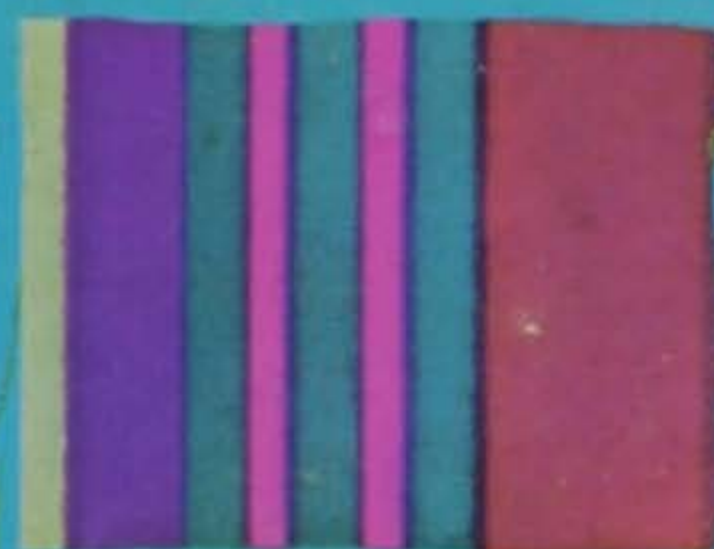




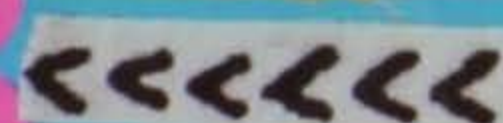
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Scrapbook



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Western Publishing Company, Inc., Racine, Wisconsin



Sign Grant Awards For SICOG Projects

Federal grant awards for rural water development and winterization of homes in this area were signed Wednesday at a meeting of the project board of the Southern Iowa Council of Governments.

The grants are \$30,000 for an engineering study for a rural water system, \$29,500 for coordination in establishing a rural water system, and \$20,000 for winterization of homes for the elderly. The rural water programs will be administered by the Southern Iowa Rural Water Association and the South Central Iowa Community Action Program, and the winterization program will be handled by the Matura Action Corporation.

The grants were made through the Integrated Grant Administration program, which allowed the SICOG area to apply for assistance from several federal agencies at one time.

The SICOG area is the first rural area in the United States to receive funding through the IGA. The IGA is administered by the Federal Regional Council at

Kansas City, which is composed of representatives from 10 federal agencies. The agencies involved in the three grants are the Environmental Protection Agency for the rural water engineering study and the Community Services Agency for rural water coordination and home winterization.

Richard Hill, chairman of the SICOG executive board, signed the grant award which was attested to by Ronald Purdy. Hill discussed the lengthy preparation which went into the IGA application and told of the various programs which are included. He thanked Robert Case and Robert Tyson of the Iowa Office of Planning and Programming for their support and help in the project.

Hill introduced Adm. Russell Waesche, chairman of the Federal Regional Council, who said the FRC was established in an effort to bring federal programs closer to the people they are designed to serve. He said the IGA program can be

(Continued on Back Page)



GRANT AWARDS SIGNED: Richard Hill (seated) signed federal grant awards totaling \$79,000 for the seven-county area represented at the Southern Iowa Council of Governments meeting Wednesday night, November 19. The meeting was held at SWCC with county, city and rural water project representatives present. Pictured are Waldo Don Carlos of the Southern

Iowa Rural Water Association, Don Ritter of the Environmental Protection Agency, Adm. Russell Waesche of the Federal Regional Council, Robert Tyson of the Iowa Office of Planning and Programming, Howard Rowlands of HEW and Robert Case, Iowa Office of Planning and Programming.

beneficial in producing a coordinated program of assistance and congratulated the SICOG area on its proposal.

Don Ritter of the Environmental Protection Agency was introduced. Ritter will be the project manager for the IGA in

this area, and the EPA will be the lead agency.

We wish to thank all friends, relatives, and neighbors for the flowers, cards and visits while we were patients in Clarke County Hospital. Special thanks to the Virginia Rescue Squad for prompt service; Dr. Kimball, Dr. Wilken and all of the wonderful nurses. Lela and Raymond Nine

Card of Thanks

I want to thank all my friends and neighbors for the basket of fruit and sympathy in the de of my brother, Vernon. Purley A. Smith

Card of Thanks

should not be forced to merge with another area. The committee also asked more funding for the Resource Conservation and Development projects, vocational education and the Rural Development Act. Revenue sharing should be continued, the committee felt, with money channeled through local communities.

Group to Pick

Up Old Trees

The Youth Conservation class of Clarke Community High School will pick up Christmas trees on Saturday, January 3. Class sponsor David Johannes asks that residents place their trees on the parking in front of their homes. The pickup crews will be making their rounds around town from 9-12:00 noon only.

This is the second year the class has sponsored this project. The trees are chopped into chips and used in constructing walking trails in the biology pond area.

Two Clarke County Men To Arizona

Richard Gonseth, Osceola, and Kenneth Henry, Woodburn, will represent Clarke County Soil Conservation District on the 28th annual Goodyear Conservation Awards tour to Litchfield Park, Arizona December 12 through 16.

They will join 104 other grand award winners from the first place conservation districts in every section of the United States for the four-day vacation-study program.

Clarke County SCD won honors as the top conservation district in southern Iowa last year, and Henry was named the district's outstanding cooperator. Gonseth is district board chairman. The program is sponsored by The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company in cooperation with the National Association of Conservation Districts.

The winners will meet with NACD officers and other conservation leaders at The Wigwam, a desert resort hotel. The group will tour Goodyear Farms, a laboratory for sound conservation practices and a testing ground for farm equipment and farming techniques since 1917. Visits to the Salt River Project's water management and power development installations also are planned, along with stops at scenic and historical sites in Central Arizona.

Osceola Tribune Jan. 6, 1976



CROP INSPECTORS: Award-winning conservationists Kenneth Henry, Woodburn, Iowa, (left) and Richard M. Gonseth, Osceola, Iowa examine cotton grown at Goodyear Farms, Litchfield Park, Arizona. They were among the 106

national winners in the 28th annual Goodyear Conservation Awards program who visited the farms, long-time proving ground for agricultural methods and machinery, as part of the grand prize tour.

Set Water Quality Meeting For —

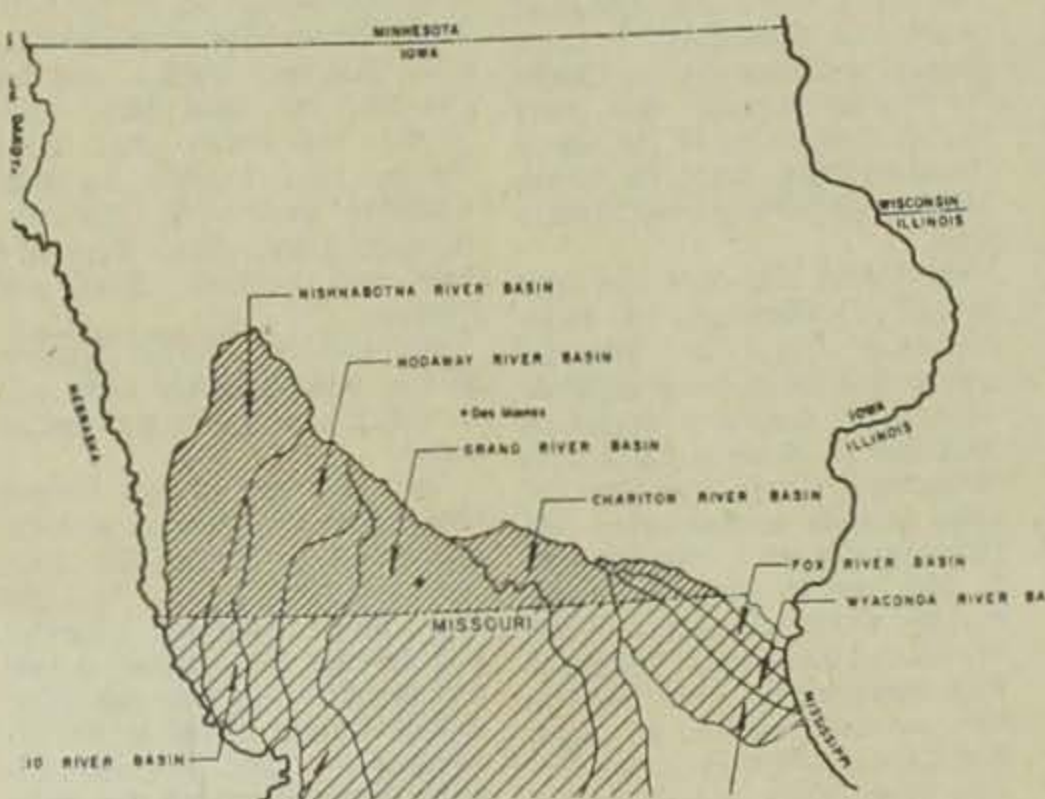
Osceola Tribune
1-13-76

Southern Iowa Basin

The Iowa Department of Environmental Quality will hold a public hearing to receive comments on the draft "Water Quality Management Plan for the Southern Iowa Basin" January 15 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 220, Instructional Building, Southwestern Community College, 1501 Town Line Road, Creston. In the event of inclement weather conditions, the hearing will be held one week later, January 22.

The Southern Iowa Basin includes the Iowa portions of the Nishnabotna, Tarkio, Nodaway, Platte, Grand, Chariton, Fabius, Wyaconda and Fox Rivers. The basin is bordered on the north and east by the Des Moines River Basin, on the north and west by the Western Iowa Basin and on the south by the Iowa-Missouri state line.

The purpose of a basin plan is to outline the corrective measures that need to be taken to assure that the water within a river basin can meet the national goal of water clean enough to support fish and wildlife and to allow for water recreation by 1983. The plan for the Southern Iowa Basin shows that the goals can only be reached within the basin if the concentrations of



pollutants from the numerous discharges are lowered enough to protect the water quality during the low flow conditions.

The six basin plans prepared by DEQ are a major part of the program to achieve clean water standards. Required by state and

federal laws. Basin plans include detailed information on the physical characteristics of each body of water in the basin, an analysis of all sources of water pollution in the basin, a priority ranking for the improvement of individual segments of water in

the basin, a description of the actions necessary to improve or maintain water quality in the basin and timetables for the implementation of the measures called for in the plan.

Among other uses, the basin plans will serve as a tool for determining discharge limits for water pollutants and for allocating state and federal wastewater treatment facility construction grants.

The draft "Water Quality Management Plan for the Southern Iowa Basin", along with a supporting document containing information common to all the Iowa basins, will be available for public inspection during regular business hours in the city clerks' offices in the county seats of all the counties lying in, or partially in, the Southern Iowa Basin.

Either written or oral comments may be presented at the hearing although written statements accompanying oral comments will be appreciated. Written comments may be submitted to the DEQ Central Office, P.O. Box 3326, Des Moines, Iowa 50316, any time within 10 days following the hearing.

No. 1 In A Series -

Practice Conservation

By Keith Ticknor

When you buy grass and legume seed, do you get what you pay for? One way of checking is to make a simple calculation to determine the PLS (pure live seed) for a given bag of seed. To calculate PLS, multiply percent purity by percent germination. These percentages are given on the seed bag. If the seed has a purity of 97 percent and a germination of 80 percent, the PLS is 77.6 percent or approximately 77 seeds out of 100 will grow. After PLS is determined, then adjust seeding rates to get the desired amount seeded per acre.

Some general seeding recommendations for use as hay

or pasture here in Southern Iowa are: (Alfalfa 6-8 lbs. per acre; Bromegrass 8-10 lbs. per acre; or Orchardgrass 4-5 lbs. per acre) Alfalfa 5 lbs. per acre; Red Clover 3 lbs. per acre; Bromegrass 8 lbs. per acre; or Orchardgrass 4 lbs. per acre.

Although better suited for pasture than hay some seeding recommendations for the tall grasses are: Bromegrass 15-20 lbs. per acre; Reed Canarygrass 10-12 lbs. per acre; Tall Fescue 8-10 lbs. per acre; Switchgrass 5-10 lbs. per acre; Indiangrass 10-15 lbs. per acre (PLS basis); Indiangrass 10-15 lbs. per acre (PLS basis); Big Bluestem 10-15 lbs. per acre (PLS basis).

No. 2 In A Series -

Practice Conservation

By Keith Ticknor

Before you buy legume seed, you need an understanding of "hard seeds". A hard seed as the

name suggests, has a hard seed coat that keeps moisture from entering. It's identical with normal seed in appearance and cannot be identified until the seed is dampened.

As a hard seed matures, a waxy outer layer forms around it. The outer layer of cells of the seed coat form a moisture proof layer. The fact that a seed is "hard" is no indication of whether it will germinate. The actual physical appearance of the seed is a more reliable guide. Most plump, bright, normal sized seeds will sprout when they become permeable. Immature, green, shrunken or discolored seeds may or may not sprout.

The percent of hard seed is determined by a germination test. All seeds that remain hard and fail to absorb water after six to seven days are counted and listed as hard seed. They may or may not be hard seed; all that is known for sure is that they did not absorb water during the test.

The moisture proof layer may be broken in a variety of ways, including physically pricking or scratching or using acids, bacteria or fungi. You could also use physical stress such as warming and cooling, wetting and drying or just heating. The idea in all this is to get the seed to begin to absorb water just like any other seed. Most legume seed is treated by dealers or seed handlers in a process called scarification. This reduces the amount of hard seed and increases germination.

For more information about hard seed, contact your local District Conservationist with the Soil Conservation Service.

**Hire Schnoor
As Coordinator**

The Southern Iowa Rural Water Association (SIRWA) hired Roger Schnoor of Mount Ayr, as coordinator. Schnoor is a graduate of the University of Illinois with a Bachelor of Science degree from the College of Civil Engineering and is a Registered Professional Engineer in Illinois and Iowa.

He has worked for the USDA Soil Conservation Service as an area engineer and hydrologist for the Illinois Watershed Planning Party. For the past nine years he has been engaged in farming on an 800 acre farm in Ringgold County where he and his wife and three children reside.

He is sharing office space with the extension service in Mount Ayr located at 101 N. Polk. Diane Reasoner of Beaconsfield has been hired as secretary. The office will be open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The Southern Iowa Rural Water Association (SIRWA) consists of seven members, one per county as elected by the county rural water board. The county rural boards have a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, treasurer, and as many directors as needed. The County Extension Directors, Farmers Home Administration, and Soil Conservation Service District Conservationists have combined their efforts to gather data to determine the interest in rural water.

SIRWA's goal will be to assist the Rural Water Board of the counties of Adair, Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Ringgold, Taylor and Union to make available an adequate supply of quality water to all farmsteads and small communities.

Oscula Sentinel 3-4-76
No. 3 In A Series -
Practice Conservation
By Keith Ticknor

Switchgrass

The most popular warm season grass in Southern Iowa is switchgrass. It is well adapted and grows to a height of three to six feet. It is very nutritious and readily eaten by all classes of livestock, either as green forage or hay. Switchgrass makes excellent production during July and August when all the other grasses are dormant. There was one report of seven 1500 pound bales/acre with no nitrogen applied.

Even with the near drought conditions of 1974 and 1975, livestock producers stocked switchgrass at the rate of two cows per acre or three yearlings per acre and adequate forage was produced during July and August. Richard Gonseth has 20 acres of switchgrass that he seeded in 1972. He reports that it has been getting better each year even though it has not been fertilized or treated in any way. He said that the switchgrass has been extremely valuable the last two years in carrying his livestock through the dry summers.

Hugh Carroll seeded 40 acres to switchgrass last spring. He is waiting to see how the stand looks this year and how it will produce.

The best time to seed switchgrass is late April or early May. It should be seeded into a firm, well prepared seedbed. Use no nitrogen the seeding year as it encourages growth of weeds and other undesirable plants. Apply lime, phosphate and potash according to soil test recommendations. No companion crop (oats) should be seeded with switchgrass. A companion crop will produce too much competition and will reduce the switchgrass stand. After a stand is established, it responds well to nitrogen fertilization.

For more information about switchgrass, contact the Soil Conservation Service.

Oscula Tribune 4-1-76
RC&D Board
Will Meet

A meeting of the Clarke County Resource Conservation and Development Board will be held Thursday, April 29 in the Board of Supervisor's room of the Clarke County courthouse, at 7:30 p.m.

Purpose of the meeting will be to review and receive comment from local citizens on updating the 1976 Areawide Development Plan.

Anyone having interest or desire to have input in the future development of Clarke County and the area is invited to attend, Richard Hill, chairman stated.

Oscula Sentinel 3-11-76
No. 4 In A Series -
Practice Conservation
By Keith Ticknor

The soils of your farm play a major role in the decision of what you should plant for hay and pasture.

Some plants, especially brome and alfalfa, do best on deep, fertile soils. They will not tolerate prolonged wetness. On the other hand, fescue and trefoil will do well on wetter, low fertility soils; of course, they also respond well to more fertile soils. Reeds canarygrass, long thought of as a wetland grass, does extremely well in the upland and is used both for hay and pasture. Other grasses and legumes vary with their growth habits and how well they do on different soils.

If you are starting a pasture renovation program or are going to be seeding grasses and legumes, it will be time well

spent to contact your local Soil Conservation Service District Conservationist and go over the soils of your farm.

Oscula Sentinel 4-1-76
No. 5 In A Series -
Practice Conservation
By Keith Ticknor

INTERSEEDING

Birdsfoot Trefoil and Bluegrass used together will produce two to three times as much beef as unimproved bluegrass alone.

A relatively new way of establishing Birdsfoot Trefoil in a bluegrass pasture is called "interseeding".

Interseeding, as the name implies, means seeding into existing pastures without renovation. A special interseeding machine cuts a narrow furrow in the sod and sows the seed, along with the fertilizer, into the slit. Most

machines being used in Southern Iowa have a nine inch row spacing.

By interseeding you do not disturb the existing vegetation and this reduces both water and wind erosion. Another plus factor - you get some grazing from a pasture the year it is interseeded.

There are several interseeding machines available here in Southern Iowa on a rental basis. For more information about renting a machine or how to make a successful planting, contact your local District Conservationist with the Soil Conservation Service.

Osceola Sentinel 4-22-76

No. 6 In A Series -

Practice Conservation

By Keith Ticknor

Nitrogen Fertilization

If you need more pasture or want to increase herd size, fertilization is one way to do it. Most forage plants need nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium. Grasses are big users of nitrogen and yields will be low if this nutrient is inadequate.

How much nitrogen (N) should you apply to grass pastures? Bromegrass, orchardgrass, reed canarygrass and tall fescue yields usually increase at a near constant rate up to over 200 pounds of N per acre. Bluegrass has a lower yield potential than the tall grasses and nitrogen response slows down at about 120 pounds per acre. Your choice on how much nitrogen to apply should be influenced by need for forage, thickness of stand, grass variety and moisture supply. Remember the old saying "a

pound of beef on tall grass". This guideline will help decide if you want to apply nitrogen to your tall grass pasture and the amount.

Legume-grass pastures may not need nitrogen or only small amounts. Legumes fix nitrogen from the air for their own use and provide some nitrogen the grass can use. If the forage stand is 50 percent or more legume, don't apply nitrogen. If the amount of legume is much below 50 percent, the grass in the mixture is likely to respond to nitrogen.

Fertilization is very important in any efficient, highly productive forage program. However, best returns from pasture fertilization will depend on effective use through a well-managed livestock program. You must manage both forage and livestock properly.

Keith A. Ticknor
Soil Conservation Service

Osceola Tribune 5-4-76

Barbara James Is Contest Winner



RECEIVE CHECKS: Adrian Fuller, Clarke Soil District Commissioner, presents checks to winners in the poster contest. Left to right are Lisa Evison, Cheryl Ansley, Adrian Fuller, Barbara James, Shani Carns and Billy Dick.

Osceola Tribune 5-4-76



POSTER WINNERS: Pictured are winners of the Clarke County Soil and Water Conservation poster contest. Winners received cash prizes and ribbons. Back row: Cheryl Ansley, Lisa Evison, Barbara James and Mrs. Wanda Davidson who holds the poster won by Chris Boor. Kneeling are Shani Carns and Billy Dick.

Barbara James, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul James of Murray, is the grand prize winner in this year's poster contest, sponsored by the Clarke County Soil and Water District Commissioners. The theme was "Soil and Water Conservation in our Bicentennial Year." Barbara received \$10 and a purple ribbon.

Five runners-up were named and received \$5 each along with blue ribbons. They are Cheryl Ansley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Ansley; Chris Boor, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Boor; Shani Carns, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Carns; Billy Dick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dick; and Lisa Evison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rex Evison, all of Murray.

Teacher of these students is Mrs. Wanda Davidson. Presentation of the awards to these six students was made by Adrian Fuller, Soil Conservation District Commissioner, at the Murray School on Thursday, April 29.

