

1970

ANNUAL REPORT

CEDAR COUNTY
SOIL CONSERVATION
DISTRICT

Phone 886-6214

TIPTON, IOWA



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FOREWORD

A group told their Area Conservationist, "We don't want a pound of silt to reach this pond." Whether we are keeping silt out of our lakes, rivers or keeping it on the fields for crop production, conserving our resources is an important job.

This report will try to give its readers some understanding of the kind of methods used in our district to conserve our soil.

Our youth today are to be congratulated on their interest in the care of our soil, air, and water. May their enthusiasm for a healthy environment be mutually shared by more people of all ages.

Thank you for the many friendly welcomes the commissioners and the SCS personnel have enjoyed in working with you the reader of this report.

Cedar County Soil Conservation District Commissioners —

Raymond Millett

Willard Eiler

Elmer Wilke

Darrell Brown

Keith Lilienthal

Personnel —

Donald Williams

Clarence Beyer

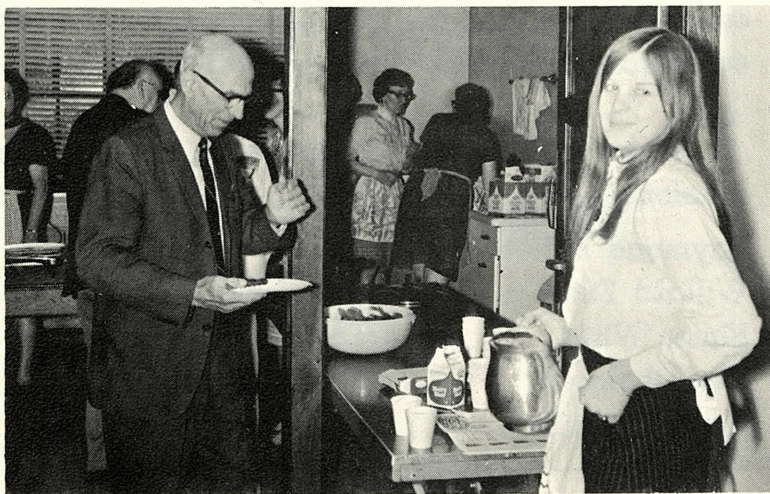
Hilda Carey

— Cover —

Hib Marolf, Rochester township, in his field of crown vetch planted on soil which is too sandy for the establishment of most other legumes.



A closeup view of the vetch on the Marolf farm.



Harold Walther, De Witt, with his pancakes and sausage, and Marilyn Millett, West Branch, with the coffee pitcher. Wives of district commissioners and SCS personnel preparing food in the kitchen.

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Willard Eiler, Stanwood
Gene Weih, Bennett
Earl Jarvis, Wilton
Max R. Phelps, Tipton
Dalton Phillips, Atalissa
Lester Chambliss, Tipton

Erwin Toerber, Stanwood
Russell Newcomb, West Liberty
W. C. McGillivray, Muscatine
Lawrence Ruther, Clarence
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Iowa City — Daily — Phone 337-7433

FRED J. KLOPFENSTEIN, Manager

GARY OTT, Fieldman

DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS 1970

The commissioners sold advertising for the 1969 annual report. Copies were mailed to all landowners and operators in the county.

District Commissioners election and free pancake dinner was held in March. Elmer Wilke, Tipton, was re-elected. Darrell Brown, West Branch; Willard Eiler, Stanwood, and Keith Lilienthal, New Liberty, were newly elected commissioners.

Material on Soil Stewardship Sunday was sent to the clergy in the county to assist in observing "Soil Stewardship Sunday."

Soil & Water Conservation Week was celebrated with special emphasis in the county newspapers.

All commissioners attended the Regional Meeting for commissioners at Colony Village, Amana, in March.

A Conservation Speech Contest was sponsored by the district in May. Mary Lou Schnack placed first and Gene Badtram, second.

