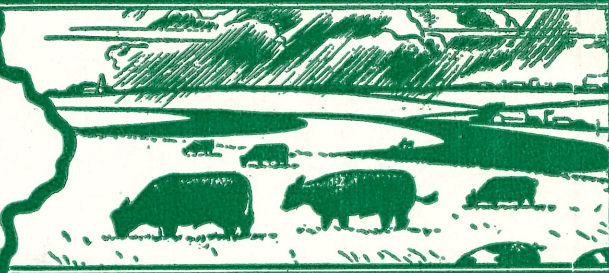


# S OIL and WATER



IOWA



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



Iowa Soil and Water Features  
**MONROE Soil District**

AUGUST  
1960



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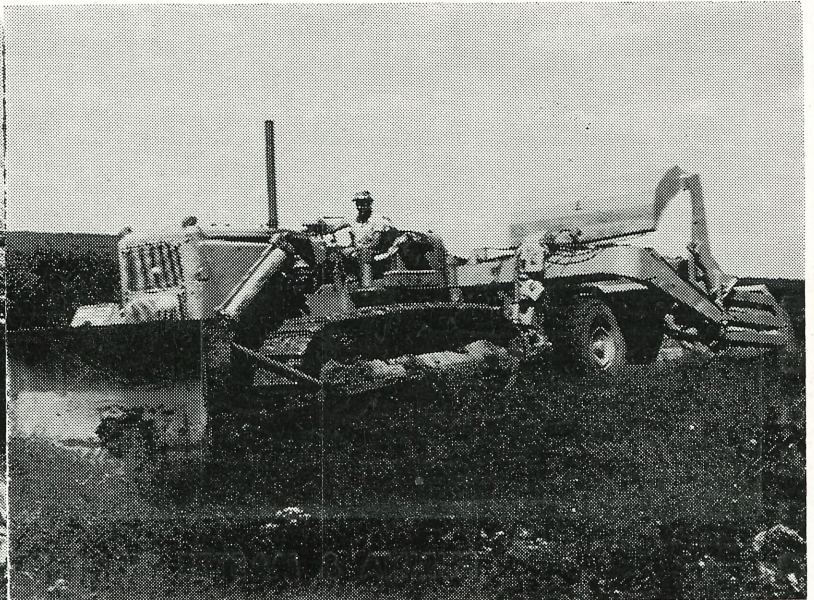
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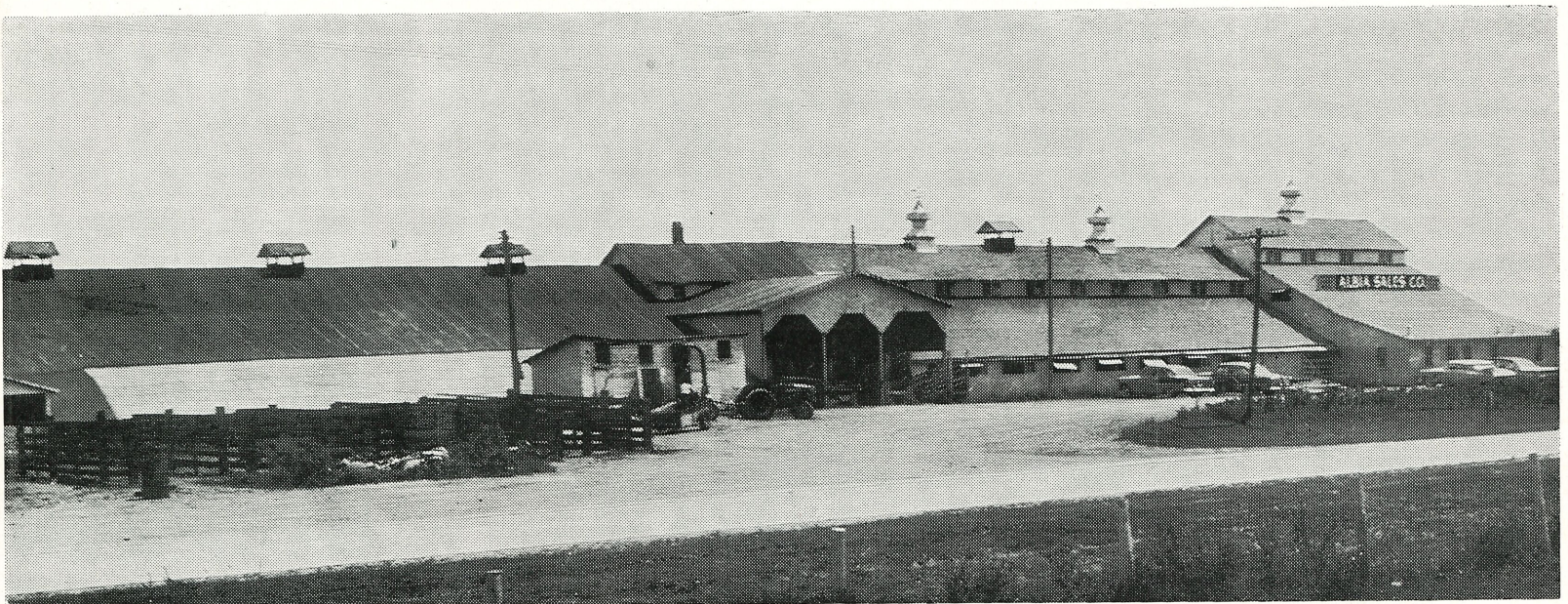
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## Queen of Conservation

The Monroe Soil District & Albia, Iowa, Hosts for Region 6 Queen Contest.

(Picture on page 17)

Albia, Iowa, August 1—Pretty Patty Gray was named the winner of the Region 6 "Queen of Conservation" Contest held at the Albia Fall Festival on August 1st. Patty, a 16-year-old Clarke county farm girl from Osceola, was selected from a group of 14 girls representing eight counties.

Patty is the blond-haired, green-eyed daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Gray, who have a 280 acre farm two miles from Osceola. Patty has an older sister, Marylou, 22; and an older brother, Gary, 18.

Soon to begin her junior year at Osceola High School, Patty's major subject will be Home Eco-

—Continued on page 6

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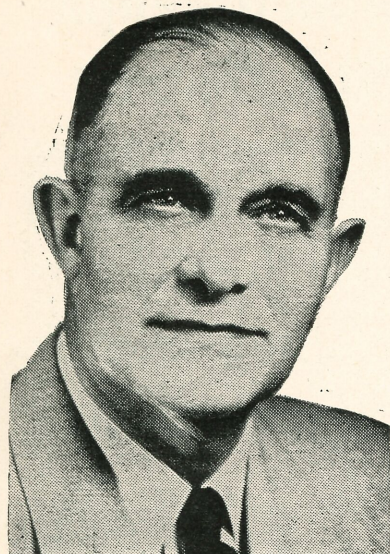
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## President's Corner

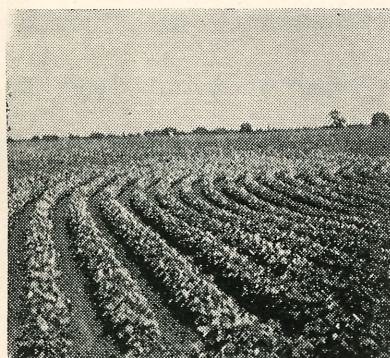


**NEWMAN LYLE**

By Newman Lyle  
President I.A.S.C.D.C.

This year the importance of Conservation, as it is applied to the land, has demonstrated its value in a striking manner. Where the excessive rains have washed rills down the slopes, making farming difficult and carrying away the topsoil on unprotected land, the conservation farmed land has shouted its story of good husbandry to everyone who had eyes to see. Water has walked downhill, with much of it soaking in to form a reserve for the drier years to come. So much water has been kept from contributing to floods downstream; and so much less silt has smothered crops in the lowlands, we wonder why there are so many who still will not see the value of conservation. Unfortunately, the old ways of wastefulness die hard. Often a new generation must be raised before

## The Cover



Pictured on our cover of Iowa Soil & Water this month are bean rows following the contour of a terrace on the Mary Carbin farm in Jackson Township. This farm is managed by Pat Carbin, Soil Conservation District Commissioner and brother of Miss Carbin.

Iowa Soil & Water

there is much chance of improvement.

Popularly, conservation of soil and water is considered new. However, in the new nation of Israel, where conservation is being practiced in a systematic manner, the development of irrigation canals and terraces has uncovered remains of similar structures that were in use thousands of years ago. The successive hoards of conquerors caused the neglect and destruction of conservation aids and practices as they were used. The rebuilding will be interesting to watch.

The district and area plowing matches are being held in the near future to select winners for the State Field day and plowing matches to be held near Guthrie Center in September. We hope there will be a full slate of entries. Plan to attend; there will be an opportunity to view new applications of conservation that may be of use in other districts in Iowa. It is also an excellent time to visit with your conservation friends.

The members of the various committees should be thinking of subjects and problems to discuss at the time of the Davenport meeting. Remember, all districts can participate in the meeting, whether their dues are paid or not. Only voting and participating in the business sessions are limited to members in good standing.



By Mrs. Wayne C. Mark  
President, Ladies' Auxiliary

Iowa farm women are such busy people during the summer! Last month I did not get my column written—I was so busy! We had two boys graduating from high school; our Norwegian Son Ole Kurt Ugland, who had lived with us an entire school year, left to return home,—and of course we must give and attend several parties in his honor;—our oldest son came home from college; our third son left for camp; company arrived; besides the actual farming and gardening made life at the Mark Farm interesting indeed!

All that activity at our home made me think that we should practice another kind of conservation—the conservation of ourselves and our families.

Take a few minutes each morning and afternoon to sit down and relax, sip a cool drink or a cup of coffee, (if that be your

preference). The work will be finished faster and smoother after this rest period.

Take a lunch to the field for the men in midafternoon. It will get them off the machinery, refreshing and relaxing them—thus reducing the chance for accidents due to fatigue.

Plan a simple picnic on the lawn—a relaxing touch to a busy day.

Take time to look at your flowers or those of your neighbor's during the early evening. Coax your husband to go along! You'll both enjoy the fellowship.