The contest was open to all sixth grade students in the Clarke Community and Murray Schools. Osceola teachers who had students entering the contest were Mrs. Saddoris and Mr. Chesnut. Forty-seven students turned in posters. These were judged on March 24 by Melvin Goeldner, Garland Ramsey and Doris Canavan at the United Methodist Church in Osceola. According to the judges the posters were all well done.

All posters will be on display at the Soil and Water Conservation booth at the Clarke County 4-H fair in August. It is the hope of the District Commissioners that through this contest the attention of students and adults alike will be focused on the continuing need for all of us to actively work to save our most precious natural resource—our soil.

Osuola Sentinel
6-3-76

No. 7 In A Series

Practice Conservation

By Keith Ticknor

Brush Control

There is no single answer for the reclamation of brush-infested pastureland. Some areas of brush in waste lots and in odd corners of fields or around farm ponds serve a useful purpose as cover for birds and other forms of wildlife, and should not be destroyed.

However, there are thousands of acres of Iowa infested with brush of various descriptions which contribute very little to the economic well being of the land-

owner or tenant or both. They can be renovated.

One way to eradicate brush from pastureland is with chemical sprays. On-the-market mixtures of herbicides "brush killers" do an excellent job of brush control if properly applied. Follow instructions on the container.

If you want more information on controlling brush in your pastureland, contact your local District Conservationist with the Soil Conservation Service.

Osuola Sentinel 5-13-76

No. 6 In A Series -

Practice Conservation

By Keith Ticknor

If you are short or are going to run short of forage, there are several seedings you can make.

Oats seeded as a companion crop may provide from four to six weeks of grazing. Start grazing when the oats are eight to ten inches high. Oats seeded in early

spring will be ready for harvest as hay or silage in late June or early July. For hay, the oats should be cut in the milk stage and for silage in the early dough stage.

Sudangrass is one of the most productive midsummer pasture crops. Its fertility requirements are high, especially for nitrogen and phosphorous, about 80 lbs. of actual nitrogen and 40 lbs. of phosphorous are needed for top yields. Seedbed preparation should be the same as for a corn crop.

Drill sudangrass at the rate of 15 to 20 lbs. per acre; if broadcasting, use 20 to 30 lbs. per acre. Seedings made in late May will be about 20 inches high and ready for grazing early in July. A good stand of well-fertilized sudangrass should carry two to three cattle per acre.

If you want more information on supplemental forage, contact your local District Conservationist with the Soil Conservation Service.

Osuola Sentinel

No. 8 In A Series -

Practice Conservation

By Keith Ticknor

Bromegrass Management

You've got to be careful with bromegrass pasture. The reason is related to its manner of growth. Early in the spring the "growing point" is in the crown of the plant so that new top growth can be readily produced. But this "growing point" gradually moves up in the plant and is always above the top node after the plant joints; thus, it will be removed by close grazing or cutting for hay. When this occurs, new growth must come from new shoots that have developed from the plant crown. Pulling plants to check whether new shoots are ready to emerge will help you judge if the plants are ready to start regrowth.

Either close grazing or cutting bromegrass at the best hay stage removes both the "growing point" as well as most of the leaf

surface that manufactures food. When new shoots are not far enough advanced to produce new growth immediately, bromegrass "goes dormant"; and under unfavorable conditions, the stand can be reduced. Avoid close grazing and cutting until new shoots have started to grow if you want to have good bromegrass production after the flush of early spring growth.

When bromegrass is cut for hay, regrowth is usually sparse until fall and seldom abundant until the following spring. For this reason, a mixture of orchardgrass and alfalfa has been more satisfactory than bromegrass-alfalfa, where the first crop is taken for hay and the regrowth is used for summer pasture.

For more information about bromegrass management, contact the Soil Conservation Service.

Osceola Tribune 6-29-76

County Receives \$22,000 In Conservation Funds

Glen Kimes, chairman of the Clarke County Soil Conservation District, announced that they have received their allocation of State Cost-Share funds and that they are now taking applications

for cost-sharing on conservation work.

The second session of the 66th Iowa General Assembly appropriated \$4,000,000 to the Department of Soil Conservation to continue the state cost-share program from July 1, 1976 to June 30, 1977. Appropriations are made to the counties based on the Iowa Conservation Needs Inventory. Clarke County received an allocation of \$22,000.

The cost-share funds will be used to pay 50 percent of the cost of installing permanent conservation practices such as erosion control dams, terraces, diversion terraces and grassed waterways.

A part of the state cost-share appropriation is retained by the Department of Soil Conservation for special projects above publicly-owned lakes. Lake Rathbun is included as one of the special project areas, therefore, those landowners, near Weldon, that have land in the Chariton River drainage area can apply for funds from this budget. All funds received from the Rathbun special projects area are in addition to the \$22,000 county allocation.

All landowners in Clarke County that are interested in installing conservation practices for controlling erosion should make application for cost-sharing at the Soil Conservation Service office.

Essay Award Winner

Osceola Sentinel
7-8-76



RECEIVES BIBLE: Kirk Ticknor, of Osceola, receives a Bible from Reverend J. R. Baumgarn in recognition of his winning essay on soil conservation.

The following is the winning essay in the Conservation Contest co-sponsored by the Soil Conservation District and Ministerial Organization. The topic for the essay was "Let's Begin Again". The winner was Kirk Ticknor, son of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Ticknor of rural Osceola. Kirk is 13 years old and was in grade seven.

Let's Begin Again

Our soil is one of the best things we have and we have to take care of it.

Through the years we have made many mistakes which cost us our soil. We can begin again with better soil conservation practices. All farmers should have good conservation practices. Such as contour plowing across sloping land. It is an interesting fact that rain washing down barren hills can take away sixty truckloads of soil and carves deep gullies.

Stairstep-like terraces can also slow down water running off a hill. A farmer can use crop rotation so that important nutrients will not perish from the soil. Deep gullies should be filled with trees and grasses to prevent more erosion, or dams could be built to hold back water and soil. Water can be used to irrigate dry areas. With more and better use of land farmers could feed more people and help the starving people of the world.

We should make laws con-

cerning better soil conservation measures.

Many people around the world are not as fortunate as the United States. We have been blessed with good soil. If we were to make use of non-productive land we could send excess food to the starving nations. Irrigation can turn desert land into productive land. Conservationists can help farmers get the most out of their land.

In some areas of the United States better conservationists are needed greatly. With their help the farmers can learn better methods of conservation for their land.

The church should have an interest and does, because we should be willing to share our good fortune with other countries. The churches have sent a great deal of food to other needy countries. With the church supporting good conservation even more food could be delivered.

People can help in soil conservation, too. Taking care of their own land would help. Planting trees and shrubs would help hold soil down.

Soil conservation has progressed very well over the years. Dams have been built, farmers are using better methods of farming and have better harvests than before.

By Kirk Ticknor
age 13, grade 7

Osceola Sentinel Public Invited To Meeting 7-8-76

July 13

The public is invited to attend a Clarke County Resource Coordinating Committee meeting to be held Tuesday, July 13, 1976 in the supervisors room at the courthouse. The meeting will start at 8:00 p.m.

The Clarke County Soil Conservation District entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Des Moines River Conservancy District and the Southern Iowa Conservancy District. The agreement was entered into to provide mutual support for all land and water management problems in Iowa.

In compliance with the Memorandum of Understanding, the Clarke County Soil Conservation District is in the process of organizing a County Resource Coordinating Committee. This Committee will provide local participation in Iowa's water management efforts.

Glen Kimes, Chairman of the Clarke County Soil Conservation District said, "There are water quality management problems that are common to Clarke County, but they are normally associated with a large watershed unit which is beyond the control of individual counties. This Memorandum of Understanding, which we just signed, will establish a means whereby these problems can be solved with the assistance of the

Des Moines River and Southern Iowa Conservancy Districts."

This action is a result of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments that Congress enacted in 1972. This legislation, Public Law 92-500, provides for a national goal of protecting the nation's waters so that they are clean enough to protect fish and wildlife and to permit swimming and other recreational use by July 1983. This legislation is to be administered by the E.P.A. (Environmental Protection Agency). E.P.A. is committed to the management of both point and nonpoint sources of pollution. The agency perceives this legislation as a vehicle to provide each state, and local governments, with the planning and implementing mechanisms to achieve water quality goals and the necessary reduction of both point and non-point pollution.

Anyone interested in the future of land and water Conservation management problems in Clarke County should attend this meeting.

Osceola Tribune 7-13-76 (over)

No. 9 In A Series —

Practice Conservation

By Keith Ticknor

Stockpiling Forage For Fall Use

Think about tall fescue if you want a late pasture. It is the best adapted cool season grass for stockpiling for use late in the grazing season and in the winter. Its leaves remain greener later into the winter than any of the other cool season grasses such as orchardgrass, bromegrass, timothy or reed canarygrass.

Despite the retention of its green color, fescue grows very little after October 10. It is the ability of fescue to remain green rather than having the ability to grow very late in the fall and early winter that makes it adaptable for winter stockpiling.

Fescue produces 60 to 70 percent of its total production by July 1. Most of the later growth occurs in August and September or after the fall rains.

For best results in both quantity and quality from stockpiled fescue, the early spring growth should be removed by grazing, haying or clipping by June 15. Failure to remove the early growth tends to dilute the quality of the vegetative growth that follows.

One system to maximize fescue

for fall and winter use is to harvest hay from the early growth in the field. For producers who own a small round baler, the bales may be left in the field to conserve labor in handling, storing and feeding.

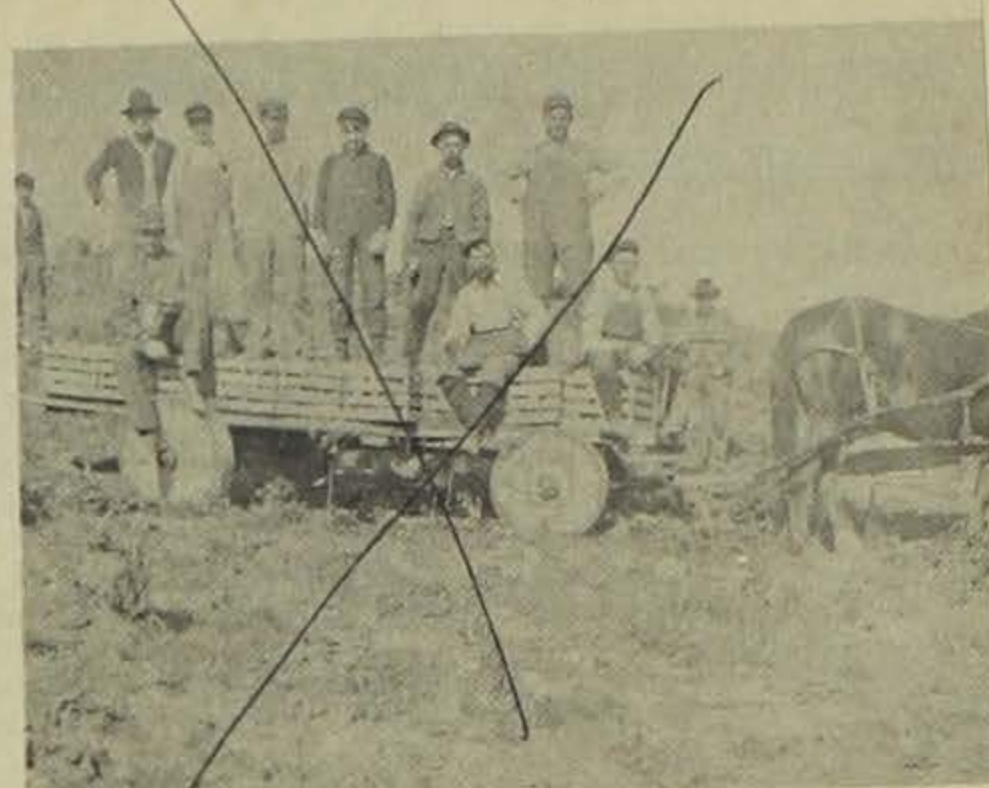
For more information about stockpiling forage, contact the Soil Conservation Service.

Wildlife Notes

Those interested in obtaining fish for new farm ponds are reminded that the deadline for fish stocking applications is August 1. Requirements which must be met before a pond can be stocked by the Conservation Commission include: (1) The pond must be at least eight feet deep and have a surface area of at least 1/2 acre; (2) Then pond must be fenced to exclude livestock; and (3) The pond must contain no fish prior to stocking. This last requirement means that unless a pond is new, it must be treated with rotenone to kill all

fish prior to stocking. If you want fish, and feel that your pond qualifies, contact me at the Soil Conservation Service Building, Mt. Ayr, Iowa 50854.

Hand in hand with the pond stocking program, the Conservation Commission offers a program of informing landowners of steps that can be taken to increase wildlife production on their farm. Since most of our wildlife is produced on private land, future wildlife population depend on decisions made by individual land owners.



POTATO FARMING: Potatoes were one of Clarke County's crops in the past as witnessed by this wagon load of spuds. Chet Wilkins has this picture which shows the crew after picking up a load on Dr. Buskirk's farm. Chet pointed out the wagon and figured the picture.

No. 10 In A Series *Osceola Tribune* 7-15-76

Practice Conservation

By Keith Ticknor

Total Pasture Program

The efficiency of many pasture programs can be improved by adding an acreage of warm season grass to be used in conjunction with cool season grasses. The cool season grasses can be grazed in the early and late parts of the grazing season and the warm season grasses during midsummer. The combination of grasses provides for a more uniform supply of forage

and greater seasonal animal gains can be expected. Furthermore, the cool season grasses can be rested during midsummer. This improves their vigor and provides a greater supply of forage for late summer and fall grazing.

In 1960, yearling steers in Nebraska grazing warm season grasses gained 1.28 lbs. per day from June 22 to September 14. During this same period only 0.42 lbs. per day gain was obtained from brome grass.

Warm season grasses have great potential for summer pasture in Iowa. They will provide productive grazing during midsummer when cool season forage is in short supply.

For more information on warm season grasses, contact the Soil Conservation Service.

Keith A. Ticknor
District Conservationist

Discuss East Lake Project

7-27-76

Lake Project

The Clarke County Conservation Board held its regular meeting, Tuesday, July 20, 7:30 p.m. at Frank Riley's home. Members present were Harold Bonnett, Floyd Edwards, Ron Whitham and Chairman Melvin Goeldner. Also present was Frank Riley executive officer.

Goeldner reported on recent mailings from the State Conservation Commission with considerable discussion on the Public Employment Program. Floyd Edwards reported on attending the meeting of the Clarke County Resource Coordinating Committee.

Riley reported that the new shelter house and latrines at Hopeville have been painted. Concerning East Lake Park, six new tables have been added making a total of 33 tables at the park.

The Board then discussed the East Lake development project concerning the time table for the development and what they want included in the plan.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 17 at 8 p.m. at the Clarke County courthouse.

Oscula Sentinel
8-22-76

Work Slows On Seven-County Rural Water System

Work on the Southern Iowa Rural Water Association seven county water system continues in the planning stage, and is liable to be in that stage for a long time.

Keith Ticknor, of the Clarke County Soil Conservation Service estimated that it would be at least five years before water begins running through the pipes.

The work is now in the preliminary planning stage with the preliminary plan to be submitted in August or September. The preliminary planning is being done by the engineering firm of Hoskins-Western-Sonderregger of Lincoln, Nebraska.

The firm recently reported to the SIRWA that two of the steps had been completed in the seven step plan. Step number seven is to be the master plan.

The Resource Inventory and Data Collection includes 34 general references the engineers will be using in the preliminary report and the master plan.

This information consists of summary of subscriber information, existing public water information, SIRWA maps by county showing the existing

public water service area, water storage tanks, rural water users and water pipe lines.

Water Supply Alternative, another step in the plan consists of projecting future water supply needs and conditions and then determining the alternative means of meeting the needs over a design development period. Because of the lack of adequate water supplies at the shallow depths and the problems associated with deep wells, the area will rely upon impounding reservoirs for the water supply.

There were five conclusions drawn from these two studies: 1. There is a serious need for water, 2. Impoundments appear to be the logical choice primarily because of quality and reliability, 3. Possible existing water resources in the SIRWA area where water could be available for sale, 4. Incorporated towns would join the system if quality and economic feasibility could be met and 5. More sign-ups are needed in the seven county area.

Ticknor reports that around 500 Clarke County residents signed up, which is around 60 percent of the total.

The process for the SIRWA is to develop the preliminary plan and have it approved by the board. The organization will then go to the Farmers Home Administration for funding. Ticknor said some of the funds would be in loan funds and some in grant funds.

After the funding is received the engineers will draw up the master plan and then local water user agreements will have to be signed and easements achieved, among other things, before construction can proceed.

"It's a long process," commented Ticknor, "First FHA will want to look over the plans and then after we get the funding there is a lot of work still to be done."

Ticknor stated that still more sign-ups are needed and the Soil Conservation Services office is still accepting names.

The SIRWA service would entail all of Clarke County, except for that already served by the Clarke County Rural Water System No. 1 and a small area of Southern Clarke County, which is served by the Rathbun Water Association.

Oscula Tribune 8-17-76

No. 11 In A Series

Practice Conservation

By Keith Ticknor

Fall Seeding

We often say "mother nature" seeds in the fall so this is the best time of year to do a seeding. This is true, but there are some do's and don'ts for fall seedings.

For fall seedings, seedbed preparation should be done in August. For best results, roll or cultipack the seedbed before and after seeding. It is difficult for a young seedling to survive in a loose seedbed.

Some grasses and legumes are on the edge of their adaptation zone here in Southern Iowa and it is questionable to see them in the

fall. Orchardgrass, fescue and trefoil do best if spring seeded. However, the small seedlings will usually survive the winter if the planting is made before August 30.

Reed canarygrass, bromegrass and alfalfa can be successfully established with both spring and fall seedings. These seedings should be made before September 15 for best results.

For more information on fall seeding, contact the Soil Conservation Service.

Keith A. Ticknor
District Conservationist

Oscula Tribune 8-24-76 Conservation Board Receives PEP Okay

The Clarke County Conservation Board held its regular meeting Tuesday, August 17, 8 p.m. at the Courthouse. Members present were Jim Asmus, Floyd Edwards and Melvin Goeldner, chairman. Others present were Frank Riley, executive officer and Keith Ticknor of the Soil Conservation Service.

Concerning the Murray Roadside Park, Riley reported he

had been informed by the State Conservation Commission that the utility line that runs to the security light would have to be put underground.

Riley also reported that the Board had been approved for the Public Employment Program (PEP). This will enable the Board to employ an individual meeting certain qualifications. The person would be employed on a part-time basis and the Board will be reimbursed for the individuals pay.

Keith Ticknor discussed the R.C.&D. project at East Lake. Ticknor presented the Board with an R.C. & D. Measure Plan. The Board voted to approve the plan. Riley presented the annual report to the Board.

Goeldner discussed the meeting of the Southwest Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards which will be held August 26 at Corning. Goeldner also discussed the annual Fall Conference of County Conservation Boards which will be held September 12, 13 and 14 at Amana.

The meeting was adjourned at 10 o'clock.

Oscula Sentinel 8-19-76
Give Approval To —

Soil Survey for Clarke County

Approval was given to Clarke County to be included in a soil survey that will start in 1982. This information was received in a letter from William J. Brume, State Conservationist, to the Clarke County Conference Board.

The soil survey will consist of a standard survey in the county and will be under the direction of Erwin Aust. A three-man crew will do the soil sampling and will take approximately four years to complete. Clarke County is one of seven counties in the state that does not have a soil survey completed or in the process of being completed.

Depending upon the continued financial

support of federal funds, the cost will be approximately \$17,000 per township. A share of this will be raised locally with the .25 mill presently being assessed. Under present valuations, this will bring in approximately \$7,500 per year and will be included in next year's budget.

The soil survey will consist of a complete mapping of all land area in Clarke County, something that has never been done before. The last survey, taken in 1928, was of a general nature and does not contain specific information.

Keith Ticknor, district soil conservationist, stated that in the upcoming survey, approximately a half dozen samplings will be

made on each 40 acre plot, depending upon the terrain.

The soil survey can be used for appraisal purposes in determining land values; may be used by realtors in selling land based upon productivity; used by farmers in determining fertilizer and chemical needs and used for a general over-all basis in a land use plan.

Counties who do not have a land survey scheduled are Ringgold, Ida, Emmett, Wright, Chickasaw, Jackson and Scott counties. Eighteen other counties are presently in the process of having the survey made. A total of four to five counties are having the survey completed each year.

Oscula Tribune - 8-24-76

Decide on Lakes to Provide Water to Rural Areas

The engineering firm of Hoskins-Western-Sonderegger have completed the Master Development Plan for the Southern Iowa Rural Water Association.

This report has analyzed the information collected and other pertinent data necessary to present feasible alternatives for water supply and distribution systems in this region composed of Clarke, Decatur, Union, Ringgold, Taylor, Adams and Adair counties.