Commissioners Willard Eiler, Keith Lilienthal, Ray Millett and Elmer Wilke, together with Hilda Carey, district clerk, and Don Williams, district conservationist, attended the area district commissioners meeting and speech contest held at Ox Yoke Inn, Amana in July. Mary Lou Schnack, contestant from Cedar county, placed second in this contest.

Miss Cynthia Richards, Wilton Junction, attended one session of the Teachers Conservation Camp at Springbrook State Park.

The 17th annual soil judging contest was sponsored by the district with 55 boys from 3 high schools taking part. West Branch won the contest.

Betty DeSotel from the Tipton Community School and James Goeller from the West Branch School, attended a 2-day Conservation Workshop for teachers at the State 4-H Camp near Luther.

One hundred copies of the pamphlet, "The Story of the Land" was purchased for distribution to schools in the county.

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Soil Survey

by Edward J. Schermerhorn

How are the Soil Scientists, Clarence Call, Howard Bright, and Edward Schermerhorn progressing with the mapping of Cedar County? We feel that we have moved along fairly well this past year. Since we began the County in late 1969, we have already completely mapped Springdale, Gower and Iowa, $\frac{1}{2}$ of Rochester, and $\frac{1}{3}$ of Cass Townships. Several sections have also been mapped in Center and Sugar Creek Townships.

In June of 1970, we showed the County Assessor and representatives from the Soil Conservation Service and Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, the various soils we have encountered and some of our problems. This will be done every year until Cedar County is completely mapped.

Since Clarence Call has been transferred, there will only be two of us to walk the fields with our probes and aerial photos this Spring. Hopefully, we will be working to finish the above townships this year.

The farmers and landowners have all been very cooperative. To all, we say "thank you". If any of you, those whose farms we have already mapped, or those whose farms we will map this year have any questions, we will try to answer them to the best of our ability.



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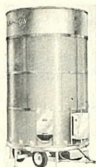
Massey Ferguson

Snowmobiles

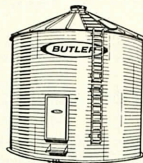
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ACCOMPLISHMENT SUMMARY

The following indicates the accomplishments for 1970 Fiscal Year and totals to date.

		To Date
Contour Farming -----	2,620 Acres	57,908 Acres
Strip Cropping -----	170 Acres	3,345 Acres
Conservation		
Cropping System ---	6,108 Acres	88,602 Acres
Minimum Tillage -----	4,064 Acres	12,244 Acres
Structures & Ponds ----	7	188
Grassed Waterways --	51 Acres	816 Acres
Tile Drainage -----	476,304 Ft.	4,865,963 Ft.
Detailed Soil		
Surveys -----	55,480 Acres	85,450 Acres
Pasture Planting -----	419 Acres	7,159 Acres
Wildlife Area -----	63 Acres	703 Acres
Land Adequately		
Treated -----	2,975 Acres	46,730 Acres

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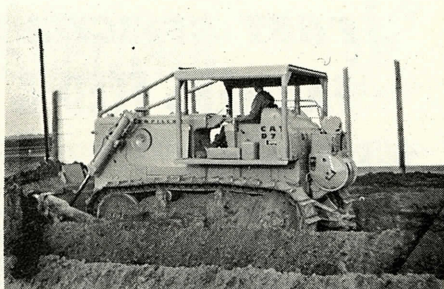
Stanwood - Olin, Iowa

MEMBER F.D.I.C.

1892-1968

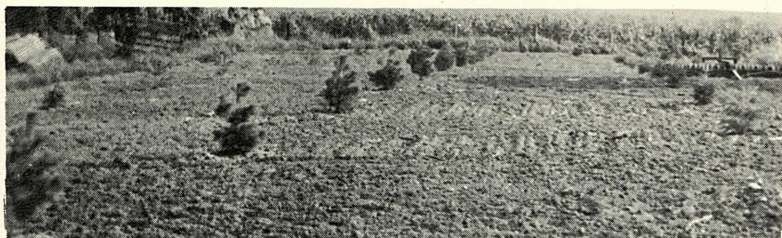
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Newly planted windbreak on the Maurice Walton farm, west of Tipton. In addition to stopping the winds a windbreak will provide wildlife cover and add beauty to the homestead.