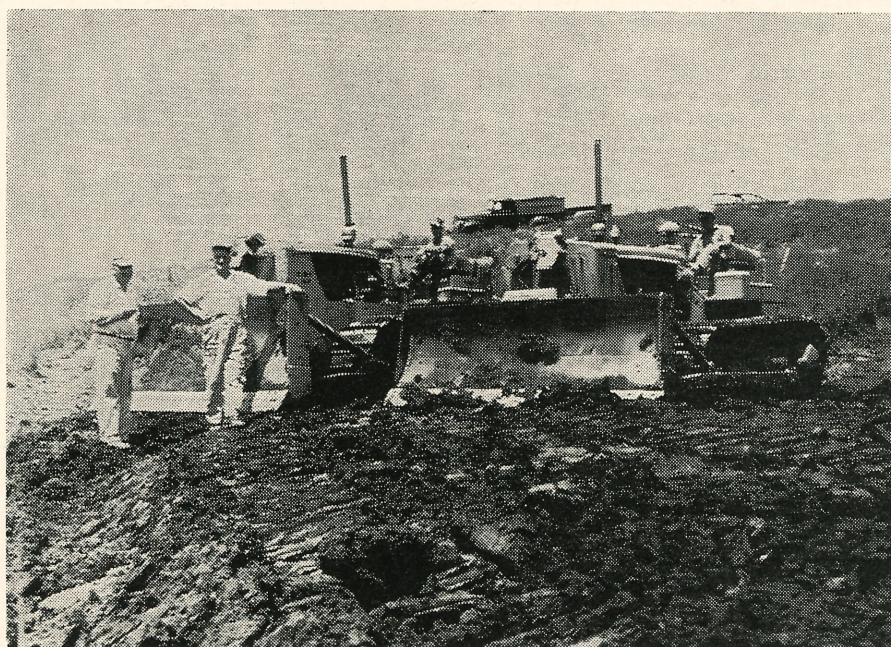
Be sure the whole family attends the Regional Speech Contest in your area. You'll gain new ideas and inspiration from the youth who speak on "How Soil and Water Conservation Affects My Future."

I hope these ideas help you through a hot, busy summer. For if we do not conserve the energy, health, and safety of ourselves and our families, we will not be able to adequately carry out Soil and Water practices to save our beautiful land for future generations.

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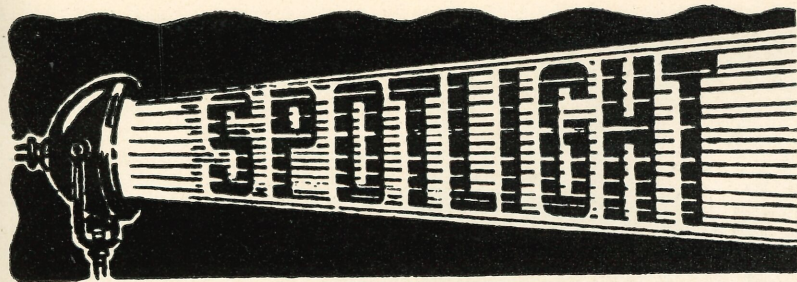


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Monroe County Soil Conservation District Commissioners, left to right: Bob McGinnis of Albia, treasurer; J. E. Spencer, chairman, Albia; Pat A. Carbin, member from Melrose.

## Meet Iowa Commissioners--- Conservation Minded People From Monroe Soil District

### QUEEN OF CONSERVATION—

(Continued from page 4)

nomics. She is a cheerleader and top baton twirler in the band.

Patty is active in her local 4-H club and is a county officer in Clarke county at the present time. She has won several blue ribbons for demonstrations given at county fairs and has won numerous awards.

Patty will now compete with the winners of eight other regional contests at the state finals to be held at the Plowman's Banquet, Guthrie Center, Iowa, on September 15th.

The "Queen of Conservation" will also reign over all activities at the State Soil Conservation Districts Field Day and Plowing Matches to be held near Guthrie Center on September 16th.

The contest is co-sponsored by the Soil Conservation Districts of Iowa and the Farmers Grain Dealers Association of Iowa (Co-operative), Des Moines, Iowa.

I wish to thank all those who assisted in making the Region 6 "Queen of Conservation" Contest one of the finest in the state.

The Contestants and their Parents were grateful for the fine treatment they received.

Mr. Cecil Gillispie,  
Director, Region 6

### BOB MCGINNIS District Commissioner And Treasurer

Bob McGinnis and his wife, Betty, own and operate a 240 acre farm. They have a herd of 40 Black Angus cows and raise about 100 head of hogs per year.

Their children are Robert, 12; and Barbara, 9, with Robert active in 4-H work.

Bob has been a District Commissioner for 4 years, a member of the Hilton Methodist Church, voting delegate of the Monroe County Farm Bureau, Farmer director of Farm Service Board, and past president of the Monroe County Farm Bureau. His hobby is playing the trombone.

### JOHN SPENCER Chairman of District Commissioners

John Spencer was elected a commissioner in 1958 and became the Chairman later in the same year. He and his wife, Wretha, operate 120 acres at the southwest edge of Albia. John has a dairy herd and pasteurizes and sells bottled milk, both at the farm and on a route. He is also assisted by his son, Richard, and his son-in-law, C. R. Davis, who sells milk from his herd to Mr. Spencer and who runs the delivery unit.

The Spencers have five children, all grown and married; Earline, Rosemary, Carol, Bob and Dick.

John is Chairman of the Agriculture Committee of the Albia Chamber of Commerce, Township committeeman for the A.S.C. and a member of the Monroe County Fair Board.

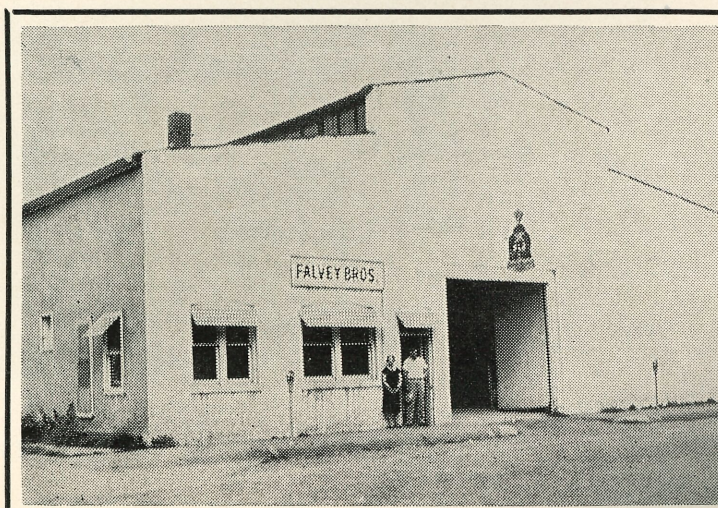
### PAT A. CARBIN District Commissioner

Mr. Carbin owns a 240 acre farm, and also operates a 160 acre farm belonging to his sister, Mary. He has been a Commissioner for six years and was recently re-elected to another six-year term. He is a member of St. Patrick's church at Melrose, Iowa, where he has been an organist.

Pat's farm, as well as his sister's, is under a complete conservation plan with ponds, a structure and multiflora rose fences, as well as terracing and contouring. He also has considerable birdsfoot trefoil pasture.

His hobby is playing piano in a dance orchestra.

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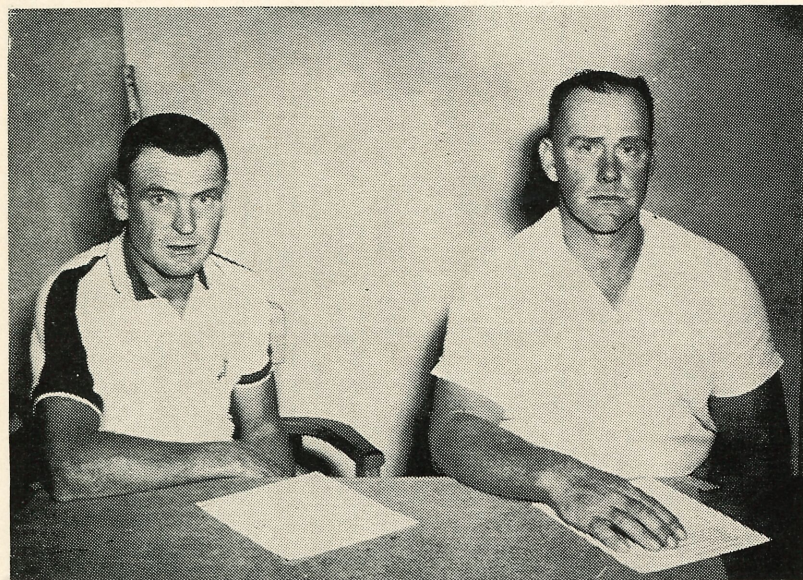
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# Monroe Soil District Assistant Commissioners



Monroe District Assistant commissioners, left to right: John L. Ryan, Melrose and Dallas Faber, Moravia. John L. Ryan farms south of Melrose. He owns share of 200 acres with a brother and operates an additional 210 acres of rented land. Dallas Faber owns and operates 219 acres in Urbana township.



Francis Hamilton, assistant commissioner, owns and operates 151 acres near Hiteman and also operates 107 acres of his mother's land.

farming and this must be added to as one goes along from day to day.

Will we sometime find we have used up our surplus and also have no more trained farmers; that we are left with badly depleted farm lands because soil and water conservation has not been practiced? Then will we have to start a crash program to train farmers and to conserve our soil and increase our crop production?

**Commissioners  
Annual Conference  
will be held in  
Davenport, Iowa,  
at the Hotel  
Blackhawk.**

**Plan to bring your  
wife and attend  
Your Conference  
SEPTEMBER  
18, 19, 20, 1960.**

## Editorial

### Local Ownership And Use

By Dale Barker

Work Unit Conservationist, S.C.S.

Who will own and farm the land in Monroe County in 1975?

With the majority of farmers over 50 years of age and many of them over 60 years of age, the problem of future ownership and operation of Monroe county farms becomes a question. These men have raised families and the children have left the farms for town jobs. There has long been the trend for surplus farm children to go to town to work, but now they all go.

Now how does this affect Monroe county?

Conservation wise many of these people are interested only in living on as they have. They are not interested or able to do more work to make more money. And who would blame them.

The Conservation needs study made in Monroe county shows that about one half of the county agricultural land should be in permanent improved pasture or woodland, and the remainder in Iowa Soil & Water

cropland. To bring this about takes times and no small amount of money. Will the next owners of Monroe county land be interested in maximum production from each acre of land and have the financial means to get it? Can young men be interested in investing and borrowing the money to start a farm operation when industry pays the salaries it presently does and involves no risk of capital?

There is growing concern among farmers and others as to who will operate these farms, or if some farms will be idle. It is easy to see what the effect on the economy of Monroe county, its stores, implement dealers and others will be if farms are left idle.

This situation is not only in Monroe County but is also present throughout southern and southeastern Iowa and to a lesser degree in all Iowa and surrounding states.

Farmers or their wives are taking full or part time jobs in industry in order to add to their income and thus keep their standard of living on a comparable basis with their town and city friends.