The initial layout of service areas has been located. These service areas are based upon topography and proposed sites of elevated tanks and booster stations. The initial design will be based on peak day requirements of water users.

The following water supply

sources were considered but rejected for various reasons: 1) underground wells (deep and shallow), 2) pipeline from Lake Rathbun, Saylorville Reservoir and/or the Missouri River, and 3) purchase of water from existing water systems.

The most feasible water supply source for the seven county region would be to construct large lakes and dams with water treatment facilities. The locations of proposed lakes and dams have been identified. The stages of development are varied. Two proposed flood control water supply structures—Three Mile Creek near Afton and Little River near Leon—are the furthest along in development. Four other sites are in the preliminary planning stages.

The guide for the seven county rural water development is also included. The steps for development are: 1) planning, 2) financing, 3) preconstruction, 4) construction, and 5) operation.

Planning and design of the supply, treatment, and pipe size depends upon the number of signers. Those who have not signed up should give consideration to doing so during the first three steps of development. After the system has been constructed, there may not be water available to supply their need.

Anyone wishing to sign up or obtain additional information about Rural Water should contact their local county rural water board member, county extension office, SCS, ASC, or Farmers Home Administration.

Oscoda Tribune 9-14-76

Soil Conservation Is Everyone's Job

We have talked for years about the fact that soil erosion hurts everyone from the landowner right on down to the child in the supermarket who depends on the farmer for food. And on that same basis, soil conservation helps everyone, not only now but in the future as well.

It follows, then, that everyone should do his or her share to save our land. Conservationists have repeatedly said that everyone benefits and that everyone should pay his or her share for keeping our soil productive.

In Iowa, we have "put our money where our mouth is" as far as soil conservation is concerned. We are unique in being the only state to provide state tax money for cost-sharing on soil conservation.

The state legislature appropriated \$4 million to be spent this year on a 50 percent cost-share basis with landowners. On a \$3,000 terrace job, for instance, the farmer would pay \$1,500 and the state would pay \$1,500.

Since the state cost-share program was initiated in 1973, \$10.5 million have been appropriated by the Iowa General Assembly for use in conjunction with the program. Funds are allocated to individual soil conservation districts on a conservation needs basis. The Clarke County Soil Conservation District has received approximately \$85,000 in conjunction with the program. These funds are in addition to federal monies already coming

into Iowa through the Agriculture Conservation Program (ACP) administered by county committees of the Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS).

These "incentives" for soil conservation are actually a way of having society pay for its share of the cost of saving our soil. It is a "pay now or pay later" situation — and if our "pay later" situation occurs, the cost will be tremendous. Can you imagine what it would be like with no topsoil? That would also mean no good lakes (all filled with sediment); poor water quality (sediment is our #1 pollutant); scarcity of food; poverty (farmers depend on good soil for a living); and an economic slump (agriculture is our leading export business). The list could go on and on. We so often take our soil for granted.

But we shouldn't. We have lost half our topsoil in Iowa on unprotected sloping lands. We have only six to eight inches of topsoil left on those lands, and we are losing another inch every 12 years. In another generation of farming, our topsoil could be gone from unprotected sloping lands!!

We have had serious erosion in Clarke County the last three years. We encourage landowners to take advantage of the state's foresight in saving our soil and encourage the program to continue at a faster pace than in the past.

**SEPTEMBER 12-18 IS
SOIL CONSERVATION WEEK**

Oscoda Tribune 9-14-76

Now Until Frost Is Critical Time For Legumes

The most critical time of the year for legumes is from September 15 until frost.

Legume plants must be rested in the fall in order to build up a food reserve for next year's growth. Also, without that food reserve, the plants are more subject to winter killing. Another problem is injury to the crown of the plants from trampling in the fall. Cattle trampling often causes disease to the weakened plants which makes them more subject to winter-killing.

Pastures that have been overgrazed during the fall will not produce as much feed the following year. Soil erosion is increased; and in the long run, the pasture is not able to produce to its expected potential.

Summing up — do not mow or graze legumes (Birdsfoot trefoil or alfalfa) from September 15 until the first killing frost.

For more information, contact the Soil Conservation Service office.

Keith Ticknor,
District Conservationist

Oscoda Tribune 9-14-76

Hill Elected To Advisory Committee

On Tuesday, August 24, the Southern Iowa Conservancy District Advisory Committee held an organizational meeting at the Berning Cafe in Creston.

Approximately 30 persons attended the meeting chaired by George Annan, State Soil Conservation Committee member of the Southern Iowa Conservancy District.

Ed Beardsley, Department of Soil Conservation, pointed out the need to determine locally the

water problems in each county, critical drainage areas, and studies and information already available.

Mark Berkland, Resource Planning Coordinator, Department of Soil Conservation, outlined intentions to use the state soil association map to determine indexes of erosion statewide. Work has been initiated on this analysis. Priority areas would then be designated for water quality land treatment. Local committees are to start to determine practical means for getting management plans implemented assuming problem areas exist in their county.

Dan Lindquist, Department of Soil Conservation, briefly explained the organization and involvement of the public participation program, which is being integrated into the water quality planning efforts.

Elections were then held to select ten representatives to the 208 Basin Advisory Committee. Those selected were: Fritz Langguth, Adair County; Eugene Swartz, Adams County; George Hosfelt, Cass County; Richard Hill, Clarke County; Russell Hopkins, Davis County; Dwight Joy, Lucas County; Larry Beeler, Madison County; Clifford Stille, Pottawattamie County; Merle Travis, Taylor County and Frank Campbell, Wayne County.

Following considerable discussion, the meeting adjourned with future meeting date to be announced later.

Oscoda Tribune 9-14-76

No. 12 In A Series

Practice Conservation

By Keith Ticknor

Thistle Control In Pastures

The key to controlling the spread of bull and musk thistles is to carefully watch them and get rid of them when you see them.

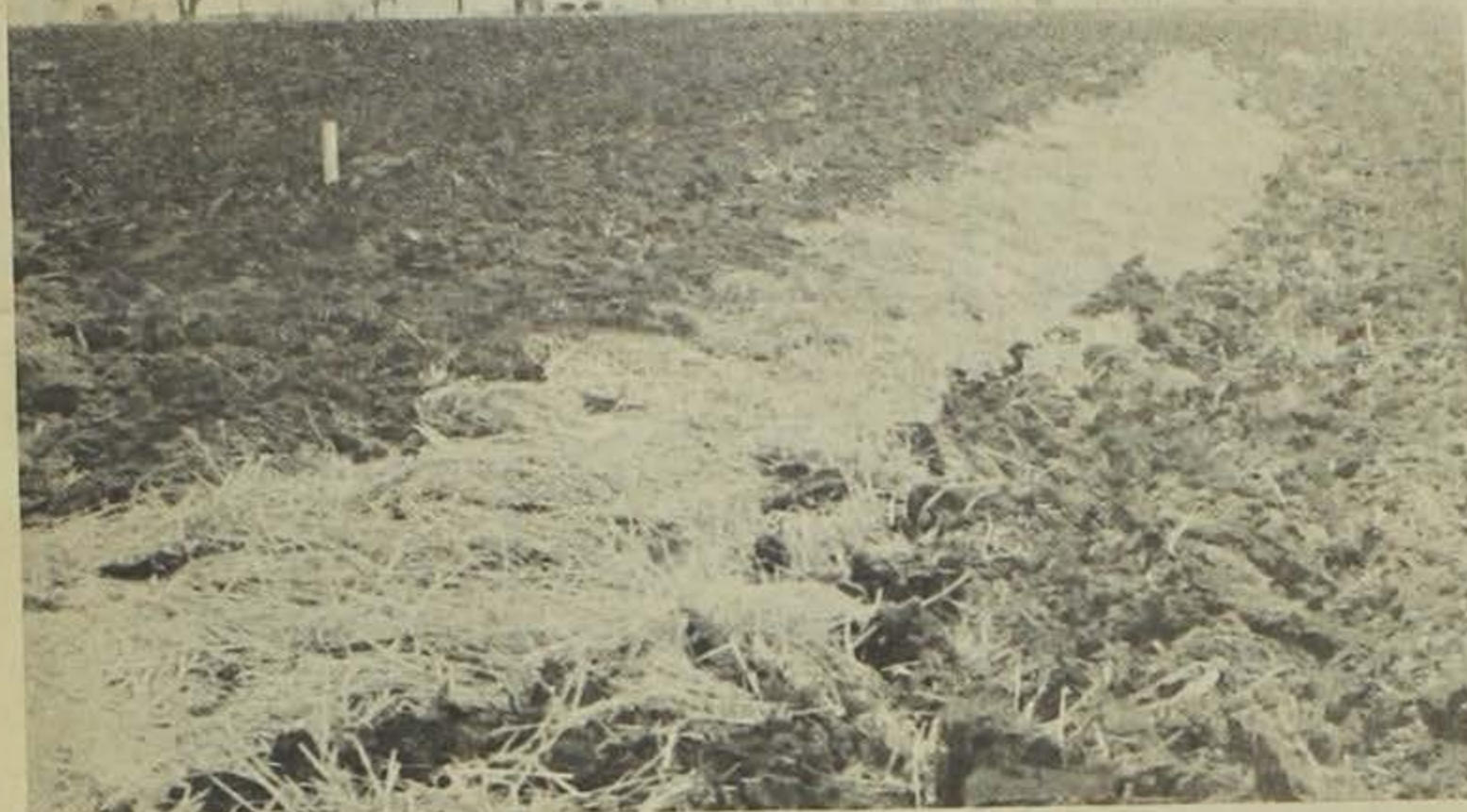
Bull and musk thistles are biennials and must produce seed to survive. The seed germinates in the late summer and produces a first year "rosette" in the late fall. During June of the following year, this rosette makes its growth and produces a flowering stem and seed.

If you have only a few plants, hoe or spade them out. Be sure to cut them off below the crown to eliminate regrowth. Close mowing at least twice a year will prevent seed production. If you can keep these thistles from

producing seed, you can control them.

For chemical control, the cheapest and best material to use is an approved herbicide following the instructions on the container label. This will not damage grass, but do not spray on legumes. Spray the thistle rosettes in the fall before killing frosts occur or in early spring when plants are in large rosette form before the central stalk elongates. This method will not injure grass; and if used in the spring, it will help control other annual, biennial and perennial weeds in the area. If many legumes are present, mowing is more advisable.

Oswala Sentinel 9-16-76



SOIL CONSERVATION WEEK; September 12-18, focuses attention on our soil resources, but soil conservation is everybody's job all year long, says Keith Ticknor, Clarke County Soil District Conservationist. A good example of what can be done to prevent serious erosion is

shown in this picture taken on the Richard Gonseth farm. Here mulch has been applied on the tile outlet seeded backslope terrace. This and other soil conservation practices help preserve our soil for generations to come, Ticknor said.

Oswala Sentinel - 9-16-76

Saving Our Soil...

By Governor Robert D. Ray

In this bicentennial year, we can pause and reflect upon our accomplishments in America which are unparalleled by any other nation. Those accomplishments, in great part, have been made because of the initiative and creativity of the hard-working citizens of this country.

There is another important reason for our success—our natural resources. In Iowa, we live, walk, drive, and grow food on one of our nation's most valuable natural resources—the soil.

Take a look at the facts. Agriculture is our leading export industry, with \$22 billion in export sales a year, or 20 percent of all our exports. Each of our farmers feeds himself and 55 other Americans. As a group, U.S. farmers spent \$75.5 billion last year which goes into our economy for the benefit of all.

These facts are important to us in Iowa, where 95 percent of our land is in agriculture and where our economy is heavily oriented toward agriculture.

Unfortunately, the unique combination of soil and climate that makes Iowa ideal for crop production also makes our state one with a high potential for soil erosion. We have seen some serious erosion of top quality farmland. Conservation officials report that less than half of our land is properly protected from the menace of soil erosion.

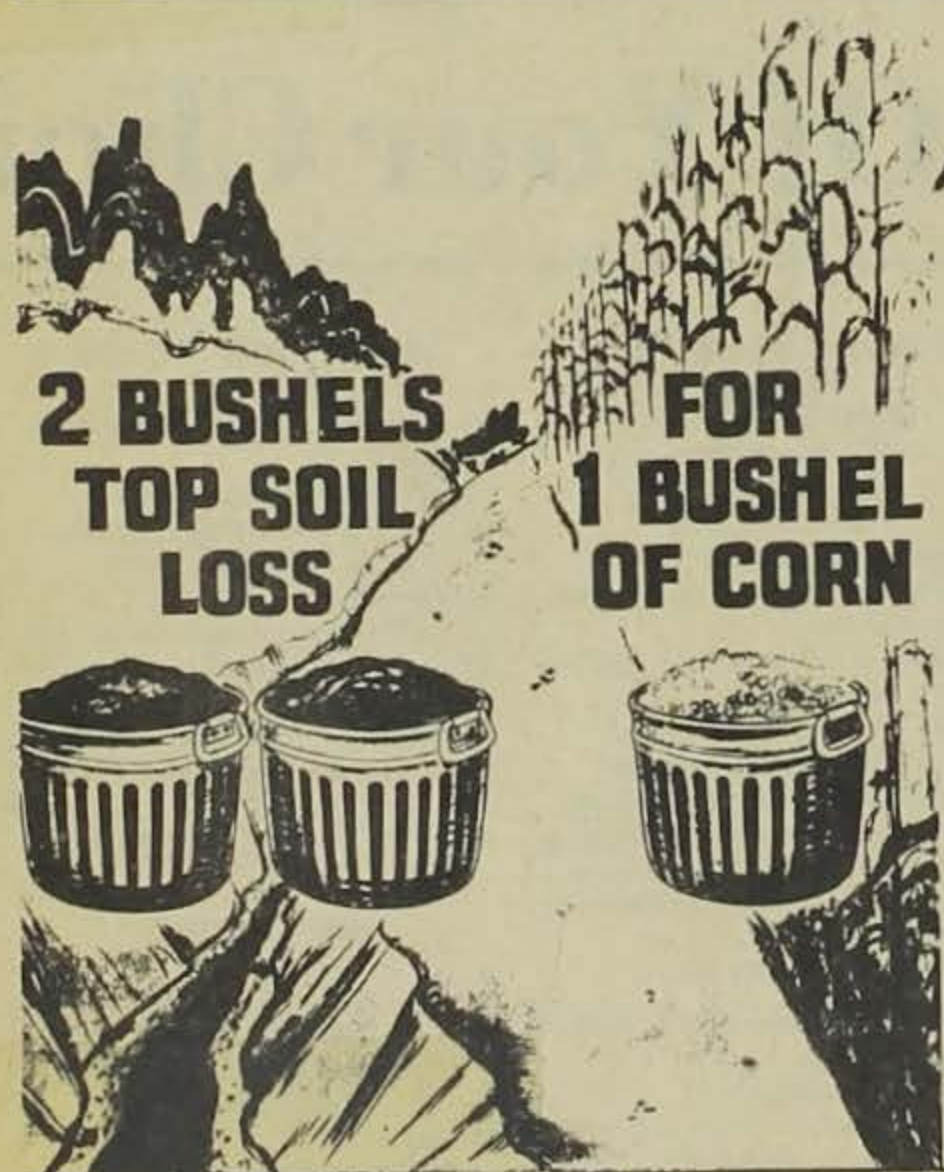
The need for good conservation practices in urban and industrial areas that support our agricultural economy is equally essential. And proper conservation measures will be needed to maintain the quality of life we enjoy for future generations.

We have always recognized the need to conserve and protect valuable soil. Iowa is the only state in the union that provides its own funds for cost sharing with landowners to install conservation practices.

As we observe Soil and Water Conservation Week September 12-18, I would like to join thousands of others in paying tribute to the conservation minded farmers of Iowa, and to those citizens rural and urban alike, who give of their time and effort to make our programs work.

However, we must not dwell on our past accomplishments, but on the task that lies before us. Working together we can increase the productivity of our resource base and at the same time make Iowa an even better place in which to live, work, and play.

Oswala Sentinel 9-16-76



THAT'S RIGHT!

We're losing an average of 230 bushels of topsoil on each acre of unprotected sloping land in Iowa each year. That's twice as much soil loss as average corn production on those soils.

The loss is also an inch every 12 years. At that rate, our topsoil could be gone in 100 years.

See Your Local
Soil Conservation Office
For More Information

ident
Oswala Sentinel
Clarke Represented
7-23-76
At Perry Meeting

On Friday, August 20, Hugh Carroll represented Clarke County at the Des Moines River Conservancy District Advisory Committee meeting held at the Rib Restaurant in Perry, Iowa.

Approximately 40 persons attended the meeting chaired by Jerry Norland, State Soil Conservation Committee member from the Des Moines River Conservancy District.

Gene Wolter, resource planning coordinator (RPC), Department of Soil Conservation, outlined intention to use the state soil association map to determine indexes of erosion statewide. Work has been initiated on this

More About—

River Conservancy

(Continued from Pg. 1)

analysis. Priority areas would then be designated for water quality land treatment. Local committees are to start to determine practical means for getting management plans implemented assuming problem areas exist in their county.

Ed Beardsley, Department of Soil Conservation, pointed out the need to determine locally the water problems in each county, critical drainage areas, and studies and information already available.

Elections were then held to select 10 representatives to the 208 basin advisory committees. Those selected were: E. Leo

Oswala Sentinel
Oct. 14, 1976
**Express Concern over
Top Soil Erosion**

Early harvest and dry weather is causing concern among soil conservationists in Iowa about serious soil erosion. Their main worry is that soybean and corn land will be plowed after harvest, exposing the soil to the wind and rain this fall and next spring.

"We had a fall like this last year, and more than eight million acres of land was fall plowed and opened up to wind erosion. Much of that did blow, and we had dust in the air and soil piled up in road ditches last winter. We'd like to keep that from happening again," says William Brune, state conservationist for the U.S. Soil Conservation Service (SCS). The erosion problem has already been aggravated by the dry weather this year. The drought has encouraged farmers to chop corn for silage, a process that uses all the plant.

Brune urges farmers to leave cornstalks and beanstalks on top of the ground for soil protection. "Research shows there's no yield advantage from fall plowing soybean land," Brune says. "And if tillage is done on corn land, we hope it's some kind of reduced tillage that doesn't bury all the corn residue and destroy what soil protection there was."

SCS agronomist John Maddy says the key to stopping wind erosion on flatter soils is to leave at least half of this year's residue on the soil surface.

"If you leave half of this year's stalks on top of the ground, you stop most wind erosion. And you generally cut water erosion in half. The amount left is the key, rather than the machine used."

Maddy says the chisel plow, an increasingly popular substitute for the moldboard plow, is a good tillage tool. It leaves residue on the soil surface, and you can take advantage of its ridging by chiseling perpendicular to prevailing winds.

"But you can't go across a field too many times. Farmers who chisel two or three times bury most of their residue, too. Especially on soybean ground. Last year, soybean ground that was over-chiseled blew nearly as badly as conventionally plowed ground."

Some fall plowing has already been done in the state. The advantage is that some soils "work up" better for spring planting, and the work can be done in the fall when the farmer has more time.

"But our topsoil simply won't last if we keep losing it at our present rate," Brune says. "On unprotected sloping soils we've got only six-eight inches of topsoil left. We're losing an inch of that every 12 years. If it stays dry, we'll probably have wind erosion. If it rains, we get water erosion. Soil protection is the answer."

Information on crop residue systems, called "conservation tillage" or "minimum tillage", is available from your local soil conservation district office. There's an office in every county.

William J. Brune

A speaker at firemen's convention was handed a note by his wife just as he was about to begin an afterdinner speech.

The note, at first glance, read "KISS."

He was thinking of how nice this was of the little wife, when he noticed the smaller letters. "Keep It Short Stupid."

Oswala Sentinel 11-4-76
No. 13 In A Series
Practice Conservation
By Keith Ticknor

Pasture Management

Pasture production can be greatly increased with some simple pasture management techniques. Weed control coupled with rotational grazing will increase your pasture production.

Weeds compete for light, nutrients and moisture as well as weaken the existing forage plants. Control weeds by mowing or spraying with an approved herbicide. If you have legumes in your pasture, the mowing machine may be the best way to control weeds. Also by using a mowing machine, the entire pasture is clipped to the same height and spot grazing is not as much of a problem.

The use of an electric fence is an economical way to set up for rotational grazing. Fence the pasture into three to four separate fields and move the cattle from a field when there is three to four inches of stubble remaining. If you graze a field much closer than this, it will take more time for the plants to recover.

Good pasture management will increase your pasture production. If you want more information, contact the Soil Conservation Service.

Keith A. Ticknor
District Conservationist

Practice Conservation

By Keith Ticknor

Fescue Foot

Fescue Foot is a non-infectious disease sometimes found in cattle grazing tall fescue. It has been confused with foot rot, frozen feet and mechanical injuries.