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TIPTON

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- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Gene Phelps | 21. Charles Wagner |
| 2. Walter Hack | 22. John Dircks |
| 3. Lawrence Licht | 23. Kenneth Kuehl |
| 4. Duane Pedersen | 24. William Brinkmann |
| 5. Chester Eales | 25. William Thede |
| 6. Hillhurst Enterprise
by Herbert Hink-
house | 26. James Dobyns |
| 7. Carl Frederick | 27. Raldo Horman |
| 8. Ray Clemmens | 28. Jerry Goldsmith |
| 9. Wayne Noring | 29. Kenneth Montz |
| 10. Herbert Hoover Na-
tional Historic Site | 30. Kenneth Mostaert |
| 11. S.M.S. Farms, Inc.
by Edward Spencer | 31. Jane Lee Cain |
| 12. Harold Spencer | 32. Robert Joslin |
| 13. Freeman Kaufmann | 33. Arnold Slach |
| 14. Sidney Cook | 34. Ruth Montz |
| 15. Robert Severin | 35. Isabel Hoyman |
| 16. Francis Gruwell &
Clarence Crew | 36. Allan Reyhons |
| 17. James Clark | 37. Duane L. Bolton |
| 18. Richard Tenley | 38. Kenneth Mather |
| 19. John Hodge | 39. Verda Wilson |
| 20. Kiser & Laucamp
by George Kiser | 40. Mrs. Louisa Duncan
by Kenneth Pasvogel |
| | 41. Robert Rix |
| | 42. Dewey Dircks |
| | 43. Fred Kaufmann |

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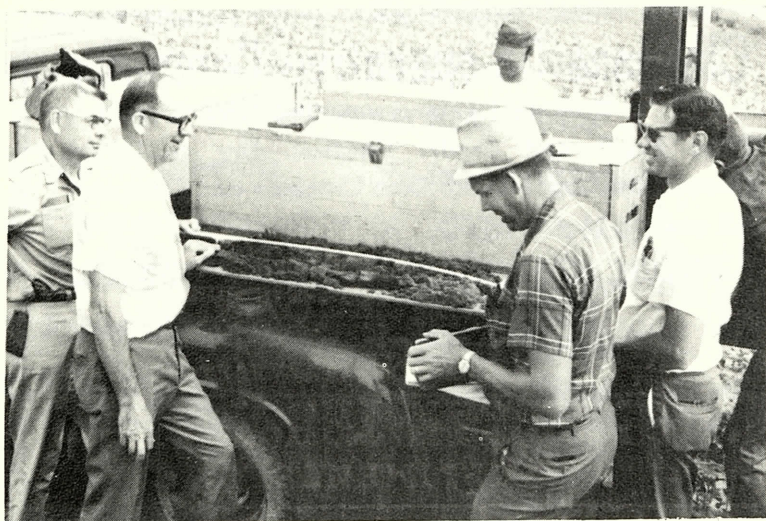
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Some of 125 that attended the district's meeting and election enjoying their pancakes and sausages.



The first field review of the Standard Soil Survey for Cedar county was made last June. Soil Scientists from the SCS Regional Office, Lincoln, Nebraska, SCS Office, Des Moines, Iowa, and Iowa State University, Ames, took part in this review. The scientists are examining a soil sample on the truck bed.

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**MECHANICSVILLE, IOWA
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OUR SOIL — A POLLUTANT

What, you say, our soil is causing pollution? Yes, unfortunately, surface runoff from cropland transports varying amounts of eroded soil, pesticides, plant nutrients, organic matter and other materials into our streams and lakes.