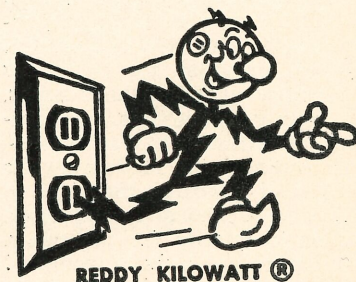
With the movement of all young people to towns is it possible we may run out of farmers? Farming is an occupation of many skills, requiring many decisions of varied nature to be made daily. Truly a part of a lifetime is needed to acquire the knowhow of

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# Monroe County A S C



Monroe County A.S.C. committee, left to right: Wayne Clark, regular member; Philip J. O'Brien, chairman; Walter E. Gardner, vice-chairman.

## A.S.C.

By Mary Ellen Anderson  
Monroe County ASC Office  
Albia, Iowa

The county office, an agency of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, serves Monroe County landowners and farm operators.

Through this office four major programs are administered. Monroe county farmers' income in 1959 was increased \$450,036 by participating in these programs, therefore, benefits received through this agency reach the business district as well as the rural area. (1) The Agricultural Conservation Program provides that the Federal Government share approximately 50% of the cost with the farmers for carrying out approved soil and water conservation practices in accordance with the provisions and regulation as set forth for this particular program.

There were 321 farmers participating in this particular program in 1959 and earned a total of \$83,210 in cost sharing payments. (2) The Wool Payment Program provides for payments on shorn wool and unshorn lambs. The county office has responsibility of informing wool growers including lamb feeders on the methods of handling the sales of wool and unshorn lambs in a manner to qualify for payments. This applies to all shorn wool and unshorn lambs marketed on or after April 1, 1956. There were 257 producers, who participated in this program last year and received payments totaling \$37,136.

Page 8

(3) The objective of the Conservation Reserve Program is to assist farmers to divert some of the land currently being used for the production of agricultural commodities into specific conservation uses. Including the 1959 year, 125 farms have been placed in the soil bank program. Payments made to these cooperators last year totaled \$87,753.

(4) Under the price support program, producers are permitted to place grain under loan at a basic county support rate. All farm storage, warehouse storage loans and purchases under purchase agreements will be made at the support rates established for the county. For the 1959 crop year, 259 producers have participated in this program. Producers during 1959 received \$15,000 for stor-



Monroe County ASC office personnel, left to right, seated: Mary Joanne Wasko, Price Support and Administrative clerk; Mary Anderson, Office Manager. Left to right, standing: Alexina Edwards, ACP clerk; June Rouse, AAA and MQ and Conservation Reserve clerk.

ing grain on their farms by re-sealing such grain for an additional year.

The office supervises all grain delivery, and maintenance of corn stored at the bin sites.

The county office appreciates this opportunity to report on some of its programs in order that better understanding may be reached as to the part the ASC contributes to Soil and Water Conservation in the county.

— o —  
**A Farm is  
As Big As  
Its Power to  
Produce.**

The plain truth is that Americans, as a people, have never learned to love the land and to regard it as an enduring resource. They have seen it only as a field for exploitation and a source of immediate financial return.

Dr. Hugh H. Bennett

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# Soil Conservation Service and State Personnel

## Assisting Monroe District



SCS Engineering Staff. Seated: Clarence R. Beem, Area Engineer. Standing, left to right: Melvin Sinclair, Engineering Aid; Thomas J. Brown, Agricultural Engineer.



Monroe Soil District personnel, left to right, standing: John Botts, conservation aid; Joe Evans, conservation aid and Lyle Cloyd, state aid. Seated: Dale Barker, work unit conservationist for S.C.S.

The Monroe Soil Conservation District was organized by the farmers in the County for the purpose of encouraging and assisting in the Conservation of our Soil and Water.

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Albia, Iowa



# Monroe County Extension Service



John J. Young, County Extension Director for Monroe County.



Margaret Herring, Monroe County Home Economist.



Mary Lou Rinehart, Office Assistant in the Monroe County Extension office.

## Resource Management of Prime Importance

By John J. Young  
Extension Director

Managing of the soil and water resources in Monroe county has always received a very high priority in the Extension Pro-

gram. This is true both in the past and in the future as is emphasized in the five year projected county program.

Management is a major area of concern in the Extension educa-

tional program and certainly soil and water management is an important aspect of this total picture.

There are a great many changes taking place in the agricultural field in Monroe county. In order to efficiently and effectively plan for this the Extension Council has just completed a program to extend for five years. More than 100 county leaders took part in this project. Conservation and use of Natural Resources is one area in this projected program. The areas of concern within this segment of the program are as

1. Encourage and assist a group sponsoring the establishment of a county conservation board.

2. Stress pasture improvement as a conservation practice through a pasture contest with special emphasis for participation concentrated within the Cedar Creek Watershed area.

3. Emphasize pond management, also a fishing clinic for the

improvement of this sport.

4. Encourage timber management and the use of this resource by means of a post treating clinic.

Extension has always assisted with work being done in the area of soil and water conservation, this is true in the past and will be true in the future.

The Monroe County Extension personnel includes John J. Young, County Extension Director, Margaret Herring, County Extension Home Economist and Mary Lou Rinehart, Office Assistant.

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and Plowing  
Matches Sept.  
16th at Guthrie  
Center, Ia.



# State Soil Conservation Committee



James Foster, Past Soil District Commissioner for Monroe District and presently farmer member of the State Soil Conservation Committee.

husking peg cost 25c. The boys and girls in my family used wooden pegs. Our power was a team of horses or mules hitched to a walking plow, and we raised 40 bushel of corn per acre. Today the cost of growing an acre of corn is 40 bushel; adding that to our high standard of living it is very true we are forced to take a second look at this soil. The experiments from the Extension Service and many farmers prove that a good program of pasture renovation brings a higher return per acre than grain cropping on much of the land in Monroe county as well as many other parts of the State.

For instance, the results from our own Albia Pasture farm last year showed that by rotating grazing of yearling steers on alfalfa and orchard grass, they could get an additional 227 lbs. more beef per acre than they could by grazing blue grass. In the fall of 1959, fat cattle were selling for \$25 to \$27 per hundred weight. After considering price of cattle and the additional beef per acre, it is easy to understand the Albia farm manager, Floyd Ransom's comment, "We made more money from our pastures this year than we did our corn crop. We didn't have what I would call a crop failure either. Our corn yielded 80 to 90 bushels per acre."

If our soil is to be grain cropped, then preserving the soil is paramount. Thousands of Iowa farm families are doing just that on their own individual farms. They have proved it over and over that soil conservation does not cost—it pays.

We also have a great number of Iowa farm people who have banded together in small groups in their respective watersheds to combat the erosion and destruction of property and lives that is caused by uncontrolled water and mal-farming practices. Through this watershed program, city people, farmers, local, state and federal governments unite in an all-out effort to combat the elements.

We, too, in Monroe county can have a going watershed as other communities over the state, if we want it bad enough. It isn't an idle dream—floods on our local streams can be prevented. Ugly gullies can be healed. As land treatment is carried out soil and water can be conserved for today and tomorrow. It is the soil and water that makes Iowa "King State" in growing food. From this income our schools, businesses and churches are built and maintained. It is Iowa soil and water that makes our state first in the events of our nation.

## SOIL CONSERVATION IN IOWA

By James W. Foster  
Member State Soil Conservation Committee

The time is here when we should take a second look at our soil from which comes our food and the greater part of Monroe county and the state of Iowa's wealth. We have only farmed this soil a short 120 years. It is evident that the Creator who created it took a longer view for the people of the world than we have. When the Creator created the earth he gave man dominion over it. Man has the power to improve and enrich the soil or erode and lay waste. Power brings responsibility and man can no more evade this responsibility than he can change manhood.

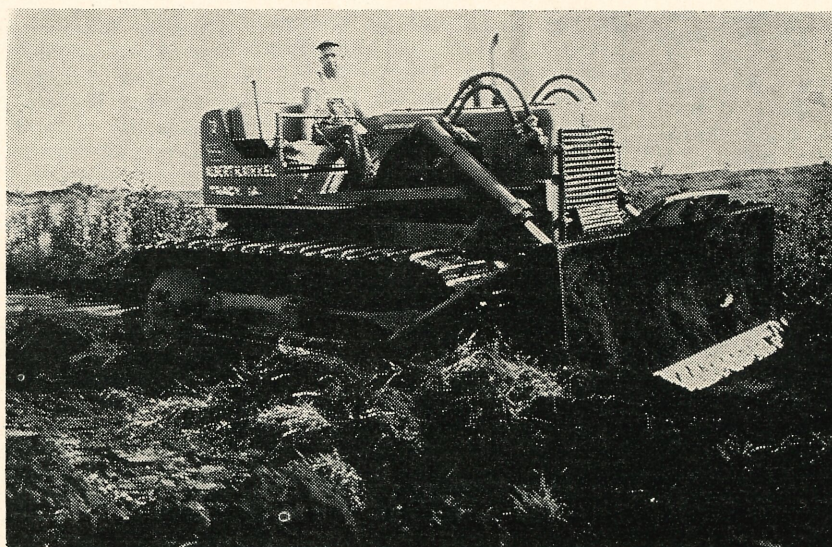
Some people often find it difficult to accept new methods of farming.

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.

It is startling when we think of the changes that have taken place since we first started tilling and tickling our soil for food. At the turn of the century, an all-steel Iowa Soil & Water

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# FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION



Monroe County Farmers Home Administration Committee, left to right, standing: Cecil G. Murphy, Harold Mason, Kenneth Free, committee chairman. Seated: Dean Schlapia, County Supervisor. Reverend Donald Gruber, pastor of the Evangelical United Brethren Church, Albia, Iowa.

## Farmers Home Administration

By D. Dean Schlapia  
County Supervisor

Farmers Home Administration services to Monroe county farmers includes Operating, Farm Ownership, Farm Housing and Soil and Water Conservation loans.

Operating loans are primarily to help eligible operators of family-type farms to acquire necessary livestock, farm machinery and other items essential to his particular farm operations. These loans also provide funds for the purchase of seed, feed, fertilizer and other farm operating expenses as well as for refinancing existing indebtedness on livestock and farm machinery. Operating loans bear 5% interest and can be made for a period of seven years.

Farm Ownership loans can be made to meet a variety of situations. They provide funds for the purchase of farms, adding land to present farms, or refinancing existing contracts or mortgages against farm real estate. Funds for improving land, buildings and fences can also be included in addition to the purchase of land or refinancing. These loans bear 5% interest and can be made for a maximum of 40 years.

Farm Housing loans are available at 4% interest with a maxi-

mum repayment of 33 years and can be secured by either first or second mortgages. This loan enables the farmer to obtain credit to improve living conditions for his family as well as necessary livestock and grain shelter. Funds are limited to improvements to be made only on the farmstead. It could include a well, water system or modernizing the farm home.