Although fescue foot may occur under many different conditions, the following pattern usually emerges:

1. Outbreaks most frequently occur when cattle are grazing fescue that has not been grazed for a considerable time.

2. Most cases occur during periods of cold weather.

3. After five to 15 days on toxic fescue, cattle develop a lameness.

4. Animals in thin flesh are more often affected than animals in good condition. But animals in good flesh are certainly not immune to it.

5. In most verified cases of fescue foot, only a portion of the herd is affected.

The main disease prevention method appears to be good management. A pasture mixture of fescue and legumes is likely to give less trouble than pure stands. Often cattle, grazing fescue for considerable periods of time are less susceptible. Mowing or using the early growth of

fescue then stockpiling after July 1 seems to give less trouble than if accumulated for the entire season.

For more information on fescue foot contact the Soil Conservation Service.

Practice Conservation

Bromegrass Is Productive

Smooth bromegrass is a productive, tasty, nutritious and long lived grass for most Southern Iowa pastures. It maintains its quality better than most cool season grasses when

excess spring growth remains in the field.

Bromegrass is a perennial sod grass that grows to a height of three to four feet, producing many base and stem leaves. The root system forms a coarse but dense sod; yet it crowds companion legumes less than most grasses.

Bromegrass has limitations. It has a higher nitrogen requirement than other com-

NEWS OF THE

By Don Reid

Overgrazing is usually disastrous to bromegrass stands. It is excellent for hay, but a stand that is cut at hay stage seldom makes an abundant recovery growth that same year. Bromegrass has a real place in

Honor Doyce Miller With Membership

Doyce Miller of Osceola was granted a lifetime honorary membership into the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners.

The membership was given last week at an annual conference for Iowa Soil Conservation District Commissioners.

Miller is assistant commissioner of the Clarke County Soil Conservation District and has farmed in Clarke County since 1947. His conservation plan for his 320 acre farm included crop rotations, permanent pastures, contouring, terracing and waterways.

Dedicated to furthering the cause of soil conservation in Iowa, the Association is comprised of soil conservation district commissioners. Honorary memberships are given each year to individuals who have significantly contributed to the growth of the Iowa soil conservation program.



Doyce Miller

Miller served as commissioner in Clarke County from 1957 to 1976 and has since continued to serve as an assistant commissioner.

Miller has received numerous conservation and farming awards including the Goodyear Soil Conservation Award and recognition as an Iowa Master Farmer.

Osceola Tribune - Nov. 16, 1976
Discuss Plans For —

Seven-County Rural Water System

Only a crystal ball can tell when the Southern Iowa Rural Water Association will see its goal of a seven-county rural water system, but it's coming.

Immediate action steps for the region's six water source projects were outlined to representatives of the seven counties at a SIRWA-sponsored meeting last week in Creston where a preliminary engineering report of the whole system was presented.

The system would provide a safe, adequate water supply for rural areas and small communities in Adair, Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Ringgold, Taylor and Union counties within 40 years at a projected cost of \$55 million dollars.

Two of the water source areas would service Clarke County—Little River Source Area and White Breast Source Area. The most encouraging progress has been made on the Little River project affecting the southern third of the county with land to be appraised by July of 1977 and early construction contracts to be signed by October, 1977.

Plans for the White Breast Source Area which would supply water for most of rural Clarke County are somewhat farther off.

Engineer Dean Connett of Hoskins-Western-Sondergerger,

Inc. told listeners in his preliminary engineering report that all source areas need to be resurveyed immediately to get 80 percent of the potential users to sign rural water agreements. In most areas of Clarke County between 50 and 60 percent have signed up and paid a \$25 fee to cover report costs.

SIRWA Coordinator Roger Schnoor in his report at the meeting said between 130 and 140 additional signers are needed in southern Clarke County for the Little River project and the cities of Weldon and Van Wert should be informed of the importance of their interest in the project.

A suggestion was made to obtain declination statements from those who refuse to sign the agreements to avoid a rush of persons trying to hook up after the project is completed.

Other action needed for the White Breast Source Area includes finalizing an agreement between SIRWA and the city of Osceola to jointly sponsor and pay for the source facilities and a request for source facilities. Soil Conservationist Keith Ticknor said later that the agreement has been discussed with the county water board and Osceola City Council.

The White Breast rural water

project would entail constructing a dam on White Breast Creek southwest of Osceola to provide rural water and additional water storage for the city of Osceola. SCS director, Keith Ticknor explained later that the dam is one of 15 proposed in the White Breast Watershed project in Clarke County. The dams will prevent floods and control erosion on the 57,000 acres of land in the watershed. Progress continues on the work plan for the White Breast project and Ticknor expects the plan to be finished in two years. After approval by SCS officials in Washington, the plan needs local approval.

Engineer Connett said the Little River project needs agreements with Leon and Decatur City by early next year for a joint sponsorship of facilities.

The engineer's report on finances estimated an average monthly water bill at \$35.11 for \$6,600 gallons of water for a rural service user. The connection fee was estimated at \$279.00.

The \$55 million dollar cost of the six projects for the area is divided between rural residents (74 percent), towns with water systems (22 percent) and towns presently without water systems (4 percent).

Lloyd Scott, a FmHA representative, said FmHA has about \$11.5 million available yearly for water project loans in Iowa. Watershed loans are available for up to 50 years at an interest rate of 5.683 percent. Also available to help on finding are RC & D loans at the same interest rate for a period up to 30 years for projects costing less than \$250,000.

The projects will provide \$2.5 billion gallons of water yearly by the year 2015 the engineers projected. About 20 percent of that water is currently available, 25 percent to be provided by the Three Mile Creek Watershed project in Union County and the Little River project, and the remaining 55 percent from the four other projects: White Breast, Honey Creek, Grand River and Icaria source areas.

SIRWA currently has 4,200 signers for the system and has hired coordinator, Schnoor to head the study for the feasibility for rural water. The three-volume engineering report will be completed and submitted for board approval in about a month, Connett said.

The Creston meeting was attended by nine Clarke Countians representing various boards and councils involved in the question of rural water systems.

Osceola Tribune
1-6-77 RC&D's Kayser

Will Retire

Herbert M. Kayser, project coordinator of the Southern Iowa RC&D Project at Creston, retired after working for the Soil Conservation Service for 35 years.

Kayser became district conservationist at Creston in 1951 and worked in that position until 1970 when he was appointed to the project coordinator position for the seven county Southern Iowa RC&D Project headquartered at Creston. While serving as district conservationist in Union County the Three Mile and Twelve Mile Creek Watershed Projects were organized.

Robert D. Loudon, Soil Conservationist at the Creston Project Office will serve as acting project coordinator.



TREE PICK-UP: Members of the CCHS Youth Conservation group get an early start on collecting discarded Christmas trees. The main

collection will be Saturday morning, January 8. Helping load trees are Kirk Ticknor, Brad Eggers, Cathy Carroll and Cathy Henrichs.

Group to Pick

Up Old Trees

The Youth Conservation group of Clarke Community High School will again pick up Christmas trees from Osceola residences on Saturday, January 8. The pick-up crews will work from 8 a.m. to noon.

Residents are asked to place Christmas trees on the curb in front of their homes before Saturday morning. As in the past three years, the trees will be cut into chips for the trails leading to the outdoor classroom and biology pond.



ATTENDED CONSERVATION CONFERENCE: Laura Lewis, left, and Belinda Wickham recently returned from a National Association of Conservation Districts convention in Atlanta, Georgia. The two are Clarke Community High School students.

Two Students

Attend Meeting

Two members of the Clarke Youth Conservation Board attended a convention of the National Association of Conservation Districts held recently in Atlanta, Georgia.

Belinda Wickham and Laura Lewis were selected by the Youth Board Council to attend the

convention which began February 6. The girls returned from Atlanta last week.

The youths were involved in many activities at the 1977 NACD convention planned by the Youth Programs Committee. Displays, slide presentations and discussion forums had been scheduled for them at the convention.

William Greiner, director for the department of soil conservation, made the arrangements and accompanied the students to Atlanta.

Liberty

Hilda McKnight

Mr. and Mrs. Randy Brown, Joleen and Brian called in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn McKnight early Thursday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Randy Brown, Joleen, Brian and Rusty Brown; Glenda McKnight of Indianola; Mr. and Mrs. Corwin Reins, Kim and Jamie of Lacona; and Mrs. Selma Reins of Milo called on Mr. and Mrs. Steven McKnight Friday evening.

Marilyn Sue Sergeant spent the weekend with her folks, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Sharp. Marilyn is a student in Creston, and had spent the past week in the hospital there.

Mr. and Mrs. Pat Sullivan of Cedar Rapids spent the past weekend in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Steven McKnight.

Some of the Ladies Aid gathered at the Clifford Harrell farm Tuesday to dress hens for Ella and Clifford Harrell.

Duane Hartz of Lacona was Wednesday visitor of Steven McKnight.

Barry Rubendahl of Woodburn spent the weekend with Bryon Stump.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl McKnight visited Eithel McKnight Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Dwight McKnight of Osceola; Debbie Day of Indianola; Barry Rubendahl of Woodburn; Mr. and Mrs. Neal Stump and Bryon; Mr. and Mrs. Craig Stump, Jennifer and Kimberly; Mr. Raymond McKnight and Brad were Saturday dinner guests of Mrs. Eithel McKnight.

Mrs. Roger Downard and Mrs. Dale McKnight took Enola Downard of Van Wert to her doctor in Leon Monday. Enola remained in the hospital there.

Dale McKnight called on Roger Downard Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Downard visited his mother, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Tiedge and Enola Downard in Van Wert Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Donaldson have been home a week now, after spending some time in Florida visiting their daughter and family. They also did a little sight seeing.

Liberty Ladies Aid will hold an all day meeting with Ethel Sargent February 4. We will be quilting.

Woodburn

Leola Jenkins

Peggy were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Taylor and family, Clifford Mason, Harley Pippin, Mr. and Mrs. Condon Clark and family and Dennis Smith.

Mrs. Fern Jamison spent Thursday afternoon with Mrs. Fern Boyles.

Mrs. Jesse Jenkins spent Monday in Chariton with Olive Gills at Chariton Manor.

Thayer

Mrs. Kenneth Landers

Cheryl Fizer visited Sunday afternoon with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Wolf.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Henrichs and baby spent Sunday evening with their grandmother, Mrs. Eva Henrichs.

Mrs. Genevieve Perry has moved to Afton Hotel apartment to spend the rest of the winter.

The ladies of the Thayer Church are having a potluck dinner at the home of Mrs. Truman Shroudernier Tuesday, February 2.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Oglesbee and family and Mr. and Mrs. David Bower and family had dinner Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. Truman Shroudernier.

Freddie Powers had to miss a few days school last week, had flu.

Friendly Circle group is to meet with Mrs. Darlene Henrichs Wednesday, January 28.

Hopeville

Mrs. Vern German

Dale Chew visited his mother, Mrs. Edith Chew Saturday.

Kenneth Beaman was a town caller Saturday afternoon.

Ladies Aid met with Dorothy Dunfee at her home January 21. Eleven members were present, work for the afternoon was working on the aid quilt. Dorothy served a lovely lunch at closing time.

Edith Chew spent Monday with Mr. and Mrs. Olin Reasoner.

Some freinds called on the Symond boys recently.

Not much here to write, so news is scarce as writer can't get out much.



AQUARIANS

The Aquarians met at the home of Leola and Curtis Jenkins on

Around The Circuit

INDIANOLA — Fire Departments from Indianola and Lacona joined Milo firemen in battling a stubborn blaze that gutted St. Augustine Catholic Church in Milo Thursday night, January 22.

Jerry Nelson, Indianola Chamber of Commerce membership chairman, has announced plans for a membership contest with the Knoxville Chamber. The challenge issued, he said, is for the most new members signed up by March 1.

CHARITON — Katherine Hibbs has been named the Chariton Community High School recipient of the Betty Crocker Family Leader of Tomorrow Award. Home Economics Instructor, Mrs. Emily Wyckoff announced today.

Questions continue to be submitted to school and Citizen's Building Committee officials concerning the February 17 vote on the proposed \$1.69 million junior high school.

PELLA — Twelve finalists will appear before a panel of judges Monday evening for the coveted title of 1976 Tulip Queen.

Central College will host a special conference on the Dutch in America Monday as part of this nation's Bicentennial observance.

CRESTON — The annual Mothers March of Dimes

3 OSCEOLA TRIBUNE
Tues., Feb. 3, 1976

collected \$1,000.51 in the Creston area Sunday with the help of a number of volunteers.

A 10-member steering committee to get a needs assessment of the Creston community schools underway has been appointed.

The old master clock which had controlled the class bell system at the Creston high school for nearly 50 years has been given to the Union County Historical Society. It is to be placed in the historical museum at McKinley park.

BLOOMFIELD — Unemployment compensation to Davis County residents increased a whopping 77 percent during the month of December.

Harold D. Bogert, chairman of the Davis County ASC Committee, said today that the 1976 ACP Program has been developed for Davis County.

LEON — A new U.S. Post Office is now in operation in Garden Grove. Workmen are putting finishing touches on the interior of the building. The white and brown structure is a great addition to the town of Garden Grove. Many citizens are working hard to fix up the store fronts and create new businesses.

At a recent meeting of the Decatur County Fair Board of Directors, it was agreed that a donation fund would be established for a permanent set of scales to weigh 4-H and FFA livestock at the county fair.

Shop Osceola!

FURNITURE LIQUIDATION-LOOK!!

We will liquidate the following items immediately to make room for several truck loads of unclaimed furniture.

- 12 Mattress & box springs. Full size. Complete sets. 69.95
- Why Pay More?
- 60 Frames Full or Twin, or Queen only 10.45 EA
- Why Pay More?
- 36 Sets coffee and end tables 1/2 price only 29.95 EA
- Why Pay More?
- 32 5 drawer chests in walnut or maple finish wood Only 34.95 EA
- Why Pay More?
- 65 Man Size Bean Bags 14.88 EA
- Why Pay More?
- 120 Assorted rugs. Assorted sizes, colors with rubber backing. 2.99 EA
- Why Pay More?
- 12 8 track tape decks. Fit all Systems. Only 19.95 EA
- Why Pay More?

Random Recollections

By Arthur B. McQuern

Continuing an earlier description of my grandparents, Twyford and later our family home, there were many outside features that gave the place a rural atmosphere, a self-reliant way of life and a feeling of pride and contentment. Located some distance from the beaten track, there was no feeling of isolation. The elevation gave it a commanding view of the countryside and the buildings were a landmark for miles in each direction. Approached by way of a shady lane, this private sanctuary, undisturbed except for the chirping of the birds and the chatter of the squirrels, was a haven of refuge and inner security for those who enjoyed the peace and quiet of seclusion. For an effective protection from wintry winds, the buildings were bordered on the north and west by an evergreen grove of pine, fir, cedar and spruce. Groves of soft maple to the south and east cooled the summer breeze. Four hard maples for summer shade and fall colors graced the front lawn. The big apple orchards, seven or eight large cherry trees and other varieties of fruit are long gone.

A never failing well of pure cold water was a few steps from the kitchen door. A fruit and vegetable cellar was located at the back door. An inscription on the rear wall of the cellar reads, "Built by Henry Muchmore and Davis. I do not recall the date inscribed. A cider vinegar barrel and a ten gallon stone jar filled with sauerkraut occupied their allotted floor space in this underground storage house. Abundance of a variety of canned fruit on the shelves, barrels of apples, potatoes and cabbage supplies a great part of the family food supply through the winter months. A large vegetable garden supplied fresh vegetables and crisp salads during the summer. All this was a great deal of work but had compensations that made it worthwhile. When asked what he would do if he had only one more day to live, Aristotle replied, "I would probably work in my garden."

Fried chicken and fresh eggs were common fare to be found on the farmer's table. Beef and pork in abundance, both fresh and cured, were taken for granted.

great deal could be learned today from the lessons of the past if more people were inclined to be self-reliant and independent.

Arthur B. McQuern

I-35 SCHOOL Lunch Menu

Monday, February 7

Chicken and noodles, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, cake, chocolate milk.

Tuesday, February 8

Beefburger, relish, green beans, potato chips, cookie, orange juice.

Wednesday, February 9

Fish, buttered potatoes, tartar sauce, spinach, whipped jello.

Thursday, February 10

Italian spaghetti, tossed salad, garlic bread, fruit.

Friday, February 11

Tomato or potato soup, cold meat sandwich, finger foods, crackers, applesauce bar.

Serving Our Fellowman

Serving Our Handicapped Fellowman

Are we as a community ready to respond to persons with handicapping conditions?

A marvelous example of love is found in the increased willingness of society to meet the needs of the handicapped, to move them out of institutions to hire them, to secure their legal rights, to speak with them, to set up homes for small groups of handicapped persons within residential neighborhood. No longer should we retard any individual's development by restricting his environment. We recognize to a large degree people become more normal when they live normally. As concerned citizens caring for our fellow man we should write law makers, encourage their support of legislation, liberalizing zoning restrictions and help normalize the lives of the handicapped.

Concerned Citizen
Marcia Van Ginkel
Osceola, Iowa

Handicapped To Receive—

Special Parking P

Handicapped motorists in Iowa will be able to apply for identification devices which gives them special parking privileges throughout the state beginning January 3.

Applications for the devices will be available at Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) driver's license stations, county treasurer's offices and the Governor's Committee on the Employment of the Handicapped office in Des Moines. Each device will cost \$1.

Different devices will be issued to permanently and temporarily handicapped applicants. A permanently disabled person will receive a device with a white wheelchair figure on a blue background—the International Symbol of Access—and will be marked "permanent". A person who is temporarily disabled will receive a device with a blue wheelchair figure on a white background. An expiration date will be displayed on the temporary device. Upon expiration, the device will have to be returned to the DOT.

Parking spaces for handicapped people have been arranged at many locations throughout the state to give them better access to businesses and other facilities. Spaces are marked with International Sym-



Temporary

bol of Access signs. Vehicles parked in the spaces will have to clearly display the identification device.

Daryl Hinners, Carroll, will be the first handicapped person to receive a device during a special

Iowa Yield Tests Available

Results from the Iowa Corn, Soybean and Grain Sorghum Yield Tests conducted by Iowa State University are now available from your county extension office. These test results are not the final answer when selecting a hybrid or variety to plant in 1977 but they can serve as a very useful tool to help you in arriving at a decision.

There were 100 entries in the 1976 Iowa Corn Yield Test. The average yield of all varieties in the southwest Iowa district was 131 bushels per acre. Plots are machine planted and harvested so yields should be comparable to what a farmer could expect. The range in yields was 105 to 157.

root and stalk lodging percent and the stand percent. Test locations for District 7 (southwest Iowa) were in Madison, Adams and Pottawatomie counties.

The Soybean Yield Test for southern Iowa was conducted at three locations—near Stuart, Farragut and Agency with 90 varieties tested. Yields ranged from 35 to 49 bushels per acre with the average being around 45. Other information available includes maturity rating, height in inches, lodging score, emergence, chlorosis and phytophthora ratings and seed type and availability of the seed in 1977.

The Grain Sorghum Yield Test for southern Iowa is located in Ringgold county at the Grundy-Shelby Research Center. There were 33 hybrids entered in the test in 1976 with an average yield of 153 and a range of 105 to 185. Other information listed includes

Annual Report 1977

Osceola Tribune 2-22-77
**Conservation Board Okays
Request for Water Hookup**

The Clarke County Conservation board at a meeting last week voted to allow the city of Osceola to draw water from East Lake.

The city asked permission to use water from the lake in the event of a water shortage in the area. A hook-up will be provided by the city for farmers to obtain water for their livestock needs.

The board also rejected an engineering estimate for the first phase of developing East Lake Park. The first phase involves building a small grade

stabilization structure above the lake and reconstructing the dam.

The group's budget for the next fiscal year was presented by Frank Riley and accepted by the entire board.

Representatives of the Clarke County Historical Society requested an increase in the appropriation the society receives from the conservation board. Members of the local horseshoe pitching association asked the board to set a date for the annual horseshoe contest at East Lake Park.

Recent mailings from the State Conservation Commission were also discussed.

Board members present at the meeting were Jim Asmus, Harold Bennett, John O'Neill, Melvin Goeldner, chairman; and Frank Riley, executive officer.

The next meeting of the conservation board will be March 15 at 8 p.m. at the courthouse.

**Board Reviews Plan for
White Breast Dams**

The White Breast Watershed Board met March 9 to review the proposed structure sites and to consider alternative proposals for the plan. Flooding has always been the greatest concern to the farmers who farm the bottomlands in the watershed as well as to those who have land on down stream from the watershed boundaries.

The watershed boards' objective is to develop a plan that will have enough dams located throughout the watershed to catch the runoff and release it slow enough to prevent down stream flooding. In addition they hope that one of the larger dams can be located so that it can serve as a watersupply for rural and city water needs.

An assessment of the present cropland and pastureland potential will be prepared by the board. This information is needed by the Soil Conservation Service watershed planners in preparing the watershed plan.