Because much of this material is carried in suspension, it will settle out as the runoff becomes slower and as it reaches slower flowing streams or lakes. Because of the quantity of this material it has been predicted that Iowa's larger artificial lakes will become half filled with sediment in about 150 years. And that the smaller County Conservation Board-constructed reservoirs and privately owned ponds will lose half, that's right . . . one-half or more of their original storage to sediment in 15 to 50 years unless soil erosion is more effectively controlled in the future.

How do we stop this problem? We have the methods to minimize this problem. The most logical approach to solving the sediment problem is to control soil erosion.

We all know there are many methods of controlling soil erosion. Such as dissipating raindrop impact forces with crop ground covers; or reducing the quantity of run-off with conservation practices such as stripcropping; slowing run-off velocity with contouring and terraces; and managing soils to enhance their resistance to erosion.

Pollution is a concern to all of us, and one of our biggest pollutants is our wonderful soil that is not being managed properly. Are YOU DOING YOUR UTMOST to preserve your soil and at the same time stop pollution?

RUEL K. WEHDE

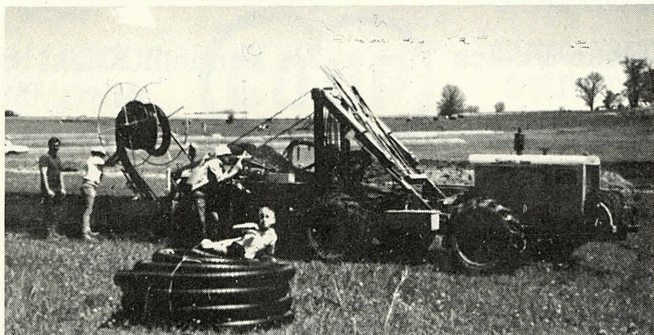
Vocational Agriculture Instructor
Tipton Community High School

In cooperation with the Cedar County Extension Service, the Tipton Adult Farmer class will have two meetings concerning testing well water, construction and improving well pits and installations, and avoiding underground water pollution.

MARCH 17 — 7:30, Tipton Vo-Ag Room "How to Take Water Samples"

MAY 26 — "Interpretation of Well Samples" and discussion by Ted Willerich, ISU Extension Agricultural Engineer

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|----------------------|------------------------------------|
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| 2. Merle Gronewold | 19. S.M.S. Farm Inc. |
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| 4. Gene Phelps | 21. Kenneth Kuehl |
| 5. Maynard Herring | 22. James Dobyns |
| 6. Wayne Noring | 23. Howard Davis |
| 7. Randall Sander | 24. Arnold Slach |
| 8. Mark Nash, Sr. | 25. Ray Crock |
| 9. Ernest Deppe | 26. Raldo Horman |
| 10. Chester Eales | 27. Jerry Goldsmith |
| 11. Hoover Library | 28. Robert Joslin |
| 12. Lyle Emerson | 29. Alberta Read &
Glenn Dierks |
| 13. Robert Severin | 30. Isabel Hoyman |
| 14. Delmar Kohl | 31. Allan Reyhons |
| 15. Freeman Kaufmann | 32. Buell Jackson |
| 16. Robert Severin | |
| 17. Francis Gruwell | |

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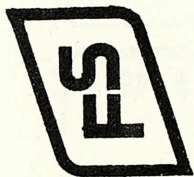
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**EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS PROVIDED BY
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1969-70 FISCAL YEAR**

I-M BUDGET

Commissioner's Expense -----	\$ 195.20
Office Supplies -----	195.89
Prizes for Contests -----	33.50
Office Expense -----	32.50
Rental for Meeting Halls -----	15.00
Demonstrations -----	5.60
Printing -----	19.65
TOTAL -----	\$ 497.34

II-M BUDGET

Salary — Clerk -----	\$4,192.00
State Retirement -----	146.72
Health Insurance -----	72.00
Federal Retirement (Social Security) -----	201.20
Travel -----	47.73
TOTAL -----	\$4,659.65

The Commissioners of the Cedar County Soil Conservation District urge you to patronize the advertisers in this report, who have indicated an interest in you and your soil conservation effort.

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Cedar County A.S.C.S.