To preserve the soil and conserve the water is the objective of the Soil and Water Conservation loans. Funds can be used to build terraces, waterways, erosion control structures, improve pastures and other practices recommended by the Soil Conservation Service. These loans bear 5% interest and can be scheduled for repayment not to exceed 20 years. They can be secured by a chattel mortgage and are also available to tenants providing they have a specific clause in their farm lease. S&W loans are also available to associations to establish watersheds.

The FHA program provides credit for farmers who are unable to obtain adequate credit from local sources. The County Office is located in Centerville with sub-office in the Albia Post Office Building.

# Soil Stewardship



Rev. Donald Gruber.

## SOIL IS LIFE!!

Sermon by Rev. Donald Gruber  
Albia, Iowa

There is a thin veneer which covers the earth's surface, much like the skin of our human bodies. This veneer has within its province, life or death for all living things, both plant and animal. This thin layer is called SOIL. It is much thinner even than the skin of our bodies, in proportion to the size of the earth, yet just as absolutely necessary for the continuation of life.

Soil is Life! Life for everyone whether we live on a farm or in a city. Whether we are farmers or whether we are merchants; whether we are doctors or whether we are school teachers. ALL life depends upon the Soil. Have you ever noticed that there are no cities in the desert? Did you know that the state of Nevada has only 2 cities above 10,000 population, and both of these, Las Vegas and Reno, live primarily on tourist trade.

There are some areas in the world that were once productive, which are now barren and lifeless. Palestine, the land of the Bible, was once spoken of as the "land of milk and honey." It is today largely a desert area. There are deserts on five of the six inhabited continents and they cover one fourth of the land surface of the earth. And the alarming thing is, that to some extent, deserts are man made. When top soil washes away. When wind erosion blows away other top soil. When timber is irresponsibly slaughtered. When the land is exploited for gain without regard to returning and replenishing its life giving properties. We

set up conditions that could turn even the richest of our lands into barren desert.

It has been both a Jewish and Christian concept that this is God's earth and world. (Ps. 24:1) (Gen. 1:28) We are stewards, whether we are owners or renters, whether tenants or landlords, whether we are farmers directly related to the soil, or whether we are merchants or professional men indirectly related to it. We all have a stake in the future depending upon our Stewardship or our lack of it. If man fails the soil, and if soils fail the nation, not only will men go hungry, but the fires of industry will die out and their machines will rust away. Despair and hunger will then move into our homes—as it has moved into the home of other lands and people. **Profits made at the expense of the soil not only jeopardize the nation, but are a disgrace of irresponsibility to God.** The inevitable steady increase in the population of the earth casts an increasing responsibility upon the men who till the soil. The present problem of surpluses, largely a result of hybrid crops and commercial fertilizers, is certainly only temporary. We may not live to inherit the privations that result from neglect and misuse of the soil, but what a disgraceful legacy it would be to will our children and grandchildren an unproductive land with a ballooning population.

It is very plain to see, therefore, that the work of soil and water conservation is a noble work. A God-given task, engaged

—Continued on page 16

Iowa Soil & Water





## Soil Conservation Protects Your Land . . . County Mutual Insurance Protects Your Farm



A farm is worthless without its fertile top soil. And your farm buildings, your equipment and livestock, could also be worthless in event of disaster — without insurance! That's why the farmers of the area banded together years ago to provide the kind of insurance you need — at rates you can afford. Result: your own County Mutual Insurance Association. Is your most valuable possession — your farm — adequately protected?

*see your neighbor — the COUNTY MUTUAL agent!*

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# Conservation Education



Mrs. Jessie H. Howells, Science Teacher, Albia Junior High School.

## Science Conservation

By Mrs. Jessie H. Howells

The teaching of science in the Albia Junior High School for the past twelve years has been my privilege. I have seen many changes take place both in the approach to the subject and the type of material taught. Since the advent of the Russian satellite the emphasis in science have reached new highs.

Material now taught in junior high school formally was taught in senior high. Conservation has taken on greater importance because of our exploding population and the ever increasing demands on our natural resources.

Because teaching deals with urban as well as rural students, and girls as well as boys, it is sometimes difficult to make such topics as reforestation, cover crops, legumes, contour plowing, terracing and water tables interesting.

The students, by the time they reach seventh and eighth grades, have some background in the subject of conservation and some feel that it is "old stuff." I try to stimulate interest by actual contact, as well as classroom experiments in conservation.

I am a firm believer in teaching the students an awareness of their every day surroundings and because we live in Monroe county in south central Iowa I believe it is important to teach why our country is as it is.

The seventh grade classes are usually taken on a field trip. In

taking one class division at a time I have closer contact with a smaller group. In preparation for the field trip we study units on nature of soils, soil formation, soil erosion, conservation practices such as crop rotation, terracing, strip and contour farming, types of fertilizers, water and its control, and last but not most important, the relation of soil fertility to the family, the church, the school, the community, the state, and the nation. During our field trip the class observes as many of the above as possible. There is always an evaluation in the classroom and from this I have found the field trip always creates much interest as well as a valuable source of information.

We have a splendid strip film library in our junior high school. Quite a number of films on conservation practices are included and are shown as a part of the culminating activity. We also have access to many slides from our county conservation office which show actual pictures of Monroe county farms taken before and after conservation practices have been applied. This always creates an interest because many of the farms are familiar.

The eighth grade studies the geology of Monroe county. The students learn why Monroe county soil is easily eroded and why good conservation practices must be followed because of the type of soil known as loess which, when left uncovered, gets away from us.

# Iowa Lawmaker Practices Conservation



Mrs. Katherine M. Falvey, State Representative for Monroe County.

## The Great Need for Soil Conservation in Monroe County

By Mrs. Katherine M. Falvey

The beautiful rolling hills and gentle slopes of Monroe county, make the work of the soil conservationist vitally necessary.

On the state level, as a legislator, my task was to see that an appropriation was made to implement this great service and \$100,000.00 was approved by the fifty-eighth General Assembly for this purpose.

As farm manager for Falvey Brother's farm, I have worked closely with our soil conservationists, Dale Barker and John Botts, who blue-printed our farm for every conservation practice from crop rotation to grass waterways and drainage ponds. By cooperating with the conservation and soils commissions, our ponds are stocked with game fish and will be rimmed with multi-

flora rose as a refuge for wild life.

As a nation, we are deeply concerned with crop surpluses in this area, but in another decade, we will have reversed our problems. The predicted increase in our country's population as well as that of the entire world, will make the farmer, the conservationist and the legislator partners in a united effort to feed the peoples of the world and at the same time to preserve the fertility of the soil for future generations.

King David in Psalm 24, verse 1, said, "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof: the world and they that dwell therein."

We are stewards of this great trust. Let us not fail to preserve it for all time.

To me, conservation is not taught as a separate unit or something to be taught and laid aside. An awareness of our need to practice conservation should be in every lesson every day. The conservation of our natural resources means our very life, and students need to be brought face to face with the startling facts and also the remedies. America has and is wasting her very life

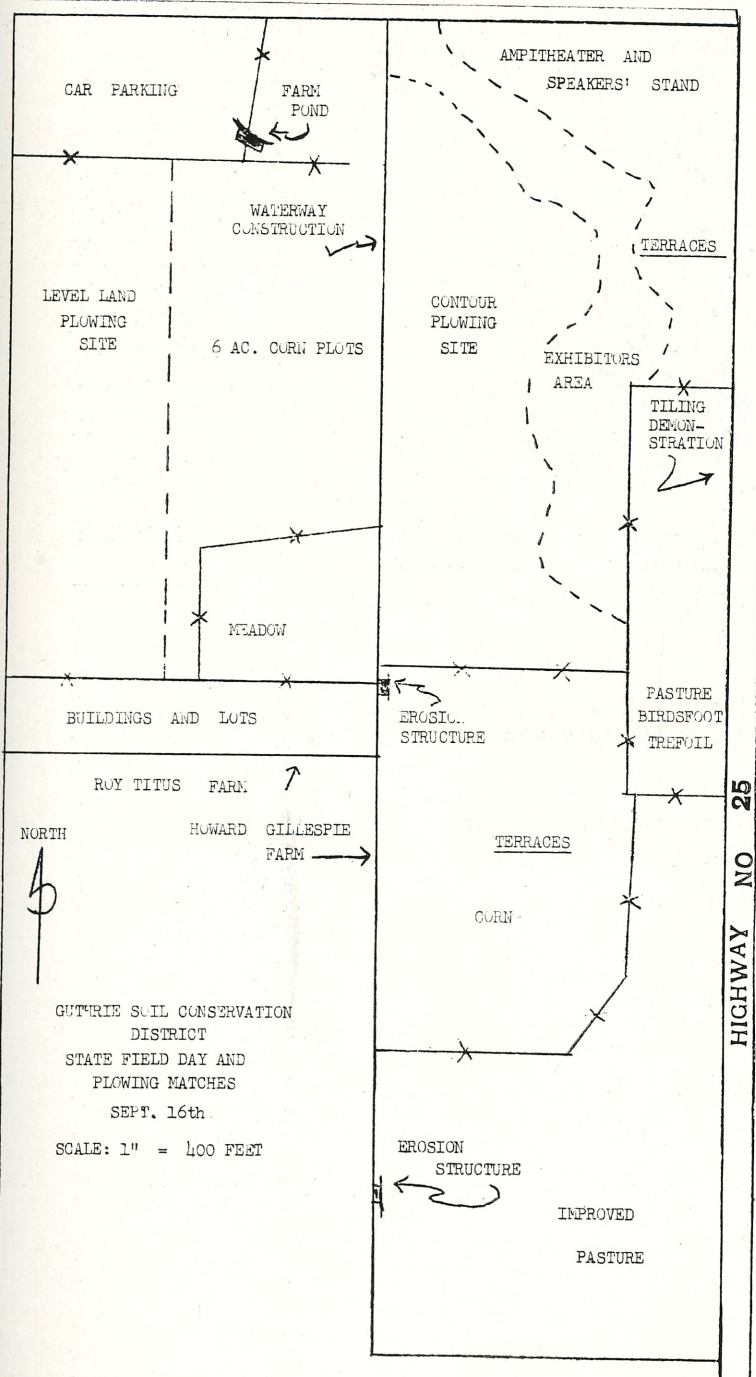
blood, and our students of today will be the adults of tomorrow who will ask—WHY?

In conclusion, we might ask how does science tie in with conservation and I feel that these students will know from their instruction and observations that—Science is a Way to Solve Problems, and Conservation is Getting the Problems Solved.