Don Short, chairman, said that there will be an election of board members and officers at the next meeting which will be held April 4, 7:30 p.m. at the Soil Conservation Service Office. The board consists of 14 members from Clarke County and four members

from Lucas County who are elected by the landowners in the watershed. Board members terms are three years. Short urges everyone in the watershed to attend this meeting.

Osceola Tribune 2-22-77
**Area Farmers Should
Tell Watershed Needs**

The White Breast Watershed Board received notice that a considerable amount of planning activity in the watershed district is coming up during the next 12 months.

A notice received from the Soil Conservation Service said that the planning staff has been

concentrating their efforts on one watershed at a time. They just completed planning on the Indian Creek Watershed in Van Buren County and will now devote their time to the White Breast Watershed.

Don Short, chairman of the Watershed Board, met with the board members last week to begin making plans for the scheduled activities. Short said that local residents should express their desires for location of the dams, water supply needs, flood control, recreation and other interests in the near future.

A public meeting will be held in June or July for the planning staff to review their plans and to receive recommendations from the local people.

Environmental delays and changes in environmental requirements stopped most activities in White Breast since 1973. These problems have been solved now and the project can get back on schedule.

The next meeting of the watershed board will be March 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the Soil Conservation Service Office. The board will continue to meet on the first Monday of each month and the public is encouraged to attend.

Osceola Sentinel 3-10-77



RETIREES FROM SCS OFFICE: Arlene Garner, right, is pictured showing the ropes to her replacement, Linda Hodge. She is concluding 14 years as a clerk/typist for the Clarke County Soil Conservation District. Mrs. Garner started working at the office when it was located in the post office basement and has worked with two district conservationists, Clarence Ford and the present conservationist, Keith Ticknor. The new trainee is a former Des Moines resident.



SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE: Everyone attending the Farm and Home Day found something to talk about, look at or listen to.

Shown are, left to right, Larry Siefkas, David Curnes, Hazel Siefkas, Betty Webb, Fran Siefkas and John Webb, all of Osceola.

Farm and Home Day Turnout 'Very Good'

Turnout at the first annual Farm and Home Day sponsored by the Clarke County Extension Service last week was "very good" and extension personnel said the event will probably be repeated next year.

More than 125 men and women attended the educational programs designed for homemakers and farmers. Sessions were held during the day on Thursday on such topics as reduced tillage

equipment and chemicals, wall arrangements, storage in the house, furnishing and plant decorating.

Exhibits by 20 seed and chemical companies, implement dealers and home decorators were also featured.

Alan Teel, county extension director, said the topic of forage production is being considered for next year's Farm and Home Day.



HOW TO HANG 'EM: Marilyn Werner speaks to area women about how to decorate the walls during one of the home-oriented sessions at Farm and Home Day last week.

Oscoda Tribune, March 22, 1977

Need Funds for New East Lake Dam

Conservationists and engineers in Clarke County know that a new dam and spillway is needed at East Lake before the old one deteriorates and the whole lake is lost.

All but one of the commissions and agencies which need to be consulted have stamped their approval to the project.

The plans are completed.

The easements have been obtained.

And the Clarke County Conservation Board is ready to take bids on the construction.

Money, however, is the force which hinders implementation of the project which will ensure that East Lake Park lasts longer, is more safe and is more functional for recreation, according to Melvin Goeldner, chairman of the Clarke County Conservation Board.

The entire package calls for a new dam, a structure to control erosion at one end of the 13-acre lake and additional recreational facilities for the 70-acre park.

Right now the board is counting their pennies and streamlining the specifications for constructing the new 32 foot high dam and spillway which they feel is the most critical of the three needs for the lake.

Keith Ticknor from the Soil Conservation Service, which designed the dam, said the present 60-year old dam could

give out "in a year or two of heavy rains." The concrete spillway has suffered much erosion and significant seepage has already occurred, according to the project report.

The project earned the unanimous approval of the Iowa Natural Resources Council recently and council member Merwin Dougal cited the deteriorating condition of the present dam. "If they had a flood now, they'd probably lose the lake."

An additional safety factor which enters is the proximity of the lake to Highway 34.

At a meeting last week, the conservation board looked at ways to trim the cost for dam construction which has swelled from the original \$60,000 to \$116,000 due to inflation and the addition of other specifications.

Ticknor said the group may be able to save some money by having riprapping and seeding done locally.

Construction costs will be shared 50-50 by the SCS and the Clarke County Conservation Board using county tax funds and Resource Conservation and Development sources. Alternative funds are also being sought.

The conservation board had hoped to ask for bids on the construction of the first phase of the project in April. However,

now it looks like it will be May before the Iowa Conservation Commission can meet to consider their approval for the plan, Goeldner learned last week.

The reconstruction of the dam and installation of the conduit-type spillway can be done without having to drain the lake, Ticknor said. The new dam will be built downstream from the existing dam and the elevation of the new dam will be four or five feet higher. However, the lake level will remain the same.

Ticknor said the other two phases of the project "can wait a few years." A grade stabilization structure is eventually needed to cut down on erosion and silting of the lake and the recreational improvements would increase usage of the park by county residents.

About \$140,000 worth of recreational improvements are planned for the park including a paved access road, two fishing piers, a shelter house, modern comfort stations, boat ramp, electrical hook-ups in the camping area and more picnic tables and grills.

East Lake Park is Clarke County's only public park which is not located within a town.



OLD SPILLWAY CRACKING UP: The present spillway at the East Lake dam shows evidence of cracking and shifting. Clarke County Conservation Board plans specify the removal of the concrete spillway and installation of a new spillway of precast reinforced concrete pipe with a

hooded inlet and a propped outlet. An open vegetative earth emergency spillway channel will also be provided for runoff from storms of greater magnitude than the principal spillway is designed to handle.

White Breast Not Up For President's Review

The White Breast Watershed project in Clarke and Lucas Counties is not one of the 27 watershed projects in Iowa which will come under close scrutiny by the Carter administration to see whether they should be completed or halted.

Keith Ticknor, Soil Conservation director, said that the White Breast project which calls for construction of 15 small dams along White Breast "is not far enough along that it will be affected by what's happening now."

The full-scale review of the 27 Iowa rural watershed projects was ordered by the administration to make sure the projects meet President Carter's new standards of environmental and financial planning criteria. Most of the projects are already under construction. A total of 1,185 projects will be studied nationwide and final recommendations made to Carter by July 15.

White Breast is still in the planning stages, with the state SCS watershed planners preparing the work plan. Ticknor said the project will be completed following the Carter administration regulations for small watersheds.

"White Breast will be one of the first ones to be written under the procedure and it will meet the requirements," Ticknor stated.

Ticknor said the changes made by Carter require the writing of two plans—one to maximize environmental benefits and a second to maximize financial benefits. After public presentation of the plans to the residents in the watershed, a final plan is written that combines the environmental and financial plans.

In the past, watershed plans

have focused on the financial benefits of constructing the dams, such as flood and erosion control for farmers, rather than environmental aspects such as providing replacement land for wildlife ousted from a new lake area, Ticknor said.

Dams planned in the White Breast Watershed will prevent floods and control erosion on 57,000 acres of land in Lucas and Clarke counties. Twelve dams are planned for construction in Clarke County and three for Lucas County, all along White Breast Creek.

Following finalization of the plans, the project will go to the SCS in Washington and to the local units for approval. Ticknor said the plans should be done within a year.

"We're getting a good start on those plans," Ticknor said.

A meeting will be held this summer to get input from residents in the watershed for the financial and environmental plans, and a follow-up session will be scheduled before the final plan is finished.

The project is largely funded with federal monies under the Small Watershed Act of 1954.

The next meeting of the White Breast Watershed Board will be Monday, April 4, at 7:30 p.m. at the SCS office in Osceola for election of board members and officers and a review of the progress of the watershed plans. All interested persons are invited.

Soil and Water Survey Sent to Clarke Farmers

Richard Gonseth, Chairman of the Clarke County Resource Coordinating Committee announced that the committee is mailing a survey seeking farmer advice on soil conservation and water quality. Currently, the committee is aiding in the preparation of a plan mandated by the 1972 Federal Water Pollution Control Act amendments.

The plan is being done to improve water quality in the nation's rivers. In Iowa and Clarke County this means the control of soil erosion and agricultural runoff, non-point pollution. The committee hopes to aid in the development of a plan that does this job, while creating minimum hardships for individuals.

Gonseth, notes that 70 surveys will be mailed in Clarke County. The individuals to whom the surveys will be forwarded were randomly selected from a list of landowners and operators within the county. There will be NO personal identification of individuals participating.

Gonseth asks that people who receive these surveys complete and return them. The Clarke County Resource Coordinating Committee will use this information to advise the Iowa Department of Soil Conservation throughout the water quality planning process.

Plant Trees at East



ARBOR ASSISTANTS: The Clarke County Conservation Board last week planted 500 red pine seedlings along East Lake. Helping with the

planting are Jim Calhoun, right; Frank Riley, middle; and Red Stamand, left.

Friendly Circle is to meet Wednesday, April 6 with Mrs. Lucille Davidson.

Madison Chape

Evelyn Camp

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Richard Sr. went to see John Clark Perry on Sunday. On their way home they stopped to visit Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Kipping Redfield.

Madison Chapel Circle met with Bessie Kirk Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Richard Sr. were supper guests of Patricia Simmerman and children Friday night. Don was at work.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Moore; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Moore; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kirk; Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Simmerman and Mr. and Mrs. Neil B. Merton from Toona visited Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Kirk Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Simmerman and family were supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Simmerman Sunday evening.

Bucky Beavers Boisterously — *Osceola Sentinel, April 7, 1977*

Topple Tender Trees

The city sanitation department has been playing a game of cat and mouse with beavers trying to move in along White Breast Creek near the new sewage

treatment plant southeast of Osceola.

The beavers have been making good headway on several dams in the half-mile stretch of the

stream, foiling the city crew's attempts to dig out a channel for the water to flow.

Eldon Shepherd, city waste water superintendent, said that

he's removed part of the biggest dam along the stream several times, but the beavers have it completely rebuilt by the next morning.

"This is the worst year we've seen them," Shepherd said.

Although the dams have no effect on the sewage lagoon and treatment system, the beavers are felling numerous trees along the banks and also stopping the water flow, Shepherd said.

He thinks the dams or the beavers should be permanently removed. Possible methods include trapping the beavers, moving them to another site or dynamiting the dams.

County Soil Conservationist Keith Ticknor disagreed, saying, "I'm enough of a conservationist, I don't like to see them destroyed". He added that the beaver dams are "some nuisance" by causing some local flooding around the dam.

"It doesn't really stop the water from going downstream, though. It doesn't take long for the dam to fill and then it's running over the top," Ticknor stated. The water flow may be temporarily blocked while the area fills, he said.

Shepherd said he's not sure how many beavers are in the area, but estimated there were "quite a pile of them." City personnel never catch the animals actually working, but see the gnawed trees, paw tracks and several of the holes in the stream bank where the beavers live.

The beavers have felled about a dozen medium to large sized trees in the immediate area of the largest dam. The toothy animals always select living trees

(Continued on back page)



MOONLIGHT PROJECT: Water collects in a small pond behind the largest of several beaver dams along a stretch of White Breast Creek near the new

sewage plant. Following several days of moderate precipitation, the stream was flowing over the dam.



BUSY BEAVERS: Gnawed tree stumps and felled trees are evidence of the beavers at work in the wooded area along White Breast Creek.

More About—

Beavers

(Continued from Pg. 1)

for their construction. Ticknor said the trees usually resprout from the base so that the root system holding together the stream banks is maintained.

Osceola Mayor Jack Jeffreys agreed that the beavers were a nuisance, but not a major problem for the city. He said he would advise Shepherd to check with state authorities before removing the beavers or dams completely.

The City of Osceola owns the land on the northeast side of the stream and is building a new sewage treatment system in the area.

Interseeding Is New Technique To Improve Grass Pastures

Two dozen area farmers and agriculturists were present at an interseeding demonstration held on the Richard Gonseth farm Thursday, April 14.

Interseeding was explained by Extension Director Alan Teel as a relatively new technique for improving permanent or sown grass pastures by interseeding legumes into grass sods.

Various advantages for erosion control and maximum use of the land are gained by avoiding having to plow the field for seeding. Soil Conservationist Keith Ticknor told the group.

The interseeding technique and equipment were demonstrated for the farmers on hand. Interseeding begins with soil testing and application of lime, fertilizer and weed controller. An application of Paraquat before seeding retards the existing grass to allow the new stand a better chance to develop.

The actual seeding is best done with a special grassland drill that controls the depth of the seeding. Such a seeder was used at the demonstration and the farmers had a chance to examine it and see it in action.



NEW INTERSEEDING EQUIPMENT: Area farmers look over a special seeder for the new

process of interseeding during a demonstration last week on the Richard Gonseth farm.



THE RESULT: County Extension Director Alan Teel shows the planting rows made during interseeding a field of existing grass with alfalfa.



CONSERVATION FIELD TRIP: Sixth-graders from Murray spent an afternoon last week getting a conservation tour on the farm of Adrian Fuller. The students are being shown a dropped inlet

pond by Fuller, at far left. The 24 youths also viewed terracing, strip cropping, grass waterways and a wildlife refuge.

East Lake Plan Sent to ICC

The Clarke County Conservation Board last week decided to submit the RC & D measure plan for East Lake Park to the State Conservation Commission for their scrutiny.

The board also authorized purchase of eight new picnic tables for the park and Frank Riley reported that Joe Swartz of the State Conservation Commission would treat East Lake for algae. He also reported on the mowing at the three county parks.

The group voted to not participate in an equipment sharing plan at the present time.

A horseshoe tournament will be held at East Lake Park on Sunday, May 29.

The next meeting of the conservation board will be Tuesday, June 21, at 8 p.m. at the courthouse.

Plan Beef

Test Program

A beef cattle production testing program is being initiated by the RC&D Beef Cattle Advisory Council. This program will begin by June 1, and will serve Adair, Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Madison, Ringgold, Taylor and Union Counties.

The program will emphasize on-the-farm weighing of calves as well as a complete record keeping system in relation to the beef cow herd.

"The program is a pilot project and will be working closely with Iowa Beef Improvement Association activities in this area," says Bob Ramsey, Midcrest area livestock specialist.

Keys to Keeping a Better Pasture

If you are a cow-calf operator, you need a pasture system that will provide forage from early spring until late fall or early winter; yearling operators need about the same kind of a pasture system.

To get pastures to do this, you need an early pasture or spring grazing; a high producing, drought resistant pasture for July and August. The pasture used in early spring can again be used in September and October. A winter pasture should also be considered to reduce the expense of hauling and handling hay. Some hay will be needed in Iowa especially during periods of heavy snow and

ice; but by careful planning, the amount of hay needed can be greatly reduced.

Alfalfa is generally considered the nation's most productive forage crop. In feeding value, alfalfa is considered as two crops rolled into one - it compares with corn in energy and with soybeans as a protein source.

Alfalfa requires a high rate of fertility for maximum yields. Lime is especially critical. The pH should be at least 6.5 but 6.8 to 7.0 is better. Phosphorous is the key element in establishing stands of legume and grasses. Potash promotes top growth and winter-

hardiness and becomes essential after the stand is established.

Prepare the seedbed well in advance of planting if your work schedule permits. Rolling or cultipacking before seeding firms the soil below the seed. Rolling after seeding packs the soil around the seed and provides good moisture contact. If the seedbed is compacted only once, it should be done before seeding; this helps prevent seeding too deep. (Seeds sown too deep do not emerge and if they do, they are weak and rarely survive.)

A good seeding rate for Southern Iowa is 8-10 lbs.

of alfalfa per acre with six to eight pounds of bromegrass or four to five pounds of orchardgrass.

Don't overlook orchardgrass when seeding a grass-legume mixture for hay or pasture. Orchardgrass-alfalfa for hay or orchardgrass-trefoil for pasture are common mixtures being used here in Southern Iowa.

Sterling orchardgrass is a variety with many outstanding traits such as high forage yields, quick recovery from mowing or grazing and superior winterhardiness. This seed is available on the open market. If you can't find sterling seed, don't be afraid to

plant some common domestic seed. It should be winterhardy and produce quite well; although, normally it will not produce as heavily as sterling.

In Southern Iowa, early spring seedings with oats are very successful and are recommended. Young orchardgrass seedlings may winterkill so fall seedings are not recommended.

Have you tried reed canarygrass for pasture? It produces enough forage to support two cows per acre during May and June with proper management.

Reed canarygrass does well on most Iowa soils. It is a natural for poorly drained soils because of its tolerance to flooding and standing water. In addition to its adaptation to wet sites, reed canarygrass is one of the most drought-tolerant of the cool season grasses. Under proper management, this species does well on upland sites. Spring seedings are most common; however, reed canarygrass can be slow to establish and may even fail

when weed competition is severe. If a fall seeding is planned, make the seeding between August 1 and September 10, - the earlier the better. Seeding rate for both spring and fall seedings is 10 to 12 pounds per acre.

Growth starts early in the spring with grazing available in the last week of April or first week of May. Reed canarygrass, which is a heavy producer, will make 60 percent of its year's growth by July 1. For best quality pastures, it should be grazed to 12 to 18 inches during the flush growing period of May and June.

Reed canarygrass is a heavy yielder when cut for hay. Best quality in the first cutting is obtained when seed heads first begin to appear. When cut at this time, a leafy and productive second crop results which also makes excellent hay. For more information about pasture planning and seeding, contact Keith Ticknor, district conservationist with the Soil Conservation Service.

Over 80% of Corn Crop Planted

Clarke County farmers are well ahead of previous years on corn and soybean planting this spring. Already, more than 80 percent of the corn crop for the area has been planted, according to Iowa crop reports and estimates by local farm officials.

Farmers experienced few delays in fieldwork last week and the percentage of corn acreage planted in south central Iowa rose from 33 percent to 80 percent in the past week, reports the Iowa Crop and Livestock Reporting Service. Statewide,

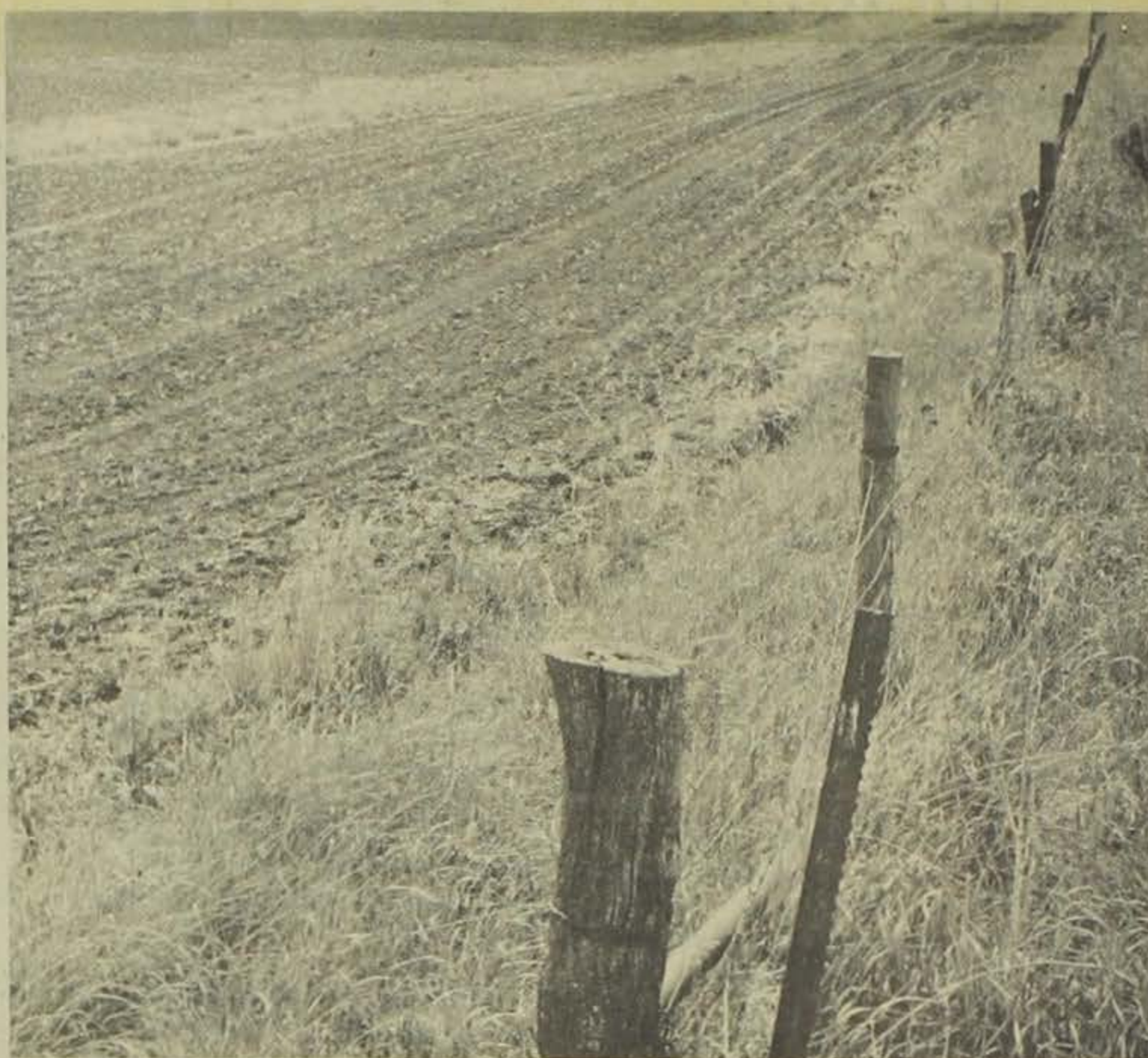
corn planting is 81 percent complete, compared with last year's mark of 63 percent and a five year average of 33 percent.