County Committee: W. E. Shrope, Chairman, Frederick B. Gill and
Lawrence Kleppe

County Executive Director: Donald M. Conrad

County REAP Clerk: Marian B. Thordsen

The Agricultural Conservation Program is now past history. It is being replaced with a similar program titled Rural Environmental Assistance Program. The initials, of course, used to designate this program are "REAP".

With this new program we are finding some change in emphasis on the practices which we cost-share with the farmer. We are adding into the county program anti-pollution practices in the way of handling animal waste. We are also encouraging more forestry work and practices which have to do with soil erosion; sod waterways and terraces are two important ones here.

Emphasis is being moved away from such practices as underground drainage systems and agricultural lime practices which, by many standards, are production increasing type soil conservation work.

The 1971 year we have also had a cut-back on program funds by 20 percent. This means the County Committee has the added responsibility of putting a smaller amount of funds in more enduring and longer lasting conservation practices.

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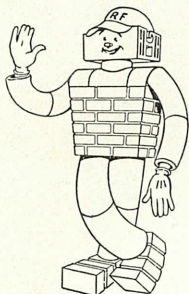
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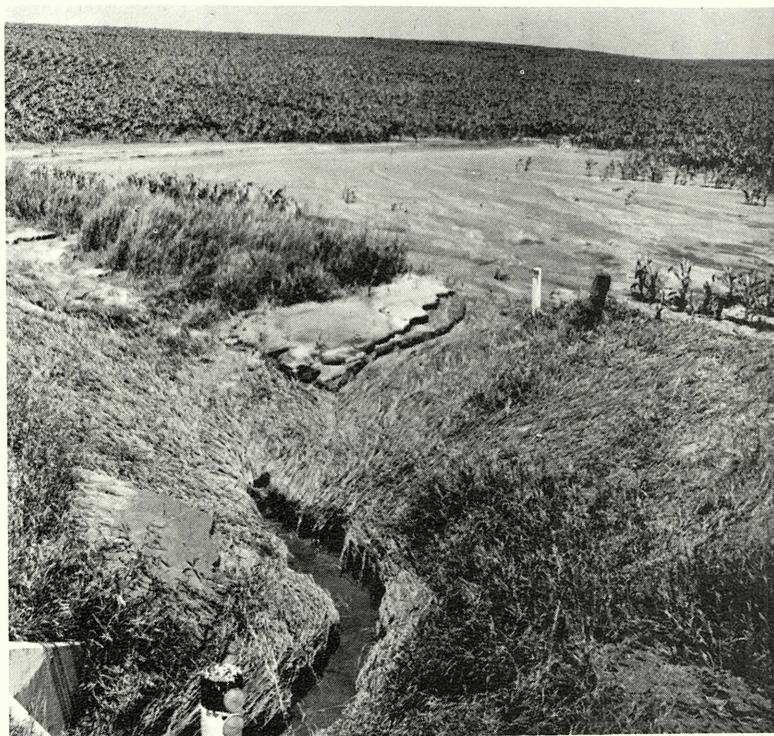
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121 CIRCLE DRIVE
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Erosion during the past year was the worst in many years. Notice how the silt is almost up to the third board on the gate.



Not only is the valuable topsoil lost from the hillsides, but the rich black soil on the bottom is covered with less productive soil.

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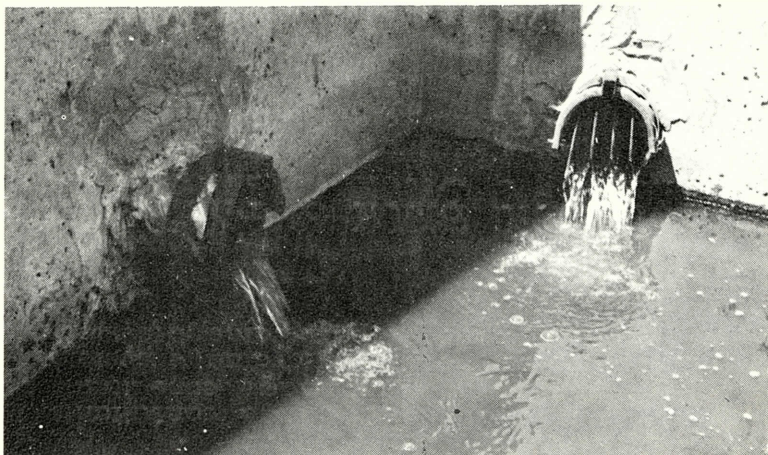
Phone 886-2012 & 886-6390