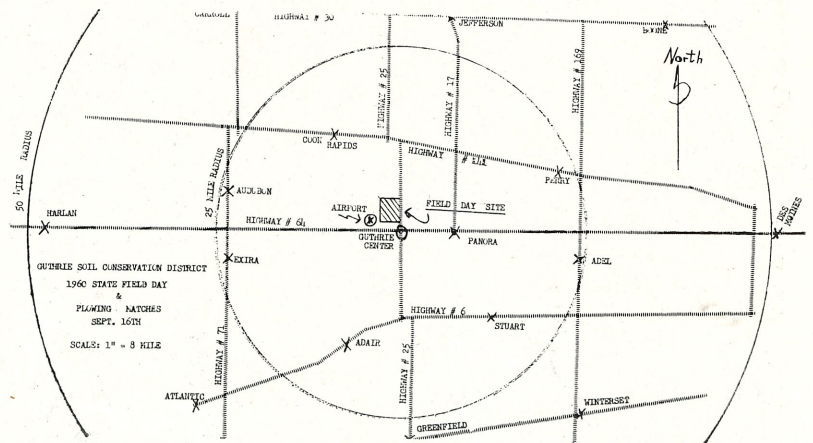
Iowa Soil & Water



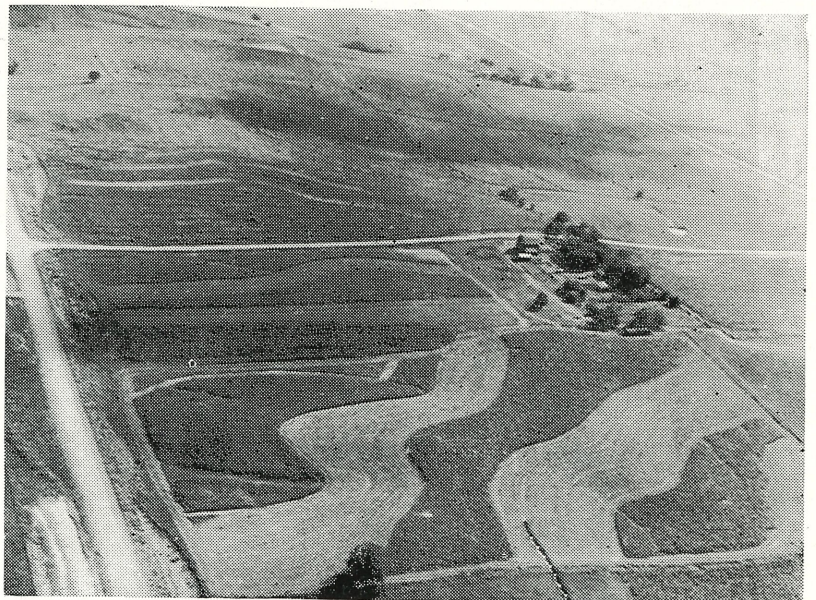
# State Conservation Field Day and Plowing Matches Sept. 16, 1960



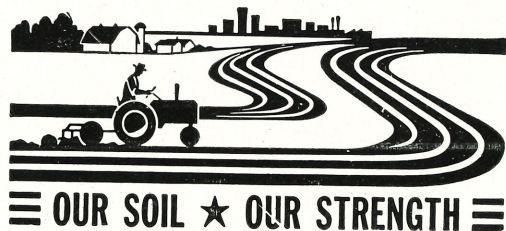
Map of Field Day site on the Roy Titus and Howard Gillespie farms near Guthrie Center, Iowa.



Map locating Field Day and Plowing Matches in Iowa for the 1960 Event.



Aerial view of Parralel Terraces at the field day site and strip cropping just north of headquarters area near Guthrie Center, Iowa.

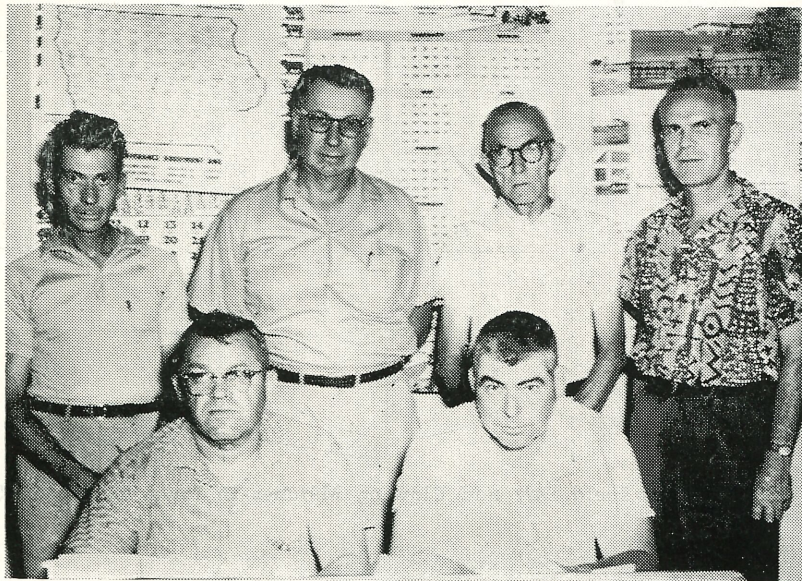


**You may secure tickets to the Plowmen's Banquet, the evening of Sept. 15th, by writing to the Guthrie County Farm Bureau, Guthrie Center, Iowa.**

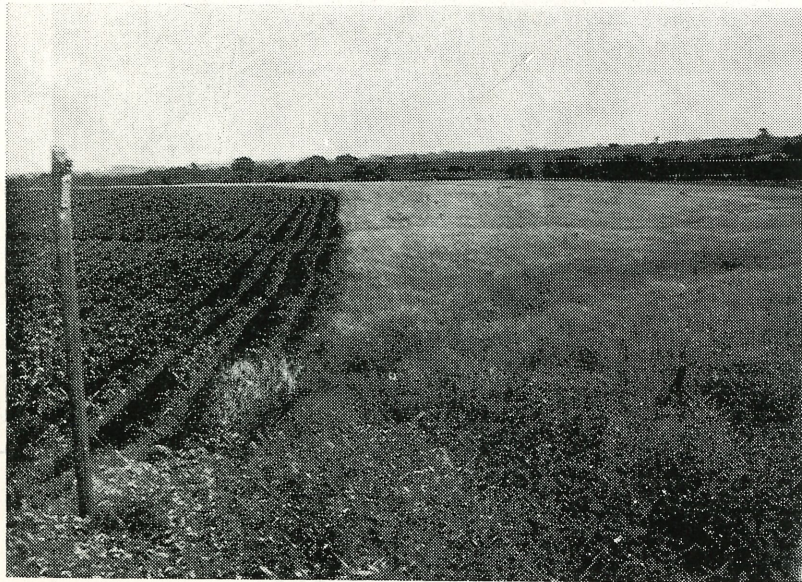
**The State winner of the Queen of Conservation will be selected at this Banquet and reign as Queen at the Field Day the 16th.**



# Monroe County Conservation Board



Monroe County Conservation Board, left to right, seated: L. A. Briggs, vice chairman; Joe Evans, chairman. Left to right, standing: Dallas Kerns, Clifford Davis, Charles Fowler, sec.-treas.; W. A. Rush, State co-ordinator of county conservation activities.



Contour field Division on farm tenanted by Louis Kristof.

# State Conservation Commission



John W. Horton, Conservation Officer for the State Conservation Commission.

## LOOKING AHEAD

By John W. Horton  
Conservation Officer

Hunting in the native woods in search of game, and fishing in clear streams was, to our forefathers, a means of securing food necessary to human survival. Even while maintaining constant vigil against danger, it can be supposed these first Americans experienced the same thrill at flushing a covey of quail, or the pull of a fish on a line that we do today. At the present time, and in the future, young and old alike now do their hunting and fishing under vastly different conditions and purely for enjoyment and recreation. We, the people of America, are most fortunate in being able to use our leisure time in this way as very few people in the world today can do. If we guard our heritage through proper conservation, we can look forward to generations of abundant game and fish. In order to

insure this rosy prospect, we can all do at least 3 things:

1. Fish and hunt according to the seasons as prescribed by our State Conservation Commission.
2. Strive to clean up our polluted streams by caring for our land to prevent run-off, and by urging our municipalities and factories to help keep our streams free from waste.
3. Insure cover for our game birds and animals by planting a type of hedge, such as Multiflora Rose, that provides a natural habitat.

By these simple measures, the old comment, "You can't catch fish or hunt the way you could when I was a boy," may well be modified to, "This is better fishing and hunting than we used to have. Now, let's keep it that way."

—o—

## SOIL STEWARDSHIP—

(Continued from page 12)

in by every conscientious farmer. Through such efforts as contour farming and terracing, strip farming and tiling, crop rotation and irrigation, the building of ponds and dams and watersheds, great progress is being made to stem the tide towards our land becoming a lifeless desert. It is hard to realize by simply looking at a sample of black dirt, that in it and its life giving properties lies the destiny of the human race. But such is inevitably the case. **All that lives depends upon this thin layer of top-soil. Soil is life. It is the lifeblood of the human race. It is a sacred trust from God. Let's use it with that in mind. And let us do all we can to preserve it and replenish it as God has instructed us.**

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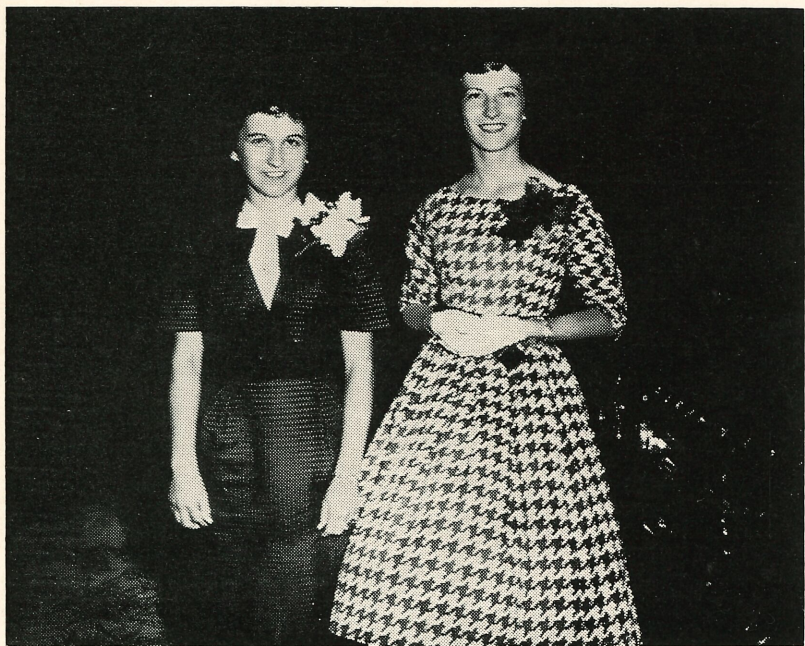
# Queen of Conservation

WINNER — REGION 6



Miss Patty Gray, Clark District.

## MONROE DISTRICT ENTRIES



Miss Connie McAninch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James McAninch of Melrose and Miss Shirley Ryan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clark Ryan of Melrose.