The crop outlook for this season is brightening, but Soil Conservationist Keith Ticknor said Clarke County is still "pretty short" on moisture in the soil and needs some good rains to catch up on what is considered the normal yearly rainfall amount of 34 inches.

Topsoil moisture in the area is 71 percent adequate, and subsoil moisture is only 43 percent adequate, according to the reporting service.

Scattered rains have aided germination and 14 percent of the corn crop has already emerged in the south central Iowa area. Soybean planting is about 12 percent completed in what is the earliest reported planting date since 1971.

Alfalfa weevil larva are now present in most alfalfa fields and are causing some damage in the area. Alfalfa reports show production about two weeks ahead of normal and nearing the bloom stage.



COMIN' UP CORN: The first indications of the 1977 corn crop showed themselves to the sun in Clarke County last week and the green ribbons of the upcoming rows can be seen throughout the

county. An estimated 14 percent of the corn has already emerged and more than 80 percent is planted.

Osceola Sentinel - May 12, 1977

Osceola Sentinel, May 12, 1977



ONE MORE ROUND: Members of the Osceola Young Farmers this week were planting and fertilizing corn and bean test plots on 20 acres of land north of Osceola. David Miller said the group is trying for maximum yields in test plots using 29 varieties of seeds and various types of fertilizers

and herbicides. The profits from the project will help finance the group's trip to the National Young Farmers Institute in Louisville and also some community service programs. About 30 area young farmers are involved in the organization.

Osceola Sentinel June 2, 1977

West Lake Reservoir Shrinks

An ever dwindling supply of water in Osceola and how to conserve water until rains can replenish West Lake will be the prime concerns of the Osceola Municipal Water Board at their June 2 meeting.

Scanty rains have kept the lake level hovering at about 60 inches below the top of the spillway during the past three months. The lake is presently 62 inches below full level, reports Gary Hembry, city water employee. A year ago, the water was flowing over the spillway, Hembry said. The level is the lowest since 1957 when the dam was raised two feet in height.

The Osceola Municipal Water Board, which governs water use in Osceola, has already requested residents to refrain from watering lawns and gardens and to take other water conservation measures, but is concerned about the number of households not heeding the warnings about a short water supply.

The board will discuss possible rationing or methods to fine water users who aren't conserving, according to Dr. Fred Wood, water board chairman.

"There are many, many ways to conserve water without any hardship," Wood stated. "People should be able to get by on 75 percent of what they use if they really try to conserve water."

He suggested that residents stop watering lawns and gardens, not wash cars, take shorter showers, and flush toilets less often. "Try to keep use of water to the necessities, and even in the necessities remember that we're a little bit short."

One possibility to encourage water conservation is to take action against water users who don't cut down a certain percentage from their previous water meter readings, Wood said. Water board members will examine the consumption figures from the next water meter reading and then decide whether such action is needed.

Several large volume water users have reduced water consumption. Jimmy Dean Meat Company, which uses as much water as the rest of the city combined when at full production, has cut back on its own water usage the past two months, according to Keith DeBurg, manager. Wood said the water board was informed that the meat processors are using about half as much water as they did in the first months of the year, which was about 450,000 gallons per day. Other users, such as the Osceola Country Club Golf Course are voluntarily rationing their water.

"We don't want to alarm anybody, but we want to get through this without causing a hardship on anyone," Wood said.

Getting through this means conserving and hoping for rains to fill the 125-acre lake. Osceola's normal rainfall is 35 to 37 inches annually, but only about 16 inches has been recorded for the past 10 months. Recent rainfall amounts have been 3.83 inches in March, 3.27 in April and 2.06 in May.

An additional concern through the summer will be the normal evaporation factor which increases during the hot months. Wood said about 100,000 gallons per day evaporates during the summer when the lake is full. That's about a sixth of what the city water consumption is currently running.

Several alternatives have been considered by the board. A plan to use water from East Lake to supply area farmers with water for livestock was grounded when it was found to be too expensive for the Clarke County Conservation Board and the city to fix the pumps. Still under consideration in the event water does run out is a measure to pump water overland from the pond at Sargent's Quarry into West Lake for processing.

One question often being asked is how much water is in the lake and how long will it last if no rains come. Based on an estimation of the amount of water present in the lake in February and the daily usage, it was estimated in February that the lake had enough water to last nearly seven months longer without more rainfall. The Soil Conservation Service has the equipment to



WHERE WILL ALL THE WATER GO? Cracked, parched earth is seen along the receding shoreline at West Lake, the source of Osceola's water. The

lake is 62 inches below the level it was at a year ago and at the shallow shores, the lake has shrunk as much as 35 feet from the normal banks.

more accurately measure the amount of water in the lake and has been requested by the water board to take such a measurement.

One good, soaking rain would be enough to

alleviate the present concern, but until that time, water conservation is a must for each and every citizen each and every day, the water board stresses.

Set Soil, Water Conservation

Week Sept. 11

Soil and Water Conservation Week for 1977 in Iowa will be September 11-18, reports Min Amemiya, extension agronomist at Iowa State University.

This week honors the special efforts being made to conserve soil and water, two of the state's precious resources.

Preventing soil erosion is an important task of farm operators, and Amemiya encourages farmers to select land use practices that reduce soil and water movement.

On row crop land, he advocates contour farming, strip cropping, grassed waterways, mulch tillage, terraces, and conservation tillage systems that leave soil surfaces rough and protected with plant residues.

On sloping land too steep for continuous row crops, the agronomist encourages crop rotations or converting the land to permanent grass or grass-legume cover.

Osceola Sentinel June 16, 1977
DROUGHT
Secretary of Agriculture Robert Lounsberry reports that many Iowans already have requested emergency drought aid and that hundreds more are expected to apply if drought conditions continue.

Lounsberry said Iowa is one of 24 states which President Jimmy Carter has declared eligible for \$800 million in emergency federal drought assistance.

Cooperating federal agencies in Iowa include the Soil Conservation Service, Extension Service, Farmers Home Administration, Small Business Administration, and Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Office. Farmers are eligible for grants and loans, often at low interest rates.

Communities also can get help if they have suffered from the drought, such as having a town well go dry.

"Iowans can ask for help for many conservation projects such as drilling new wells and building farm ponds and terraces. Machinery dealers who have lost sales because of drought can also apply for aid," Lounsberry said.

"In addition to federal aid, the state has recently allocated \$4.2 million for cost-sharing soil conservation projects," he said.

"The millions of dollars earmarked for drought assistance in Iowa highlights the seriousness of the prolonged drought, the worst in 100 years, and which is still with us to an unknown degree."

"Loans and grants will help, but what we really need are some good, two or three-inch soakers," said Lounsberry.



Osceola Sentinel June 16, 1977
FREE WATER FOR ALL: Water from East Lake is being offered free to area farmers and anyone else who wants to use the untreated lake water. A gravity flow pump was set up Tuesday at East Lake Park. The county furnished the pipe which runs downhill from the dam to the pump, the city departments helped dig the pipe line and a plumber was hired to hook up the pump. City water officials

arranged to have water pumped from East Lake to relieve the load of treated city water being used for farm purposes. Water Superintendent Ralph Squier, at left, said the water is fit for watering livestock, spraying, watering gardens and other outdoor uses. It is not treated for drinking use by humans. There is no charge and no limit on the amount of water that can be taken.

Give Approval to East Lake Plan

Plans for improvements at East Lake Park submitted by the county conservation board were approved by the Iowa State Conservation Commission last week.

The park is located one-quarter mile east of Osceola along the 13-acre East Lake.

The plan which the conservation commission approved calls

for reconstruction of the dam at the lake at a cost of \$116,000 and additional recreational development at the park.

The new 32-foot high dam is the most critical part of the project, board members believe. The present dam and spillway is 60 years old and in poor condition. The spillway has suffered from extensive erosion and significant seepage has already occurred, according to the project report.

Other improvements called for include a two-lane access road, picnic area with additional parking space, a picnic shelter, latrines, 26 picnic tables, 14 grills, and trash cans. The campgrounds will be further developed with a roadway, gravel parking pads and electrical hook-ups, picnic tables, fire rings and trash disposing units. A water supply line from Osceola will supply water to the camping and picnic areas.

Financing the entire \$260,000 project will be shared by the Soil Conservation Service and the conservation board.

Frank Riley, of the county conservation board, said bids will be taken on the construction specifications in the near future. After the bids are examined, the board will decide if they can afford to go ahead with all or part of the project.

SIRWA Canvasses Rural Areas

Rural residents in Clarke County, who have not yet joined the Southern Iowa Rural Water Association will be contacted by canvassers in the next several weeks. The canvassers will discuss the proposed water association with the residents and survey interest in the proposal.

Residents will be asked to sign a water users subscription and agreement to indicate their potential water needs and contribute \$25 to meet expenses of a feasibility study and the preliminary engineering report.

Those not interested in obtaining water service will be asked to sign a declination statement indicating they did not wish to

subscribe after being given the opportunity.

Approximately 60 percent of the rural residents have already joined and 20 percent more are needed if the water system is to be feasible.

A SIRWA representative said the water system will be designed to serve only those residents who are in the service area determined the subscriptions. Residents signing the declination statement will have no guarantee of being able to connect onto the system once it is constructed.

The Soil Conservation Service is working closely with SIRWA on the project for a rural water system in a seven-county area.

Osceola Tribune

June 21, 1977



DELIVER FISH FOR PONDS: Iowa Conservation Commission personnel deliver large mouth bass to area farmers participating in the commission's pond stocking program. The pond owners came to

East Lake Wednesday morning to pick up their allotment of fish. Last October the same ponds were stocked with bluegills and channel catfish.

Deliver Fish For Stocking Area Ponds

Owners of 14 farm ponds in Clarke County were supplied with large mouth bass Wednesday by the Iowa Conservation Commission to stock their private ponds.

Melvin Moe, ICC wildlife biologist, said the delivery of the bass last week was part of a pond stocking program offered at no charge to Iowa farmers.

The ponds are stocked with channel catfish and bluegills in October, then with bass in June. The pond owners are given 100 bass and 100 catfish per surface

acre and 1,000 bluegills per surface acre.

Although the fish are only a couple inches long when delivered, Moe said the survival rate is good and some of the fish will reach 12 inches in length in two years.

Pond owners must sign up for the conservation commission's stocking program by August 1 for the next fall and spring fish deliveries. An ICC representative will inspect the pond to make sure it meets the qualifications for the program.

Anyone interested in getting fish to stock their pond this fall and spring should contact Melvin Moe, Iowa Conservation Commission, SCS Office, Mt. Airy, Iowa, by August 1.

Switch Water

Meeting to June 28

Southern Iowa Rural Water Association regular monthly meeting has been changed from June 21 to June 28, 7:30 p.m. at the R.C.&D. building in Creston.

Give Warning on Use Of East Lake Water

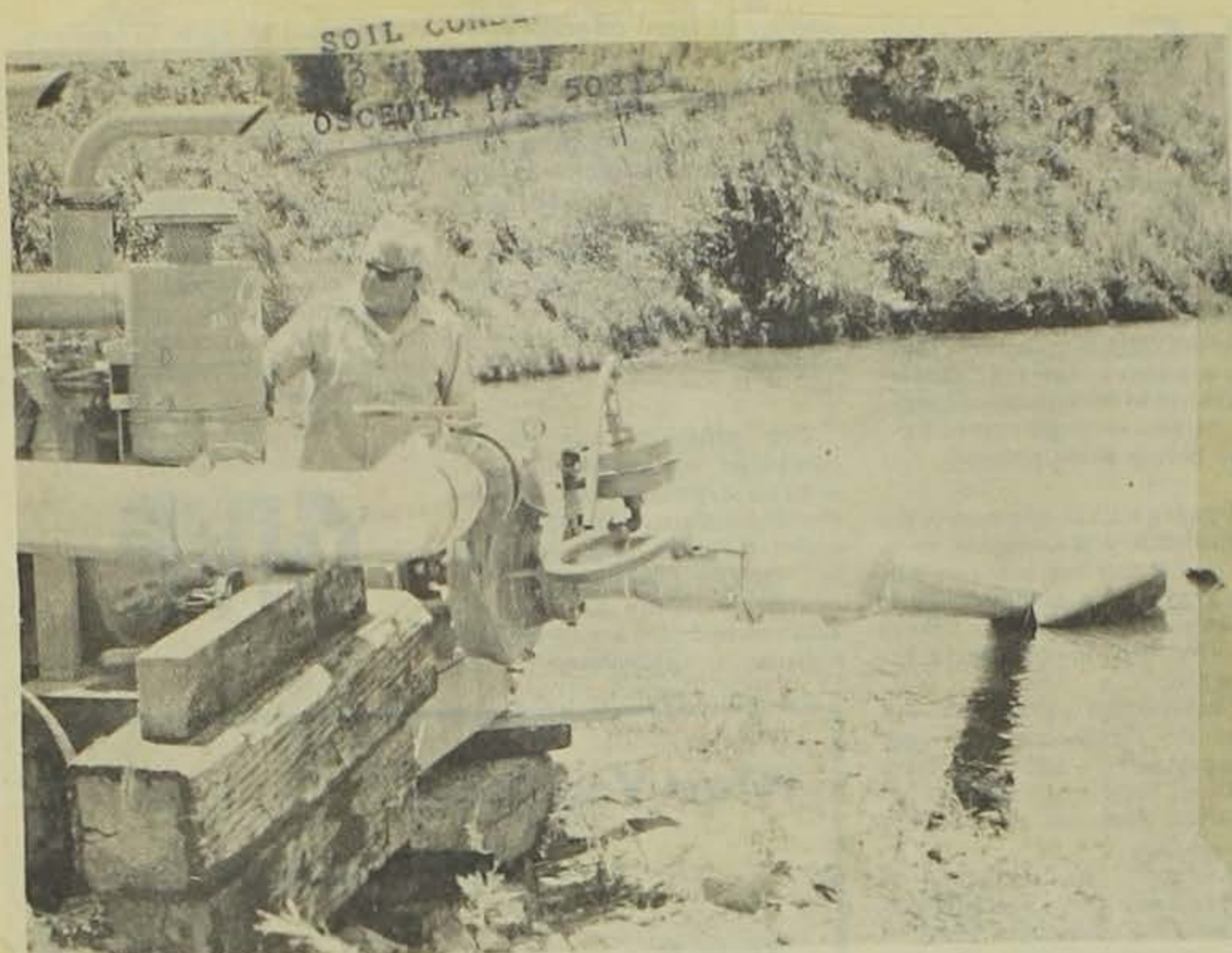
Osceola Sentinel June 23, 1977

The Clarke County Conservation board had a lengthy discussion on the water loading rack at East Lake park during a meeting Tuesday night.

The board stressed that the water available at East Lake is a temporary emergency water supply and not to be wasted. The system was set up mainly for farm purposes. The board discussed setting a limit as how far the lake should be lowered, but took no immediate action.

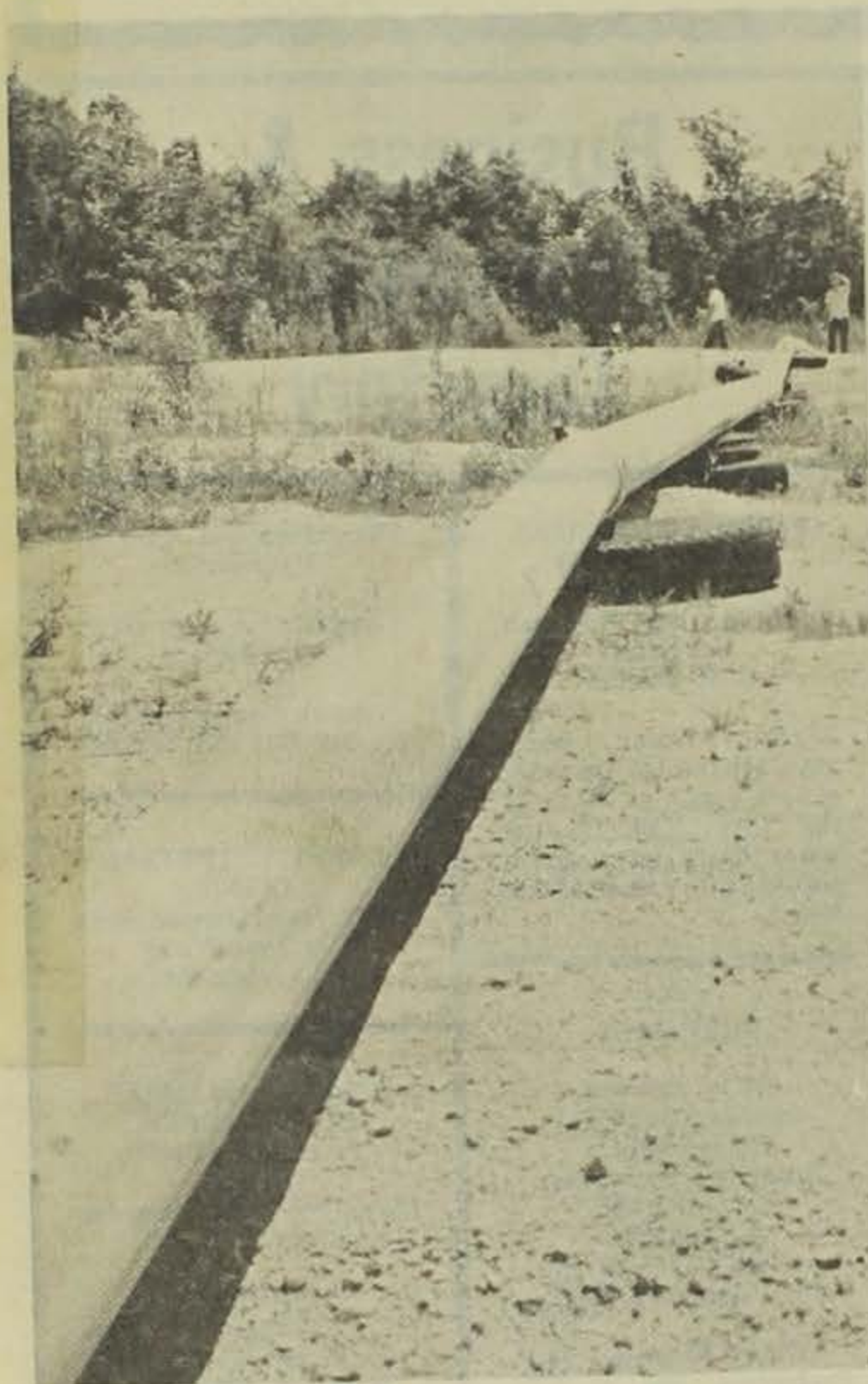
If there is indiscriminate use of water from the pump and proper care isn't taken, the board said they will make other arrangements to regulate the amount of water being taken from East Lake.

The board also discussed the East lake Development project and heard a report by Cathy Carroll about her experiences at Conservation Camp which was held at Springbrook Park in June. She and George Pett represented Clarke County at the camp. They were sponsored by the Conservation Board, the Osceola Lions Club and the Jaycees.



OUT ONE AND INTO ANOTHER: Ralph Squier, Osceola water department superintendent, readies the 2,000 gallon/minute pump which will

remove water from three smaller ponds and replenish water in West Lake, Osceola's water source.



THE OSCEOLA PIPELINE: Two city water employees straighten out kinks in the pipeline that is to pump water into West Lake. When the pumping project is completed, more than 6,000 feet of pipe will connect West Lake and the pond at Sargent's quarry. The pipe presently runs between West Lake and a smaller pond near the lake.

City Pumps Water Into West Lake

Osceola
Tr. bus.
July 5, 1977

The city water department has begun pumping water out of several ponds near West Lake to supplement the city's water supply. Last week volunteers and city crews laid nearly 3,000 feet of aluminum pipe from West Lake to a pump at the edge of a small pond owned by Concrete Material.

The pipe and pump arrived from Texas last week in fulfillment of an agreement in June between the Osceola Water Board and Jimmy Dean Meat Company for jointly purchasing the pump and piping. Jimmy Dean personnel located the pump and piping in Texas and it was shipped to Iowa last week.