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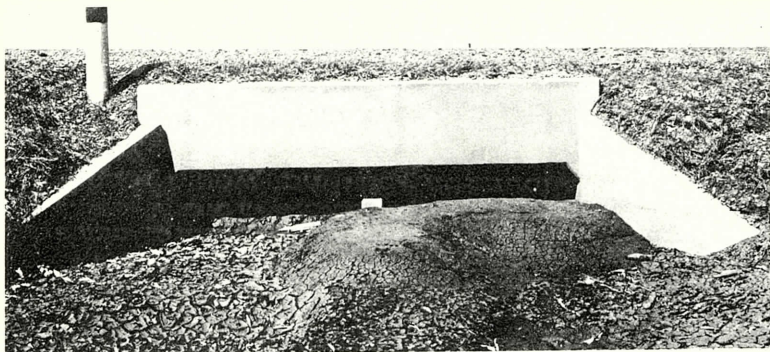
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West Branch, Iowa



This concrete dam is serving as an excellent tile outlet as well as protecting a grassed waterway.



Erosion not only lowers the productivity of the field that loses the topsoil, it causes any number of serious problems down stream. The capacity of this culvert is no longer adequate because of the sediment. Many culverts on Cedar county roads have this problem.

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The West Branch Voc Ag class working at the soil judging contest which was held on the Calvin Moore farm, southwest of Tipton. Instructor, Francis Abel, (with hat) is in the center of the picture.

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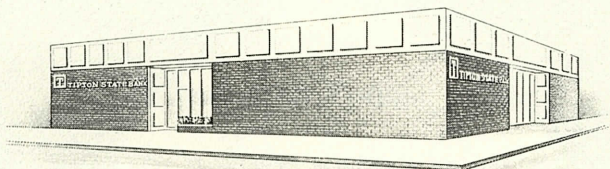
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Mary Lou Schnack won the Cedar District Speech Contest, Mary Lou also placed second in the 12-county Regional Contest.



A newly completed watercourse which is an extension of one that a neighbor had built earlier.

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Member F.D.I.C.



A large group attended a meeting on Farm Pond Management at Cedar Lakes.



Prior to the meeting on Pond Management, the entire group was treated to a picnic dinner - courtesy of Cedar Lakes.



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Conrad Colbert

Sales Representative
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SELECTED ECOLOGICAL READING

R. Q. Landers - Jan. 20, 1971

1. 1935. *Deserts on the March*. Paul B. Sears. University of Oklahoma Press. Written in the midst of the great "Dust Bowl Era", this book championed the need for Soil Conservation Districts and county ecologists, still is a classic in its analysis of man's use of the land.
2. 1953. *The Web of Life*. John H. Storer. Signet. An explanation of the dependency of man on other forms of life. A photo section was added in the 1956 edition, and a complete revision was made in the 1958 with extensive additions on human ecology in the urban environment.
3. 1962. *Silent Spring*. Rachel Carson. Written with alarm that we are doing great damage to our environment by the kinds and amounts of poisons we put into it. Her basic question is "Must we continue to pollute without knowing the consequences?". Generally considered the most influential book in stimulating public awareness of the environmental crisis, to some the most important book of the 20th Century.
4. 1967. *Moment in the Sun*. Robert Rienow and Leona Train Rienow. Sierra Club - Ballantine Book. A report on the deteriorating quality of the American environment by two people deeply involved in the conservation movement. The first book especially written on all aspects of the environment with special emphasis on the need for an "ecological conscience".
5. 1968. *So Human an Animal*. René Dubos. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. A Pulitzer Prize book about the anguish of a man at "seeing so many human and natural values spoiled or destroyed in affluent societies", as well as his indignation at the "failure of the scientific community to organize a systematic effort against the desecration of life and nature".
6. 1969. *The Human Zoo*. Desmond Morris Delta. Success and disaster swing like a pendulum in human history. Basic to his argument is that we do not have the biological inheritance to withstand the complexities and boredom of modern civilization without cracking under the strain. Our old tribal instincts are still with us despite our sophisticated adaptations to the modern city life. An amazing revelation of human nature, worthy of serious contemplation, particularly relative to international conflicts and the generation gap.