## Diversion Terraces

By John A. Botts  
Conservation Aid, S.C.S.  
Monroe County District

The diversion terrace is the "Work horse" of the conservation practices. The three principal uses for diversion terraces in Monroe District are: to divert water from gullies that are being shaped for grassed waterways, often they are employed to add or reduce the drainage area for a pond, and Iowa Soil & Water

keep hill water off of bottomland fields. However, the latter of the three is most often used in this area.

There are thousands of acres of bottomland fields being protected today by this versatile conservation practice. They are simple to build with heavy equipment and come in a variety of sizes depending on the amount of water that is to be controlled in a given situation.

# Terraces



Soybeans planted on a newly built terrace on the DeWayne Johnson farm.



Terraced soybean field on Frank Bell farm.

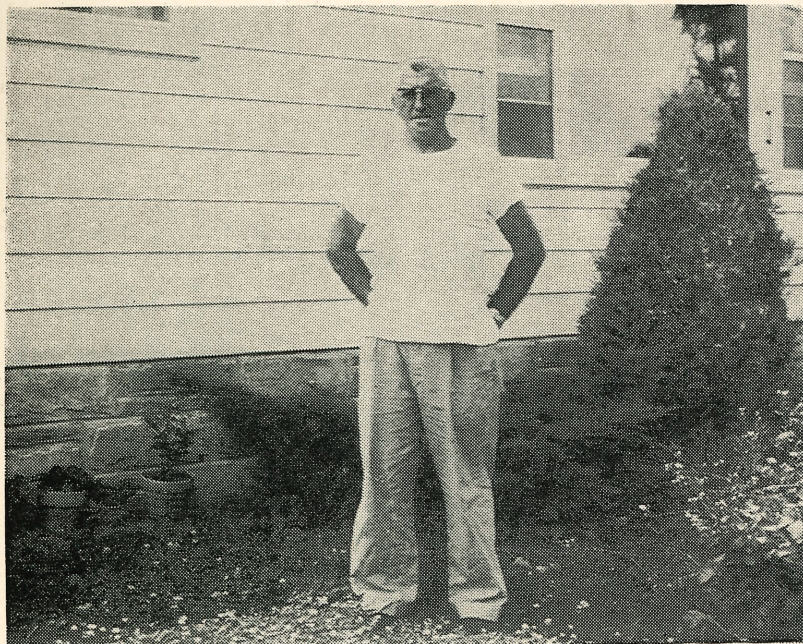
The diversion terrace is unlike its sister terrace, the standard position on the hill, nor is it a standard size or grade. It may be placed in the middle of a hill or at the base of the slope. It may be four feet high or one foot high. Whatever the need, it can be constructed to meet the situation.

Many fields along our major streams need this practice to

reach their full capacity as crop acres. Even in normal seasons, the extra wetness on these fields caused by the hill water often delays planting until the crop becomes a high risk venture. But, with the protection provided with the low cost diversion terrace, many farmers have found the difference in yields by planting on schedule, will often pay for the construction the first crop year.



# Future Farmers of America



Howard Willson, Voc-Ag. Instructor, Albia, Iowa

## VOC. AG. AND F.F.A. ACTIVITIES

By Howard Willson

Vocational Agriculture Instructor  
Albia, Iowa

The Vocational Agriculture Department was organized when I came to Albia high school in 1941. There were sixty-three boys enrolled the first year. We now have sixty students in the three day classes: Farm Crops and Soils, Animal Husbandry, and Farm Mechanics and Management.

The Albia F.F.A. Chapter was chartered December 24, 1941. Our Chapter has been represented by delegates at all but one of the State F.F.A. Conventions. Over the past years, twelve chapter members have received the Iowa Farmer Degree at the convention.

The Chapter has been active in F.F.A. Contests which include the Freshman Creed Speaking, Extemporaneous, Public Speaking, Parliamentary Procedure and Chapter Program of Work. Many times our Chapter contestant has competed with members from other chapters on the state level.

Other chapter activities included a rodent hunt during the winter. The morning and afternoon classes compete, with the losers entertaining the winners to a chili supper.

In our high school each fall, the FFA and FHA groups have held a hayride, which has become an important part of our social and recreational activities.

Members have participated in the Safe Corn Harvest Program

the past two years. They feel their efforts in this project have been very worthwhile.

The Chapter has also been represented by its officers at the National FFA Convention held in Kansas City in October. The boys are very enthusiastic about this trip.

One of the highlights of the year has been the Parent and Son Banquet. This is usually held near February 22, which comes during National FFA week. The banquet is planned entirely by the boys themselves. Last year's banquet was the 15th annual affair. It was attended by one hundred forty-two boys, parents, and guests.

For the past several years, a soil judging contest has been held among the chapters in our sub-district. The schools included are Moravia, Centerville, Moulton, Seymour, Corydon, Garden Grove and Chariton.

Now back to the classroom work.

A large part of the instruction in the classroom concerns the soil. A study of the various land classes and their capability and productivity is made. When it is practical, the student will use his farm as the problem. Mapping the farm is the first requirement. Then the land classes are located—often with the aid of a Soil Conservation Farm Plan. A farm program is planned, based on the classes of soil and their productivity as found on the farm. The use of approved practices such as



Larry Dayton, Advisor to the Moravia Chapter of Future Farmers of America, front row, left, with his boys from the Moravia Chapter and their Chapter Queen, Miss Virginia Strong.

contouring, terracing, grassed waterways, gully control and fertilizers are studied. Other similar practices are also studied to learn to maintain and increase the productivity of the soil.

As a result of this study, one day one of the boys said, "We are convinced that various Soil Conservation measures need to be used on our farms. But, how can we get Dad on the ball?"

We wish to thank  
the Advertisers in this  
the August issue for  
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this magazine and  
Soil Conservation.

They made this magazine available  
to you the farmers. If you like the  
magazine, thank them for it.

The Commissioners

Iowa Soil & Water



# FARMING ON THE LEVEL

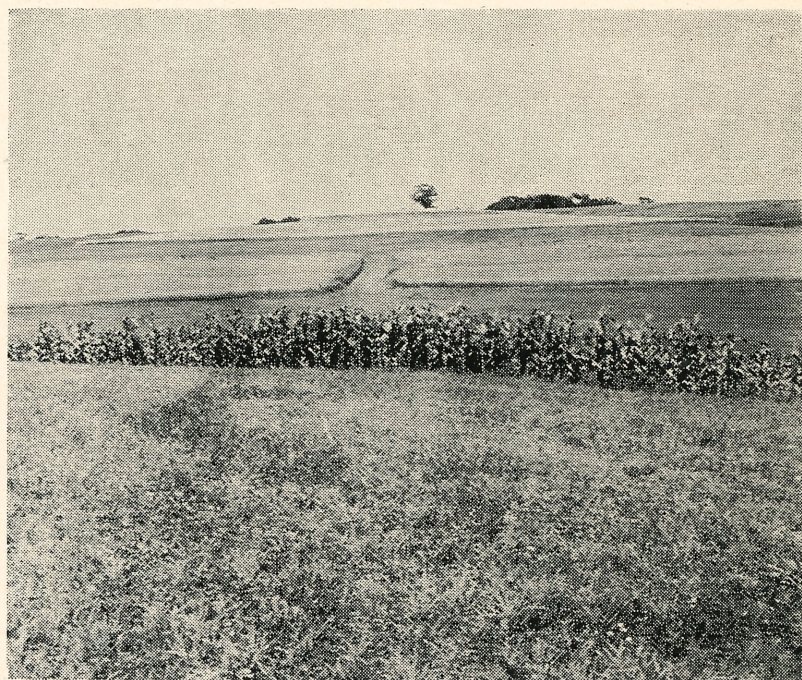


Contoured corn on the Newell Bros. farm near Eddyville



Contoured soybeans and grassed waterway on the Frank Bell farm.

# GRASSED WATERWAYS



View of contour strips and waterways on the Joe Evans farm in Monroe County.



A long established grass waterway on the Sam Shepard farm north of Albia.

***There is no possible way of stopping the silta-  
tion of our Reservoirs, Streams, Ditches and  
Harbors except with Soil Conservation.***

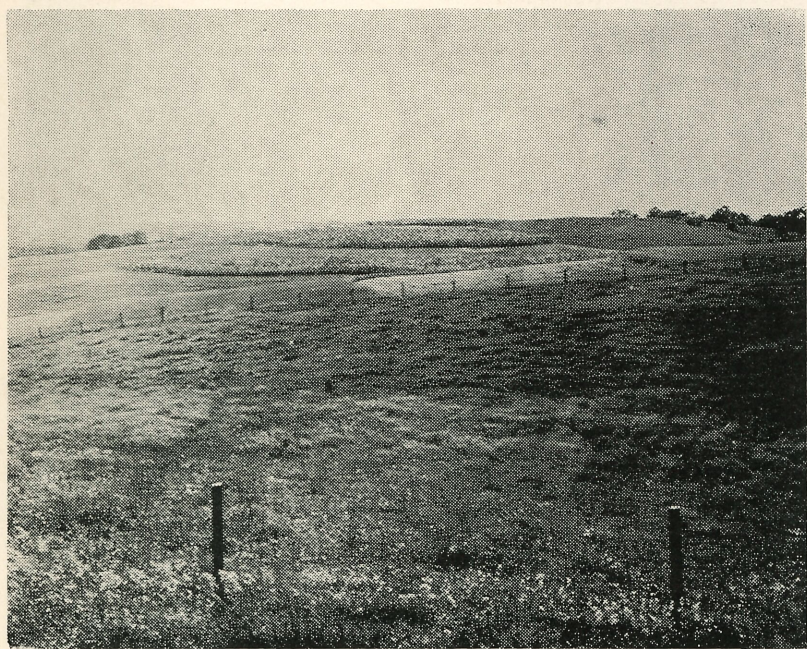
The Late Dr. Hugh H. Bennett



# Strip Cropping



The good looking group of young men and women above are Jim, John, Joey, Bill, Mary and "Beany" Evans, children of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Evans, farm family who own and farm northwest of Albia, Iowa. Notice contour strip cropping in the background. Everyone in the family is interested in soil conservation and Joe, a technician for the Monroe Soil District, practices what he preaches.



Contour strip cropping, one of the soil conserving practices used in Monroe Soil District, is pictured above. Photo was taken on the Joe Evans farm 5 miles northwest of Albia, Iowa. More farmers could use this practice in Monroe County to better conserve their topsoil.

The day is gone, if it ever existed, when the fact that an individual holds a deed to a piece of land gives him the moral right to destroy it through stupid, shortsighted farming practices.