Water will be piped from two small ponds—the Concrete Material pond and a body of water on land owned by Will Touet—and then pipe will be run to Sargent's rock quarries where an estimated 45 to 50 million gallons of water is available.

Water Superintendent Ralph Squier said 3,000 feet more of pipe is yet to arrive before the pipeline can be hooked up to Sargent's quarry pond, but enough pipe has arrived to reach the two small ponds nearer to West Lake. Squier said the two small ponds may contribute about a million gallons of water to the lake.

The additional water being pumped into the lake is expected

to slightly increase the current level of water in West Lake, but won't be enough to re-fill the lake according to Dr. Fred Wood, water board chairman.

The diesel engine pump can move 2,000 gallons per minute, Squier said, with some friction loss through the piping. The city plans to continue pumping the water for the next 90 days or until rains replenish the level of West Lake.

A survey of West Lake was recently completed by the Soil Conservation Service to determine the amount of water presently contained in the lake. A computation of the available water supply for the city and the amount of water needed to refill the lake will be available next week.

Keith Ticknor, soil conservationist, said five SCS personnel surveyed the present shoreline and took depth readings at cross sections of the lake every 500 feet to determine the contour of the lake bed.

Ticknor said the survey revealed the bottom of the lake to be fairly flat with occasional deep holes. He added that a second survey in about 10 years could be valuable in studying the rate of sedimentation in the lake.

Osceola residents are still urged to continue water conservation until the water supply is back to normal.

N MAIN
OLA IA 50213

Osceola Sentinel, July 14, 1977

The question of exactly how much water is contained in the West Lake reservoir has been a commonly asked one during the past dry months. Now there's an answer—in the vicinity of 190 million gallons.

A survey to determine the volume of water in West Lake was made between June 15 and 20 by two workers from the local Soil Conservation Service and three engineers and technicians from the Creston RC&D.

The survey revealed that as of July 15, the lake contained 583.9 acre-feet of water, or 190,251,436 gallons of water above the lowest of three intake pipes into the water treatment plant. In other words, that's the amount of water in the lake

available for supply.

How long? Based on current evaporation and water loss fact Keith Ticknor, day supply of June 15 survey outside pumpin water.

"We're sayi day the survi would be a 18 ply," Ticknor

Before doc marking a Dec end of water i mind that the likelihood of r also in the pi water from tl

Editorially Speaking—

Are Military Unions For Re

Unionization of the U.S. military forces is an idea whose time for rejection has come.

In Washington the battle lines appear to be forming over a threat by an AFL-CIO union to organize military personnel.

Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S. C.), who believes the unionization threat is serious, has introduced legislation backed by 37 co-sponsors to outlaw military unions.

Directors of the Commerce of the U recently adopted a fo position against milita tion, declaring "ex unions within the ar would erode disciplin in irrevocable dama military effectiveness defense posture."

No doubt, union offi disavow any intention in time of national cris

Survey Shows Six Months' Water Supply

Little River Watershed Project Progresses —

Rural Water Signup Deadline Is July 31

Promoters of the Little River rural water project are facing a "now or never" situation and have set July 31 as the deadline for potential water users to sign up to be included in the project.

By that date 80 percent of the rural areas in the watershed, which includes about a third of Clarke County, must have signed the agreement and paid the \$25 contingency fee which helps pay for preliminary project costs, according to Alan Teel, county extension director helping with the project.

The project is one of several in the Southern Iowa Rural Water Association which will provide

treated water to rural residents and is at a critical planning stage. It was learned at a meeting last week with rural water officials, planners and personnel from Leon.

The project is planned around a water impoundment on the Little River in Decatur County. The city of Leon is already planning to use the reservoir and build a water treatment plant for their own use. If rural water wants to be included, the plans have to be altered so the system has enough capacity to handle the rural water demand in addition, Teel said.

Three years of work have gone

into the project so far with completion an estimated seven or more years away. "We knew when we started that this was a long time deal," Teel said. "This is the first milestone, so to speak."

The portions of Clarke County included in the Little River Source area are: all of Green Bay township, the southeastern corner of Knox township, a corner of Ward township, the bottom third of Osceola township and the part of Franklin township not included in the Rathbun source area.

Nearly 80 percent of the potential users in Osceola and

Green Bay townships have already signed the agreement to be included in the rural water service. A farm-to-farm campaign is under way in Knox and Franklin areas. Heading that survey is Myron Ostebee, a student trainee at the Soil Conservation Service.

Ostebee and other volunteers will contact the remaining farms in the next two weeks. Anyone who has not yet been contacted about rural water and wishes to sign up or ask questions may contact the SCS office in Osceola. Volunteers are also needed to help complete the canvass.

"It's a matter of if we get on

the stick enough to get our share of it", Teel said of the plan for rural water to be included in the watershed project.

When it is a reality, rural water systems will provide treated water for rural households and farms at a volume rate determined by an elected board of directors. While construction of the dam and treatment plant is under way, hopefully by 1979, the pipelines for the rural water system can be installed.

The exact cost of the total system has not been determined. A Farmers Home Administration loan has been applied for to help with the construction costs.

Osceola, Aug 9, 1977

Appoint 9-Member Land Use Commission for Clarke County

Appointments were made last week to a nine-member Land Preservation Policy Commission in Clarke County. The county commission is formed to develop a land preservation policy for Clarke County and to submit recommendations for a state policy.

The commission is organized

under the State Land Preservation Policy Act passed by the Iowa General Assembly and signed into law June 30 by Governor Robert Ray. The bill establishes commissions in each of the 99 counties to provide local residents an opportunity for input on the land use issue.

Appointed to Clarke County's

commission are Jack Jeffreys, Gerald Edwards, Robert Wright, Richard Gonseth, Adrian Fuller, Glen Kimes, Orval Coffman, Richard Hill and Leland Hunt.

An organizational meeting of the group will be held August 18 at 8 p.m. in the supervisors' room.

The board consists of three district soil conservation commission representatives, three from the county board of supervisors, two from the Osceola city council and one from Murray.

Specific goals of the policy will be to provide for the orderly use and development of land and related natural resources in Iowa, and to preserve private property rights and prime agricultural land for agricultural production.

The new law requires that the temporary county commissions

(Continued on back page)

More About—

Commission

(Continued from page 1)

be organized by September 1. The County Land Preservation commission must hold public hearings where citizens can recommend the content of the county and state land preservation policy. Recommendations for the state policy are to be made by July 1, 1978.

The county commission will also elect representatives to a congressional district convention which will select members of a temporary state land preservation commission. The state commission is to make recommendations to the legislature by March 1, 1979.

The Iowa State University Extension Service is assisting in the organization of the county commissions and later will provide information and assistance to the commissions.

The County Land Preservation commissions are asked to use the following considerations in forming land use recommendations:

1. Preservation of agricultural land for production of food and fiber.
2. Review available resources, growth trends and land use issues.
3. Review present plans, ordinances and laws that effect county land use.
4. Develop a policy for solid waste disposal, sewage treatment and water supply; sites for industrial, commercial, educational, cultural, residential and recreational facilities; designate use of critical areas; coordinate county-wide transportation system.
5. Suggest land use guidelines for state agencies.
6. Suggest methods of implementation for state land use policy.
7. Consider the implementation of county land use policy.
8. Consider the preservation of private property rights.

Osceola Sentinel
Aug 18, 1977

Clarke County Rural Water Speaks Out

The question is often raised as to what benefits might accrue from a rural water system. Certainly there are several, some of which you may have heard before, certainly all are important.

1. Cooperation, by working together, individual rural users and small towns can bring about a water system that no individual could build by himself. The planning, developing, constructing and operating of a system to serve thousands of users presents staggering problems, which takes the best talents and energies of us all to solve. But solve them we can, by working together.

2. Financing. No one knows the exact cost of such a system,

but ballpark figures indicate that it will take many users to set up a financially sound system. Most individuals are simply not economically able to provide an adequate source of pure water; working together with the federal and state governments, they can.

3. Adequate supplies, as indicated above, a rural water system would insure users a never-failing source of potable water for humans and stock, something that southern Iowa residents have long needed, at a price they can afford.

If you agree, help bring this dream to reality by lending your support. Think, talk and act Rural Water. "P.O.P" — Promote, Objectively and Positively.

Tribune, Aug. 23, 1977

Subsoil Moisture Is Still Low

In spite of good rains in July in many areas of the state, few locations have built up a good supply of soil moisture because of the high demand of water for crops.

The low subsoil situation already raises concerns about the moisture supply for next year's crops, warn Iowa State University specialists. Subsoil moisture will need to accumulate this fall before the ground freezes and early next spring before crop planting for normal crop production next year.

All areas of Iowa except northwest and southeast have less than 50 percent of average subsoil moisture under corn as of August 1. Only Lyon County had more than average subsoil moisture on that date. All other sampling sites have below-normal subsoil moisture.

Farmers planning to harvest drought-damaged corn for silage need to consider the value of the crop as feed. Many fields in the drought areas will yield only about three tons of silage or about one ton of dry matter per acre.

A farmer needs to decide if the crop is worth harvesting when you consider the cost of harvesting, the nutrient value of the

crop is left in the field, and the erosion hazard if the crop is taken for silage.

Where crops are removed for green chop, silage or stalklage, Min Amemiya, extension agronomist, suggests leaving one-third to one-half of the crop standing to control erosion and to catch winter snow. He suggests strip harvesting by chopping four rows and leaving two rows, for example. Manure from the livestock operation can be hauled back to the areas harvested.

Livestock specialists advise substituting grain for hay to the extent feasible. Some areas that had good first cuttings of hay have already fed this forage.

Daryl Strohbehn, extension livestock specialist, advises looking at the price of corn relative to hay. With corn at \$2 per bushel and hay at \$60 per ton, the cost per pound of total digestible nutrients (TDN) is 38 percent

Pasture ^{Tribune} Production Is Problem

8-23-77

Lack of summer pasture and water have been of major concern this summer. Hopefully, recent rains and those yet to come will help take care of the water situation. However, farmers will have to do something on their own if they want to increase pasture production next summer.

Pastures can be improved either by fertilization and weed control or by renovation. Research has shown that grazing days or pounds of beef per acre can be doubled on many of our poor pastures by fertilizing with 50-75 pounds of nitrogen and by controlling weeds. A nitrogen application now will increase production this fall and some next spring. Nitrogen in late fall or early spring will increase grazing next spring and early summer.

Good summer grazing will require the addition of a legume or warm season grass. This can be accomplished by complete renovation or by interseeding or in some cases, by frost seeding of a legume.

Pastures can be interseeded this fall or next spring. This

requires proper fertilization, weed control (including the use of a burndown chemical like paraquat), and an interseeder. Information on the recommended procedures is available at your county extension office.

Complete renovation to a grass-legume or to a warm season grass like switchgrass will not only provide something to graze during July and August but will often triple carrying capacity of our old bluegrass pastures for the entire grazing year. Adequate feed supply in the summer should also help the rebreeding situation for beef cow operators.

We have had some success with frost seeding of legumes in the early spring. Red clover works the best and trefoil will work sometimes. More information on frost seeding and renovation of pastures can be obtained from your county extension office.

How Shall County's Land Be Used? - Tribune, August 23, 1977

Commission Sets 3 Land Use Hearings

How land should be used in the state of Iowa and how land use should be regulated are two topics on which Clarke County residents will be asked to give their recommendations in the near future.

Three public meetings to gather land use policy recommendations in Clarke County were scheduled at a Thursday night

meeting of the newly-formed temporary Land Preservation Policy Commission for Clarke County.

The first of the three public sessions for all Clarke County residents, both rural and city, will be Thursday, September 8, at 7:30 p.m. at the Woodburn Legion Hall. Other meetings will be October 13 in Murray and

November 10 in Osceola. County residents may attend any of the meetings to submit their recommendations.

Similar meetings are being scheduled in each Iowa county as the wheels roll towards developing a state land use policy. The temporary county commissions and the public meetings are the vehicles for composing a land use bill that reflects the interests and needs of the public.

The nine members of the county commission elected Leland Hunt as chairman and Glen Kimes as vice-chairman. County Extension Director Alan Teel will serve as coordinator for the project. Other members of the commission are Jack Jeffreys, Gerald Edwards, Robert Wright, Richard Gonseth, Adrian Fuller, Orval Coffman and Richard Hill.

The mandate for the establishment of the commission and the public input hearings is from House File 210, a bill that passed the state legislature this summer and was signed into effect in July by Governor Robert Ray.

Coordinator Teel said the purpose of the commission is to develop land use recommendations from the ideas submitted at the three public hearings. He emphasized that the hearings were not purely informational.

"These hearings will not be question and answer," Teel said. "They are designed to gain insight from the public to assist the commission members in developing its recommendations on land preservation and usage."

Teel requested that persons planning to make proposals at one of the public hearings submit an outline of their recommendations to the committee on or before the meeting date. Teel said such preparation will simplify the public meetings. However, this is not necessary in order to bring forward an opinion at the meetings. Attendance of all property owners is invited and encouraged.

Following the public meetings, the commission will meet to formulate a county-based recommendation which three members will then take to a congressional district convention. Eventually, a statewide land use policy will be proposed using the input gathered from citizens throughout the state.

The areas of primary concern for this region, Teel said, will be to determine how to preserve good agricultural land and how to mesh that with the use of land for industrial, commercial, residential and recreational purposes.

As outlined in the text of H.F.

210, the commissions at the county level shall consider and ask for input on the following topics:

1. The preservation of agricultural land for the production of food and fiber.

2. A review of the available resources, growth trends and land use issues of the county.

3. A review of the present comprehensive plans, ordinances, regulations and policies of the local units of government that have an impact on the use of land.

4. The development of a local land preservation policy for solid waste disposal, sewage treatment and an adequate water supply; siting of industrial, commercial, educational, cultural, residential and recreational facilities; designation and appropriate use of critical areas; and coordination of a countywide transportation with the state transportation system.

5. State land preservation guidelines for state agencies.

6. Suggestions for the content of a state land preservation policy and methods for implementation.

7. The implementation of a county land preservation policy.

8. The preservation of private property rights.

Subsoil Moisture Is Still Low

In spite of good rains in July in many areas of the state, few locations have built up a good supply of soil moisture because of the high demand of water for crops.

The low subsoil situation already raises concerns about the moisture supply for next year's crops, warn Iowa State University specialists. Subsoil moisture will need to accumulate this fall before the ground freezes and early next spring before crop planting for normal crop production next year.

All areas of Iowa except northwest and southeast have less than 50 percent of average subsoil moisture under corn as of August 1. Only Lyon County had more than average subsoil moisture on that date. All other sampling sites have below-normal subsoil moisture.

Farmers planning to harvest drought-damaged corn for silage need to consider the value of the crop as feed. Many fields in the drought areas will yield only about three tons of silage or about one ton of dry matter per acre.

A farmer needs to decide if the crop is worth harvesting when you consider the cost of harvesting, the nutrient value of the

crop is left in the field, and the erosion hazard if the crop is taken for silage.

Where crops are removed for green chop, silage or stalklage, Min Amemiya, extension agronomist, suggests leaving one-third to one-half of the crop standing to control erosion and to catch winter snow. He suggests strip harvesting by chopping four rows and leaving two rows, for example. Manure from the livestock operation can be hauled back to the areas harvested.

Livestock specialists advise substituting grain for hay to the extent feasible. Some areas that had good first cuttings of hay have already fed this forage.

Daryl Strohbehn, extension livestock specialist, advises looking at the price of corn relative to hay. With corn at \$2 per bushel and hay at \$60 per ton, the cost per pound of total digestible nutrients (TDN) is 38 percent

Tribune, Aug 23, 1977

Senator Ramsey:

A 'Slow Goer' on Land Use

Senator Dick Ramsey (Rep.-Osceola) has taken a cautious approach towards land use planning and calls himself a "go slow person" on the topic.

Ramsey served as a Senate representative to the conference committee studying the varying versions of land use bills as passed by the Iowa House and Senate this spring.

The Senate version of the land use bill, which sets up a process to propose specific land use criteria, was eventually adopted over the House version which was an inclusive bill to regulate land use, Ramsey explained. House File 210 was signed into law in July by Governor Robert Ray.

This was the first land use policy bill to pass in the Senate, although the House had passed land use legislation in prior years.

"I think there's a genuine concern in the legislature and the state that we don't want farmland used up and wasted...and improper land use of any kind," Ramsey said.

He said he agreed with some of the specifics proposed in the House version which was cast aside, in particular the protection of land from uses contrary to the long term public interest and a state-wide policy to cover areas (such as utility company uses) which cannot be handled by individual county policies.

"A land use bill can be much more comprehensive than just a zoning plan," he stated.

He said the present bill which established the county land use policy commissions is simply a method "to get us to a land use bill IF that's what the people want."

He expressed confidence in the knowledge and expertise of the persons serving on the temporary land use policy commission in Clarke County. "We really hope

there will be some response (from the public hearings)." Hearings are scheduled once a month through November at various sites in the county.

His cautious approach to the idea of land use policy is based on the methods of control. "There's a lot of concern about land use, but are we ready for the state to classify land that we own and say 'You will use it in this manner... and develop it in this way.'"

Ramsey favors the recently-approved H.F.210 which allows public input to the matter of forming what kind of a land use policy the state will have, if any.

Editorially Speaking—

Aug 25, 1977
S. J. J. J.

"Soil and Water— The Key to Our Future"

How will we plan for our future? That depends, of course, on what we want our future to be. This past spring, thousands of Iowans joined in phase two of our Iowa 2000 project — examining the future as it relates to work, volunteerism and leisure time. Next year, Iowa 2000 phase three will look at our land. It will be a timely topic. We know that our soil and water resources, or the lack of them, will affect our future in many dimensions.

Here in our state we are recognized for the huge volume of food produced for people around the world. Soil and water — essential elements of that food production — are basic to our economic success. Dry wells and inadequate subsoil moisture are two key cause-and-effect results of the on-going drought in parts of our state. Still, weather experts predict with some confidence that we are nearing the end of this drought cycle. There is hope that precipitation will increase and that our water reserves will be replenished.

Unfortunately, a few years' time cannot restore soil lost to erosion. Scientists report that it required up to 1,000 years for one inch of good, black Iowa soil to be formed. However, in that last 100 years, topsoil depths on some of our unprotected, sloping lands have dropped from 12-16 inches to six to eight inches. In addition, demands for all-out agricultural production in the face of increasing world food needs place an additional stress on the soil.

We in Iowa are especially fortunate to have skilled people in many organizations and agencies already at work combating the ravages of soil erosion. Our soil conservation

programs have set the pace for the rest of the nation. We were the first to implement a state-funded cost-share program for the installation of permanent conservation practices. And, we were one of the first states to enact a comprehensive erosion control law.

Today, we find ourselves at a crossroads. Increased awareness, better technology, and stronger commitment to already established programs have enabled us to make considerable progress in recent years. But, while past accomplishments in soil and water conservation are admirable, future success will demand no less commitment.

Iowa's soil conservation officials are deeply concerned about continuing losses to soil erosion, and so am I. Estimates indicate that more than half of our agricultural land is still in need of conservation measures.

Our state's 25 million acres of cropland are a living filter for the domestic water supplies of our cities and towns. In the future, soil conservation programs will take on added significance as a means of maintaining and improving water quality levels.

These programs depend on sound planning and good participation by all Iowans. Our present drought conditions should serve to remind us in the future of the dependence we place on our natural resources.

As we observe Soil and Water Conservation Week this September 11-17, let us demand of ourselves that we protect and enhance these precious resources, so that our heritage will also be our legacy.

—By Governor Robert D. Ray

Clarke County Rural Water Speaks Out

"We can't afford rural water."
That's what one family replied to a recent survey. The fact is, they are paying for water, one way or another.

Just stop and figure out the cost of hauling water for household and stock, the time and mileage, to say nothing of the water. Stop and figure the loss in performance of livestock, the loss due to sickness caused by impure water. Stop and figure the loss in profits caused by having to sell hogs and cattle because of inadequate supplies.

"We can't afford rural water."
The truth is, we can't afford NOT to have rural water.

Right now is the time to act for ourselves and for future generations. Your support of rural water by signing up will help local committees and area planners show federal funding agencies that you do care and are interested in the future of the area.

Progress is never easy, never cheap, never without problems. But unless we work together to

provide for ourselves, nobody is going to do it for us.

Please "P-O-P" for rural water
— Promote, Objectively, Positively.

Pasture Production Is Problem

Lack of summer pasture and water have been of major concern this summer. Hopefully, recent rains and those yet to come will help take care of the water situation. However, farmers will have to do something on their own if they want to increase pasture production next summer.

Pastures can be improved either by fertilization and weed control or by renovation. Research has shown that grazing days or pounds of beef per acre can be doubled on many of our poor pastures by fertilizing with 50-75 pounds of nitrogen and by controlling weeds. A nitrogen application now will increase production this fall and some next spring. Nitrogen in late fall or early spring will increase grazing next spring and early summer.

