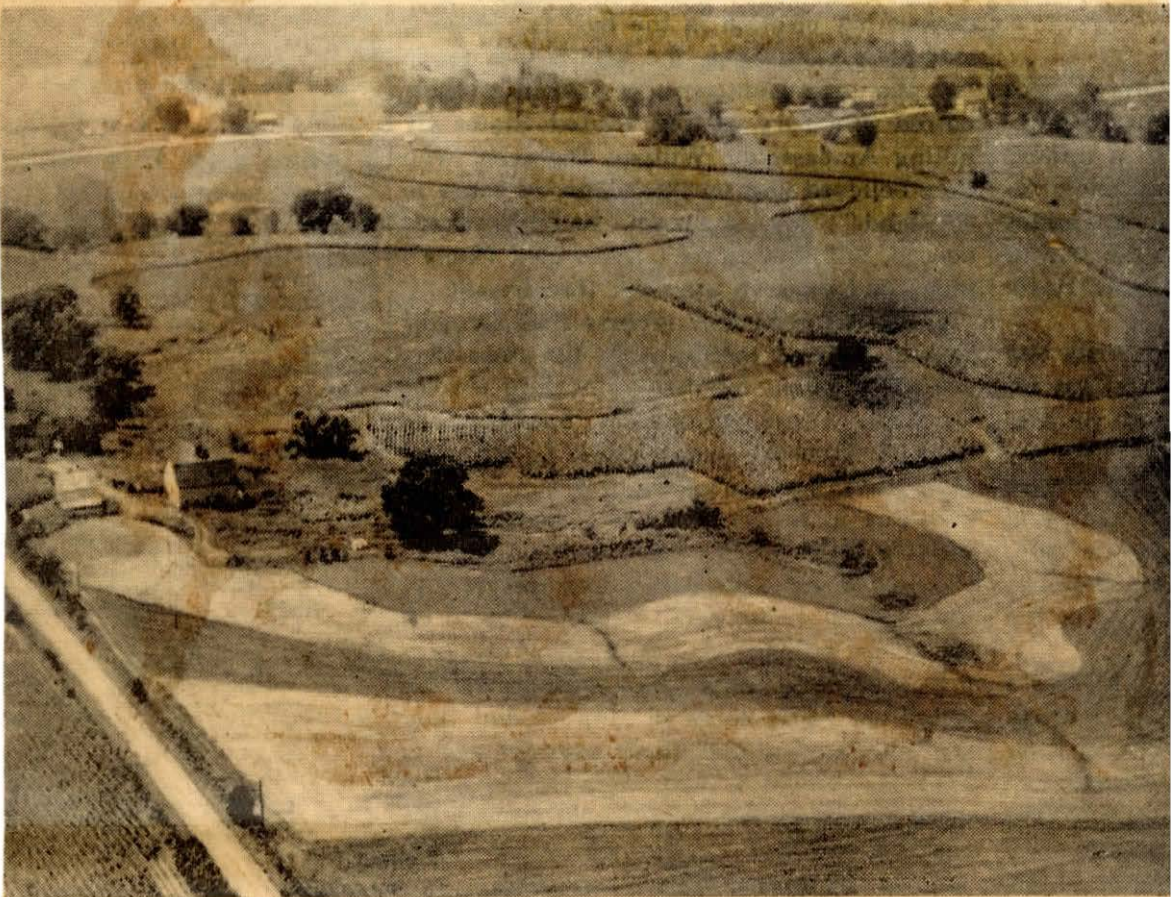




—Aerial Photos By Gene Rullman

"From flying to farming" is the story of Wendell Nicklin, chosen as this year's Division III winner. Nicklin began operating his current farm in 1947, immediately following his release from the armed forces. He served as a naval pilot for two years during World War II.

The farm, located in the northeast section of the county, is comprised of 160 acres. He also farms an adjoining 80 acres belonging to his father.

Nicklin's first conservation program was started in 1952. Since that time he has practically completed all conservation practices included in the initial planning.

He has constructed a pond, improved pasture land, constructed waterways and stripcropped all cropland.

Nicklin also has a large herd of registered Jersey dairy cattle.

He is a graduate of Douds high school and was valedictorian of the 1942 graduating class. He has three sons, ages one, three and four.

Nicklin is a member of the Farm Bureau and is currently serving as a school director.

In expressing his belief in soil conservation, Nicklin stated that although he has been a cooperater for but two years, he will continue soil conservation methods as long as he is engaged in farming.

Local conservation officials point out that the Nicklin farm is a perfect example of increased yields and conservation work can be accomplished in a short period of time.