Chester C. Davis

## THE WINNER!



U.S. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE



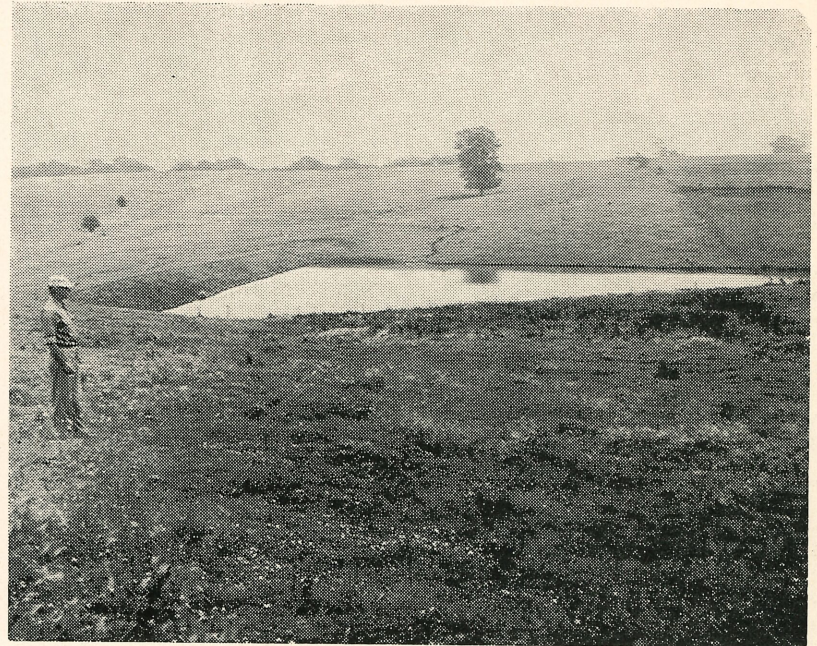
WHAT IS GOOD FOR THE SOIL ~  
~ IS GOOD FOR THE SOUL ~



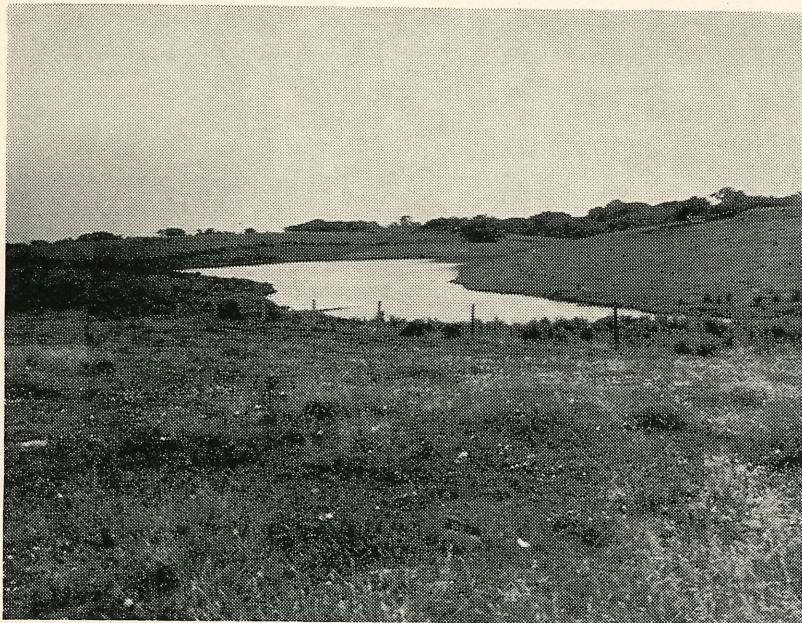
# Erosion Control Structures



Pat Corbin, Soil District Commissioner, viewing Drop-inlet on the Falvey Bros. farm in Wayne Township. This erosion control structure was built to control two severe over-falls. It contains 4600 cubic yards and was completed in 1958. This farm is managed by Mrs. L. A. Falvey, Monroe county's State Representative and operated by Ed Murphy.



Dale Barker looks at Bill Hagerman's drop-inlet structure. This controls a bad gully.



South branch of lake behind Ronald Goode's drop-inlet structure. This structure controls erosion on two different waterways, furnish livestock water, fishing, fire protection and easier access to fields on the left.



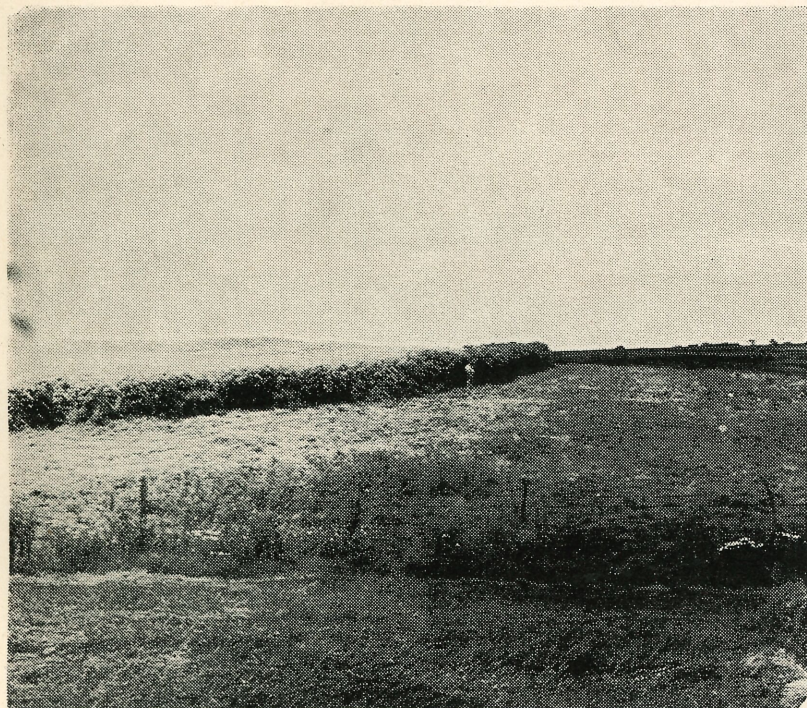
Drop-inlet structure on Harvey G. Kline farm. Evergreen trees beginning to show on left side.

**Starvation of the soil leads to Starvation of Plants which results in starvation of animals, including human beings.**

**A . G . KILBURN**



# Multiflora Rose The Living Fence



Multiflora Rose contour field division fence on the Pat A. Carbin farm in Jackson township. Notice the height of the Multiflora fence in comparison with Carbin. Pat has over two miles of Multiflora Rose field divisions on his farm.

# Tree Farming



Dale Barker, looking at eight-year-old stand of red pines on Chester Strait's Cooper Hill tree farm.

# Gully Control



Carl Proctor, Contractor of Blakesburg, Iowa, clearing site for a drop-inlet structure on George Leffler farm.

# Food and Recreation from our farm Ponds

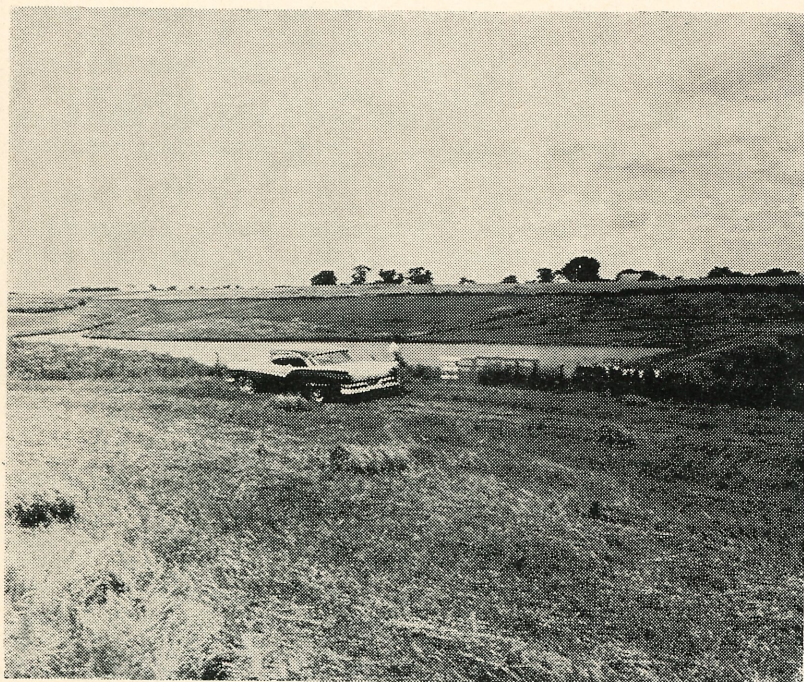


Vincent Scieszinski receives fish for his pond from Federal Fish and Wildlife Service truck. Left to right on ground: Dale Barker and Vincent Scieszinski, on truck left to right: John Botts, Joe Evans and Harold Coppers.

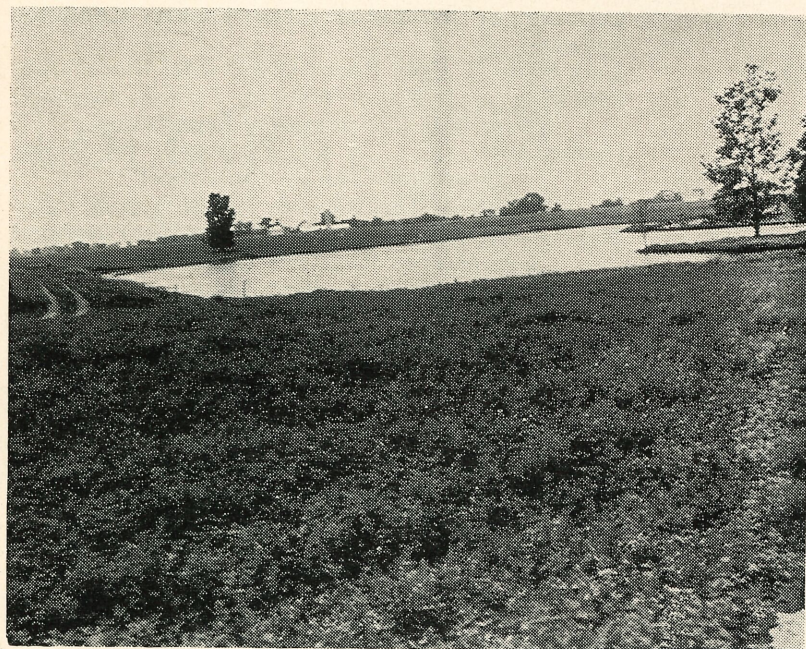
**"Topsoil" is the most important ingredient in the Commodity we know as Land.**



# Structures



Pat Carbin in the foreground with his drop-inlet structure, containing 5100 cubic yards earth fill and controlling the runoff from a 42 acre watershed. It has a normal pool of 2.7 acres of water. The fill was built in 1958.

