiller. This demonstration was well attended and much interest was shown. We feel that these two demonstrations in the District have increased the interest in terracing.

At our reorganization meeting at the end of the year we reviewed our work plan and planned to revise it somewhat to form a policy for taking care of applications for assistance. We have recommended the use of group action wherever possible in the District. To improve our method we are setting up a definite schedule of meetings, first calling an organization meeting for the explanation of the District policy and for securing of signatures of farmers interested in farm plans. If interest is expressed, further farm planning meetings will be held with these groups and plans made to hold contour schools on group layout work. We recommend that each group select a chairman to represent the District in that area.

During the year, 20 farm plans were written on 3440 acres, making a total of 32 farm plans to date on 5735 acres. At the end of the year we had requests from 10 groups for farm plans on a total of 70 farms. Three of the organization meetings of these groups have been held and planning meetings scheduled. On our farm plans to date, the following

practices were planned and established:

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Planned</u>	<u>Established</u>
Contour Planting	Acres	2378	991
Contour Strip Cropping	Acres	71	-
Seeding Pastures	Acres	149	89
Outlets & Farm Water-Courses	Acres	56	14
Soil Saving Dams	Lin. Ft.	82,000	20,700
Terracing	No.	4	-
Reorganization of Fields	Acres	109	83
	Feet	221,650	69,100

With 10 farm planning groups ahead at the end of the year and the interest being shown in the formation of new groups, we expect to have an increased showing of conservation on the land in 1945. It is hoped that technical assistants can be made available as the work load increases. A small number of conservation surveys has been made and many of the groups will require soil surveys during the year. Technical assistants will be required to give aid to those desiring the layout of farm plans, as well as assistance in the education work prior to the formation of groups. We have recommended that technicians confine their efforts to farm planning, application work on farm plans, assistance to the Extension Service in the over all educational program, and a considerable amount of time on tests to observe various species of grasses and to the seed increase production program.

We wish to express our appreciation to all agencies cooperating with the District. We have had excellent cooperation from the Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service, AAA, FSA, and businessmen. We want to particularly thank those individuals working with us as a committee on post war planning work. We also want to encourage the interest on the part of our group leaders toward improving the District program in their areas. We realize that the success of the District program will depend a great deal on the efforts of these men.

SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT OF EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

DISTRICT IA-SCD-27
(Name)

Atlantic, Iowa
(Supervisor's Headquarters) (State)

Period Jan. 1, 1944 to Dec. 31, 1944

ACTIVITY		This Period	To Date
Educational Meetings	Number	9	26
	Attendance	203	1086
Tours	Number	0	5
	Attendance	0	62
Demonstrations	Number	13	36
	Attendance	348	700
Training School Meetings	Number	0	5
	Attendance	0	69
Exhibits	Number	2	3
Radio Talks	Number	0	0
News Articles	Number	31	107
Commissioners Meetings	Number	5	

111

111

111