7. 1970. Seeds of Change. The Green Revolution and development in the 1970's. Lester R. Brown. Praeger Publ., New York. Excellent statement of agricultural progress in the development and proliferation of new Mexican dwarf wheats and the IR-8 "miracle rice" which could easily double yields. "The new seeds, of course, do not provide an ultimate solution to the food-population problem. The collision between population growth and food production has been averted only temporarily. But the new seeds have bought time in which to seek a breakthrough in contraception comparable to the breakthrough in plant breeding." The bigger problem as Lester Brown expressed it thusly is: "Feeding the increased numbers of people will not be easy, but it is likely to prove much more manageable than providing jobs." Authors such as Ehrlich and Paddock admit that the green revolution gives us more time to get the food-population problem balanced, but it does not solve the problem. A very significant book.
8. 1970. The Biosphere. A scientific American Book, Freeman, San Francisco. An up-to-date authoritative review of the interaction of technology and the environment by a dozen outstanding authors whose articles appeared in the September, 1970 issue of Scientific American. It is the single best review of natural ecological processes in relation to man today.
9. 1970. The User's Guide to the Protection of the Environment. Paul Swatek. A Friend of the Earth/Ballantine Book. A handbook of common sense for the consumer. The author has put together a rather comprehensive guide for "the daily decisions (one) can make that will improve or deteriorate (ones) environment", from food and clothing to transportation and recreation.
10. 1970. No Deposit - No Return. Man and His Environment: a view toward survival - edited by Huey D. Johnson. Addison-Wesley. A very recent compilation of essays from pollution to hunger, from young and old, presented at Stanford University and sponsored by UNESCO, November 1969. Sixty or so participants give their own approach to the environmental dilemma, including suggestions for enlightened action.



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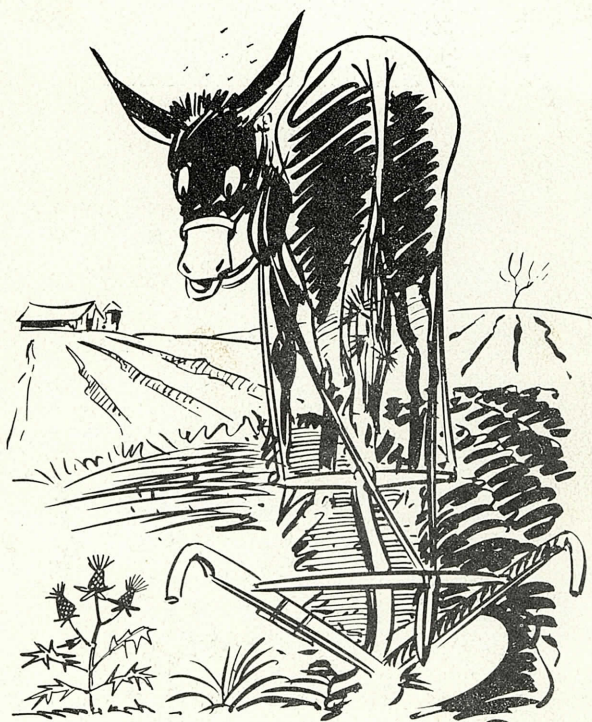
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