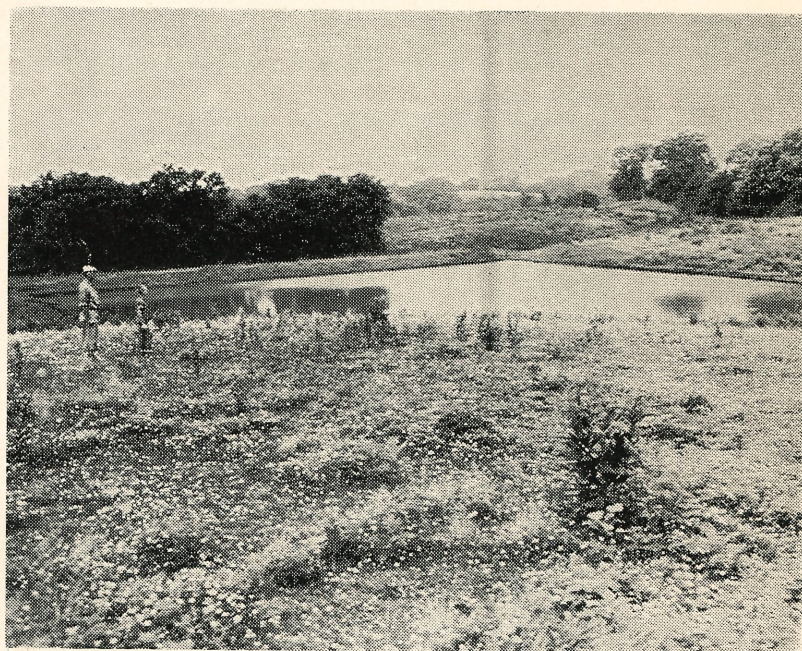


Six acres of water surface for recreation and erosion control back of this drop-inlet structure on the Dr. R. R. Pearson farm south of Blakesburg.

# Ponds



A group of men and a boy appraising fishing possibilities in Lyle Cloyed's farm pond. Left to right are: John Botts, Richard Cloyed, Joe Evans and Dale Barker.



Dale Barker and Kenneth Beasley take a look at Bob Lott's farm pond.

***A Nation is Rich so long as it's supply of soil resources is greater than the needs of it's People.***







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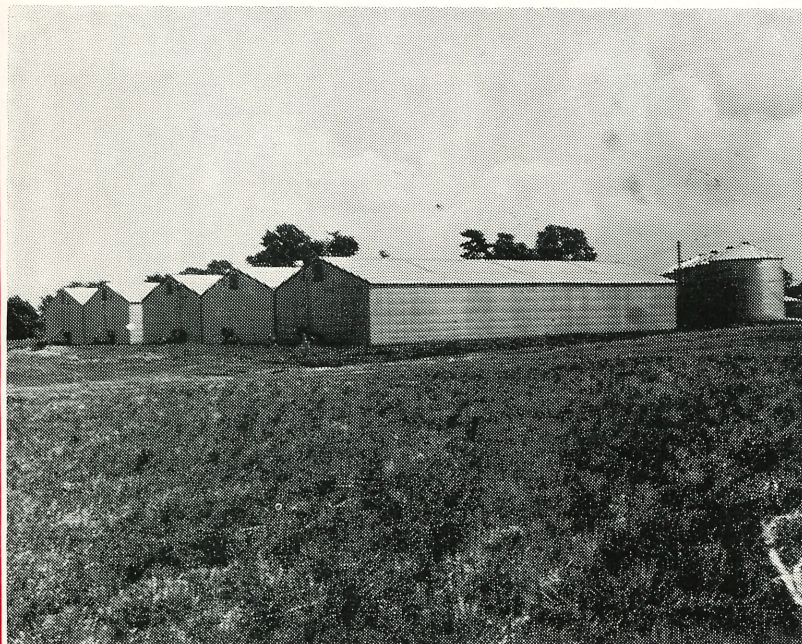
## GOODE MILL and ELEVATOR

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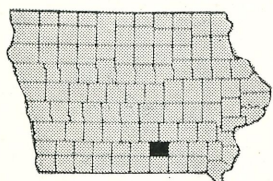
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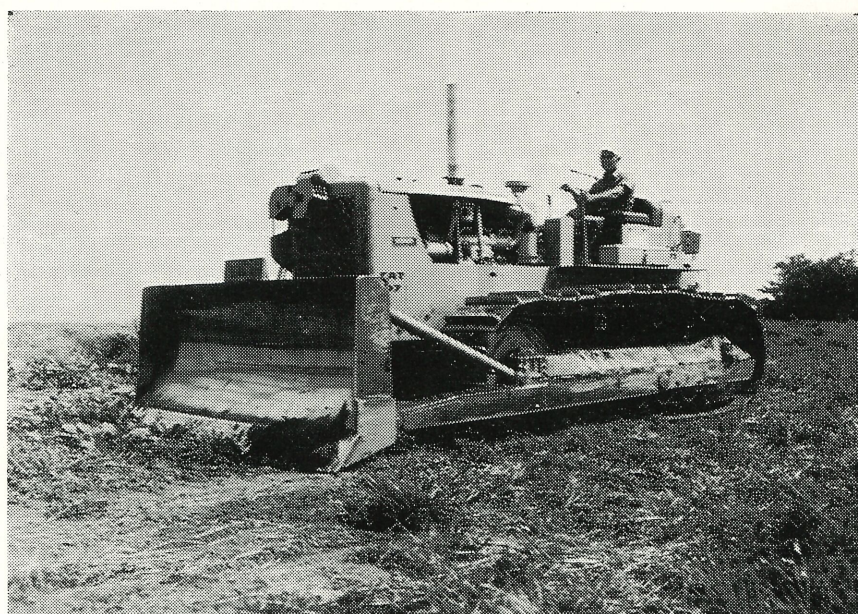


Location  
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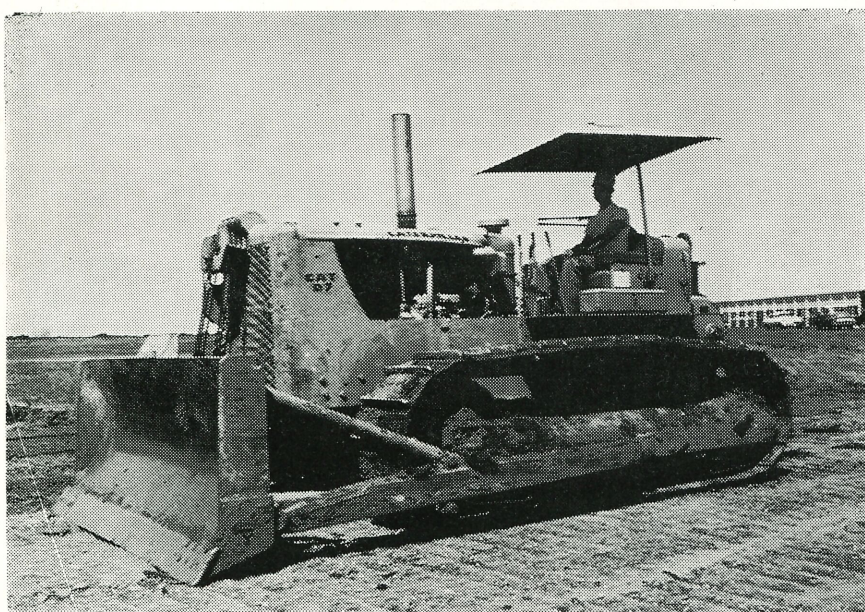
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# ALBIA, IOWA IMPLEMENT DEALERS

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We, as implement dealers, are wholeheartedly in favor of the soil conservation movement here in Monroe County. A conservation farmer will be a customer for generations to come.

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Phone 47



## Belzer Ford Tractor Co.

FORD — KEWANEE & NEW HOLLAND

Sales & Service

Phone 745



## Henderson Implement Co.

JOHN DEERE

Sales & Service

Phone 394W



## Monroe County Truck & Imp. Co.

INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER

Sales & Service

Phone 45





# Monroe County Farm Bureau

## The Voice of Agriculture

**\* LEGISLATION**

**\* EDUCATION**

**\* SERVICE to MEMBERS**

PHONE 125 R

ALBIA, IOWA

### PRODUCTS

FEED — SEED — SERUM  
PETROLEUM — FERTILIZER  
FARM CHEMICALS  
BUILDING MATERIALS

**EARL RITTER, Monroe County**  
Petroleum Salesman

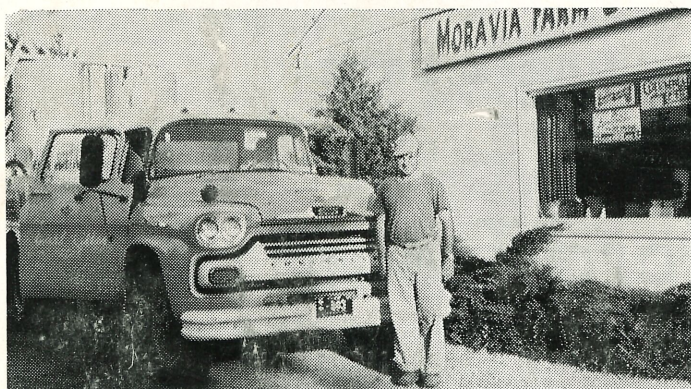
**JOHN WILSON**  
Sales Manager

**OLIVER BROWNLEE**  
Office Manager

**BOB WAMPLER**  
General Manager

## MORAVIA Farm Service Co.

A Farmer-Owned Cooperative Partnership



PHONE —

Moravia 724-3233  
Bloomfield MO 4-2238  
Centerville 320  
Albia 125R

### SERVICES

Three Petroleum Trucks  
Three Fertilizer Spreader Trucks  
Liquid Nitrate Equipment  
Thirty Ton Truck Scale



Owned and Operated by Farm Bureau Members for Benefit of all Farmers!

## Farm Bureau Insurance Services

**Life --- Auto --- Farm Protector --- Fire --- Hail**

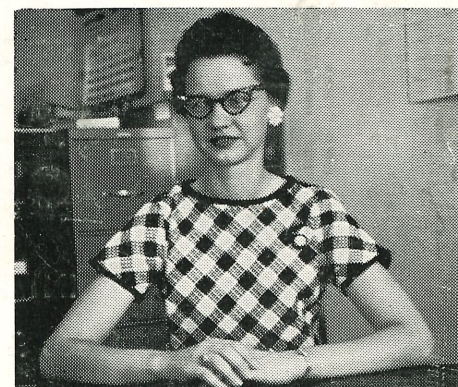


**OLIN HOWIE**  
Agency Manager

Albia, Iowa

Phone 409J

Personalized Local  
Claim Service



**JANET BERTO**  
Office Assistant