Good summer grazing will require the addition of a legume or warm season grass. This can be accomplished by complete renovation or by interseeding or in some cases, by frost seeding of a legume.

Pastures can be interseeded this fall or next spring. This

requires proper fertilization, weed control (including the use of a burndown chemical like paraquat), and an interseeder. Information on the recommended procedures is available at your county extension office.

Complete renovation to a grass-legume or to a warm season grass like switchgrass will not only provide something to graze during July and August but will often triple carrying capacity of our old bluegrass pastures for the entire grazing year. Adequate feed supply in the summer should also help the rebreeding situation for beef cow operators.

We have had some success with frost seeding of legumes in the early spring. Red clover works the best and trefoil will work sometimes. More information on frost seeding and renovation of pastures can be obtained from your county extension office.

Sept. 11-17 is Soil and Water Conservation Week

This week, September 11-17, has been proclaimed Soil and Water Conservation Week by Governor Robert D. Ray as he urges all citizens to share the responsibility of conserving soil and water resources and to become involved in the day-to-day workings of conservation programs.

A survey taken recently among Clarke County farmers shows that many of them share a concern about soil erosion and water quality.

Richard Gonseth, chairman of the Clarke County Resource Coordinating Committee has received the statewide results from a survey of farm operator opinions concerning soil erosion and rural water quality.

This survey was conducted by the county resource coordinating committees in each Iowa county. The Iowa Department of Soil Conservation assisted these county committees with this effort.

Seventy randomly selected farm owners or operators were polled from each of Iowa's 100 soil conservation districts. In the Clarke Soil Conservation District 29 people completed the survey.

Over 2,500 completed surveys were included in the statewide total.

Statewide, the majority of people surveyed were satisfied with the quality of water in their home drainage areas. Clarke County respondents indicated, 15 to 12, that they were not satisfied with the quality of the area's water. Twenty-one of these people indicated that they felt soil erosion was contributing to the pollution problem in Clarke County, and 15 felt that they had a soil erosion problem on their own farm.

Statewide, seventy percent of the people who returned the survey indicated that they felt soil erosion was causing local water quality problems, and fifty-two percent felt that there were soil erosion problems on their own farm.

Survey results indicated that ninety-three percent of the respondents felt that some type of government assistance should be available to farmers for erosion control to improve water quality. The most popular forms of assistance were cost-share funds and long-term low interest loans to

farm operators for erosion control investments. Ninety-three percent of Clarke County farmers stated that they thought cost-share assistance should be made available for water quality improvement. Also, 45 percent indicated they thought a loan program would be desirable.

Results from these questions and others dealing with levels of cost-share assistance, conservation set-aside programs, soil conservation district cooperation, and other related areas can be reviewed at the Clarke County Soil Conservation District office in Osceola. A copy of the survey results is also available free from the Department of Soil Conservation, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319.

No special activities are planned in Clarke County for Soil Conservation Week, September 11-17. Keith Ticknor, Soil Conservation Service director, urges area residents to continue practicing soil and water conservation measures and to consult the Clarke County SCS for assistance in planning and funding of conservation projects.

Thurs, Sept 27, 1977 - Sakiel

Owning Land

People who own or operate land have the major responsibility for its development. However, there are some land planners in Washington with different ideas.

Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Dr. Rupert Cutler is apparently one who would like to move the nation toward centralized planning and control over who will own land and who will use it.

In a speech before a meeting of the Soil Conservation Society of America in Washington, D.C., Cutler termed developments on land ownership and use in this country as "a bitter and sometimes mindless race for acquisition" in which land and people ultimately suffer.

The new Assistant Secretary for Conservation, Research and Education noted that every year there is the removal of five million acres from potential agricultural production. He then asked the question: "How far can we as a nation go in continuing to permit the kidnapping of prime farmland for housing and industrial use without gravely endangering our capacity to meet the food needs of our people and

our food commitments to the disadvantaged people of the world?"

Cutler announced that he had created a Land Use Committee in the Department of Agriculture to reeducate the people on how to think about land ownership and use.

One of Cutler's proposals that will go to that committee is dangerous. He said in order to achieve a coherent land use policy, we may have to change our concept of land from that of private property to the consideration of land as a natural national resource.

Any erosion of private property rights would weaken all other rights guaranteed in the Constitution. Farmers would oppose any governmental action that infringes on an individual's guaranteed right to own and manage private property.

One thing is certain. We do not need central planners in Washington to tell us in our own communities how best to manage whatever land use planning is needed.

By Lyle W. Borg



Board July 1977
October 4, 1977

Board Finds

Bids High

After asking twice for bids on the East Lake dam reconstruction project, the Clarke County Conservation Board is considering a bid of \$135,000 for the initial phase of the project to improve the East Lake dam.

The board rejected six bids opened in August as being too high. Two firms submitted bids in the second round in September and the lowest was \$135,000 for reconstruction of the 60-year old dam and construction of a soil conservation structure at the north end of the area.

The fate of the reconstruction project was discussed at the September 20 meeting of the conservation board. The board members agreed to proceed with the project although the cost has increased greatly since the initial planning stages when it was estimated the work could be done for less than \$100,000.

The construction contract will be finalized before the next meeting of the board, according to Melvin Goeldner, chairman of the Clarke County Conservation board.

"We're closer now to the final decision on improving the dam at East Lake," Goeldner said. He said some work could start this fall if the contracts are finalized soon.

The reconstruction is needed because the present dam is deteriorating and the concrete spillway has suffered from erosion and allows seepage to occur.

A new dam will be built downstream from the existing dam and the elevation of the dam will be raised four or five feet. The lake level will remain the same, however and the construction can be done without having to drain the lake.

The Soil Conservation Service works closely with the conservation board and was responsible for the project design and specifications. Construction costs of the improvement project will be split between the SCS and the Clarke County Conservation Board. County tax funds and Resource Conservation and Development sources contribute to the local share of the cost.

Energy, Soil Problem

Have Common Cause

Osceola Sentinel, Thurs. Sept 22

Patterns that have brought energy shortages to the American people are appearing with regard to topsoil, warns William Brune, state conservationist for the USDA Soil Conservation Service.

Brune said that in many cases across the state, topsoil is being mined for crop production much the same as other resources have been mined for energy.

"In general, half of our topsoil has been lost on unprotected sloping soils in only about 100 years of farming," Brune says. "And if the present rate of loss continues, the remaining soil could be gone in less than 100 years."

In comparison, the U.S. Energy Research Administration says current coal, oil and natural gas supplies will have to be supple-

mented by nuclear fusion, solar electric power, and other exotic systems by the year 2000.

"There are many conservation-minded farmers in the state, but because of pressures for agricultural production, some are not practicing soil conservation," Brune says.

Brune points out similarities between energy and soil problems:

First, the U.S. is a big producer and user of both food and energy. With only six percent of the world's energy production each year. We're one of the top three oil producers in the world. The U.S. is also a top agricultural exporter; agriculture accounts for 20 percent of our exports.

Second, both energy and topsoil are wasted. Topsoil is wasted

by farming up and down hills, exposing topsoil to heavy rains and wind, clearing areas of protective cover during construction in urban areas, and other ways. Energy is wasted by inadequate insulation, overuse of electrical appliances, leaving lights on, and other ways.

Third, saving topsoil and energy saves money. Electric bills can be reduced by setting the thermostat higher in summer and lower in winter and turning off lights when they're not needed. Likewise, farmers can do less clean plowing and leave more crop residues on the soil surface, to save on expenses as well as save soil.

On the other hand, long-term investments may be needed. In energy, adequate home insulation and weatherstripping will usually pay for themselves in seven to 10 years. The same holds for conservation practices like tile outlet terraces, although they may take longer to pay for themselves.

Fourth, solutions to the prob-

lems are complicated. Energy shortage solutions being recommended call for more energy conservation while at the same time finding new sources of energy. Soil erosion solutions call for more soil conservation, since new sources of topsoil cannot be found.

But meanwhile, soil continues to be lost on unprotected sloping soils at an alarming rate. Current funding levels for soil conservation programs would not get Iowa's soil protected for 100 years.

Similarly, energy continues to be wasted.

"What we really need, in both cases, is a conservation ethic," Brune says. "We need people to be conscious of the fact that if we don't save soil and energy, problems will multiply as time goes on. The time has come to realize that we can not and must not continue to ravage our natural resources for short term gains."

Brune says there is more public recognition of both problems now than in past years, and that progress is being made. Both problems are serious national problems which deserve priority attention, he says.

Counties Eligible for Planning Funds

Area counties will be eligible for part of \$5 million appropriated by Congress for rural development planning, members of the Southern Iowa council of Governments Project Board were informed at their quarterly meeting last week.

Roger Blobaum, member of the National Association of Regional Councils Subcommittee on Rural Development, explained the funding to those present at the meeting. Attending from Clarke County were Richard Hill, Keith Ticknor and Melvin Goeldner.

The funds are to be used in addressing rural area priority needs and stress will be placed

on activities to provide technical services and assistance to local governments. Blobaum said the grants are expected to equal between \$30,000 and \$50,000. The USDA will accept grant applications around December 1 and funding will be determined around January 1. Regulations on the grant program will be published in the near future.

The appropriation for rural planning grants is largely the result of efforts by the National Association of Regional Councils.

In other business, the project board was presented with the Areawide Development Plan by Ted Hauser, planning director. The plan is a guide for area

development and develops a work program strategy for the future. The priority balloting by the project board showed the following project areas rated the highest. Rural water is the first area priority, with soil conservation second, economic development third, housing fourth, energy fifth, community services sixth, sewer seventh, local planning eighth, comprehensive areawide planning ninth, transportation tenth, rural health eleventh and recreation twelfth.

The plan contains various specific projects under each category which have been submitted by area communities and counties. The plan meets eligibility

requirements of HUD and EDA. The project board approved the Areawide Development Plan as a guide for the area and voted to submit it to EDA and the seven SICOG counties, including Clarke County.

The board was informed that the council of governments has had more requests for local planning assistance (such as zoning ordinance assistance, recreation planning, comprehensive planning and ordinance updating) than can be handled under the current budget.

The board felt that developing a fee schedule for projects would

be the most equitable of several alternatives for meeting the costs.

The board would set a cost figure based on past cost experience and develop a fee schedule listing how much it will cost local governments per project. The schedule will be based on printing costs plus overhead for each project.

The board also reviewed a report on federal grant applications. The report showed that the industrial park grant for Osceola was approved and that a request for funding of a multipurpose senior center was rejected.

*Osceola Tribune
September 20, 1977*

Oct 13, Sentinel
**Speech Contest
Set for Oct. 20**

This year's Soil Conservation Speech Contest will be held on October 20 at 8 o'clock in the evening in the Soil Conservation office.

The topic this year is "Soil Conservation - Lifeline to Continued Prosperity". All Clarke County students (grades seven through 12 may participate on the district level). Awards will be given, first place \$25, second place \$15, and for all others that enter \$5.00.

Contestants will give a five to 10 minute speech and in addition, the judges will ask each contestant two general questions about the topic. Speeches will be judged on originality, aptness of thought, accuracy of information and the manner in which they are delivered.

The district first place winner will compete on the regional level with nine other district winners. The regional winner will go to the state level to compete.

To enter, individuals should contact the Soil Conservation District office, Vo-ag instructor, or 4-H Club leader. They will be able to supply information on the topic.

Tribune, October 18, 1977
Citizens Talk About Land Use

Eight citizens attended a public meeting in Murray Thursday night held by the county's Temporary Land Use Commission.

The meeting was one of three which are being held in the county to receive suggestions and input from area residents on the subject of a land use policy for the state.

The commission was established by state legislative action to gather input from the public before the legislature begins work to formulate a state land use policy.

Most of the residents attending the meetings have represented farm interests and many are local farm operators. The commission members also encourage city dwellers and indus-

trial managers to voice their opinions at the next meeting.

Alan Teel, coordinator for the eight-member land use commission, said those in attendance at the meetings in Woodburn and Murray have taken part in discussions of various provisions of a land use bill and the general concept of land use regulation.

The final of three public meetings in Clarke County to hear recommendations will be in Osceola on Thursday, November 10, at 7:30 p.m. at the 4-H Building.

Following the last public meeting, the land use commission at the county level will make a proposal to the district, based on recommendations made at the public hearings.

Tribune, November 15, 1977
**Wrap Up Land Use Hearings,
Group Makes Recommendations**

The final meeting to hear opinions at the county level about a statewide land use policy was Thursday night and was the most successful of three similar meetings held the past three months in the county, according to Alan Teel, coordinator for the county group.

"It's the best meeting we've had," Teel said. The hearings have been marked by low attendance and interest, although they are the first step towards getting the input of the public before a state land use policy is designed by the legislature.

The Thursday session was attended by about a dozen area citizens, including representatives from the Clarke County Farm Bureau, E. I. Sargent Quarries, the airport consulting firm, and several individuals.

"It was the most productive meeting we've had concerning how the people feel on these issues," Teel said. He said the commission of nine county repre-

sentatives will probably do some independent research and surveys to accumulate more input before making a county recommendation on land use policy. "I think the response hasn't come from a broad enough spectrum," Teel said after the final meeting.

Concerns brought to the commission during the testimony Thursday include the preservation of prime agricultural land for farming, the quarry industry's request for a state level land use commission to have a representative from the mining industry, and the airport consultant's plea that land be protected for airport use.

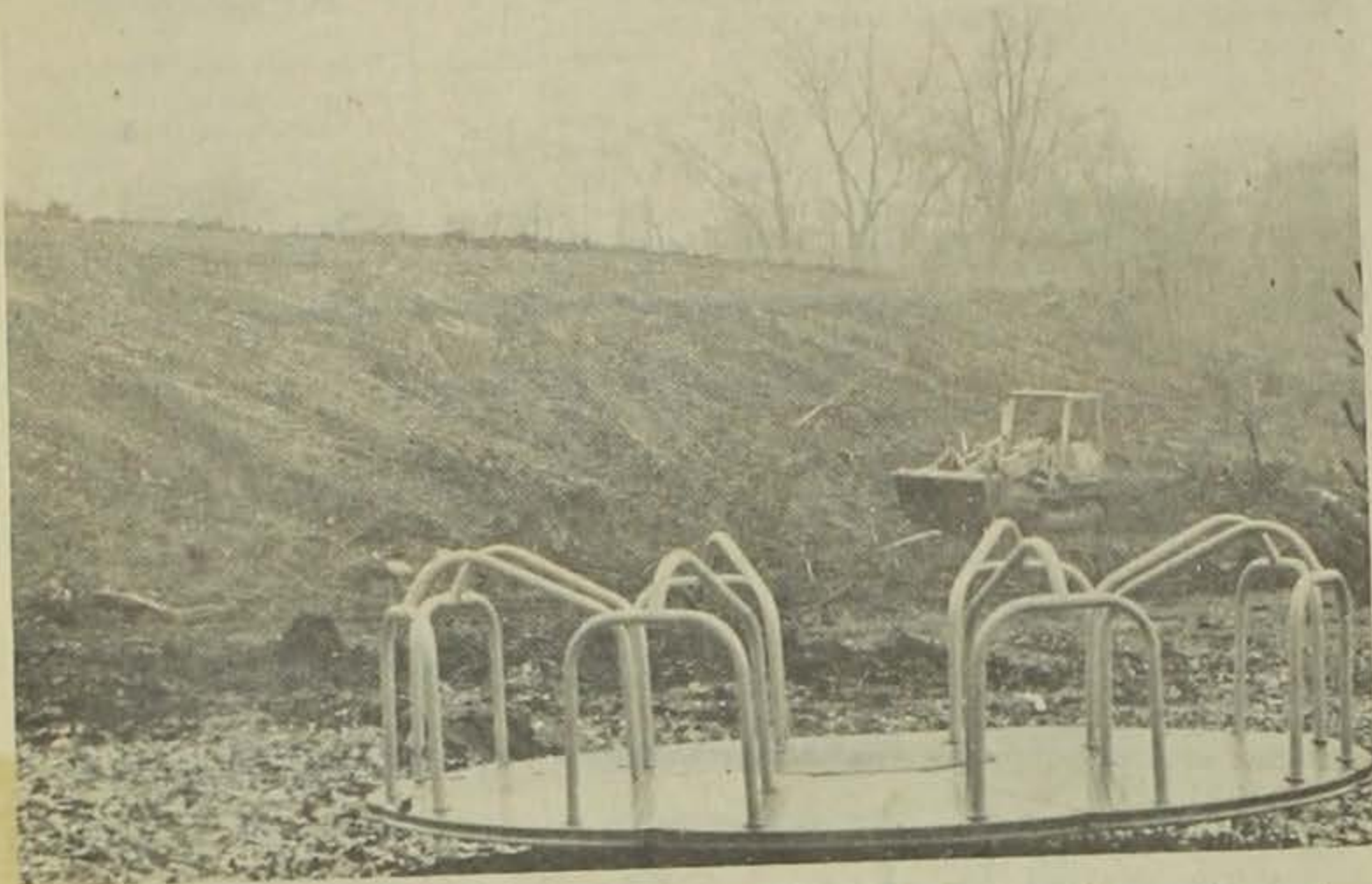
Farm Bureau President Ed Ratashak presented a series of resolutions passed by the county Farm Bureau membership on the topic of land use. The resolutions included provisions supporting the preservation of land prime agricultural land for agriculture as the main objective of land use policies, the protection of historical sites and the development of recreational facilities. The resolutions also stated that the constituency felt that county zoning and county housing ordinances are not a requirement under land use policies and the state should not have the power to veto county land use plans.

They also encouraged development of land within city limits before expansion into rural areas.

The county land use commission will make their conclusions based on the input. The final report will be passed on to a regional meeting for a similar process. The committee tentatively plans to submit their conclusions at a public meeting to hear pros and cons.

Teel said the committee will probably have the recommendations finalized by spring. The counties are required to complete the process by June 30, 1978.

East Lake Park Closed During Dam Construction



CONSTRUCTION BEGINS: Earth-moving in preparation for the construction of a new dam at

East Lake Park began Thursday. The new dam will be built directly behind the present dam.

East Lake Park will be closed to the public while construction of a new dam at the lake is underway, members of the Clarke County Conservation Board decided last week when heavy equipment began clearing the area for the new dam.

It was decided to close the park for reasons of safety because of the heavy equipment being used on the construction of the dam and the proximity of the work area to the recreational areas in the park. Several pieces of recreational equipment had to be moved Thursday to allow for the machinery to maneuver at the dam site.

The new dam will be located

directly behind the present dam, lower portion of which will remain in place after the new earthen dam is completed. The work is being done by Central Iowa Grading, Inc. of Des Moines for a cost of \$132,000 which is split between the Soil Conservation Service and the Clarke County Conservation Board.

All the construction will be done without having to drain the lake, according to Keith Ticknor, Soil Conservation Service director. The first job is clearing the trees and brush from the area of the new dam, then the contractors will begin to move dirt from a nearby hillside to build the new 32-foot high dam.

The dam will have a 30-inch concrete pipe spillway.

The construction of a new dam was needed because the present 60-year-old structure has deteriorated and the concrete spillway has eroded and allows significant seepage, Ticknor said.

Ticknor said the construction will proceed as quickly as possible this fall as long as the weather permits, then resume in the spring. He anticipated that the dam would be finished in time for the park to reopen in the spring.

The conservation board asks the cooperation of the public in complying with the temporary closing of the park.



CLOSE PARK DURING CONSTRUCTION: East Lake Park will be closed during construction of the dam. It is expected that the park can be

reopened in the spring when the dam is completed.

Jubilee, November 1, 1977

Osceola Sentinel
January 12, 1978

Little River Watershed Group Hears Decklever

Approximately 80 persons attended the organizational meeting for the newly created Little River Watershed Service Association, now known as the Little River Water Association on Wednesday evening, January 4 at the Decatur County 4-H Fair Building in Leon. Its predecessor, the Decatur County Water Resource Commission had previously voted to disband the county organization in favor of one representing the entire source area to be served by the Little River Watershed. This now includes a portion of both Clarke and Ringgold Counties as well as Decatur County.

The new board is composed of seven members: one from Clarke County, one from Ringgold County, one representing the towns in the area, and four from Decatur County.

Elected to the board were: Bill Bell, III, Osceola; Loral L. Hullinger, Leon; Herb Jackson, Kellerton; Leon Kessel, Lamoni; Kenneth Scudder, Leon; Howard Thompson, Davis City; Keith Williams, Leon. The meeting was chaired by Kenneth Scudder, Leon. He introduced members of the Decatur County Water Resource Commission, and expressed appreciation for their efforts in moving this project along to its present status.

Scudder explained that all subscribers in the Little River Watershed Source Area had been invited to this meeting for the specific purpose of creating a new entity established along the lines of the Watershed Source Area rather than County boundaries. Following much discussion on the exact verbiage of a motion to accomplish this purpose, the total group unanimously approved the proposal.

After the balloting, Scudder introduced Bob Decklever, Southern Iowa Rural Water Association Coordinator, who gave an update on water activities on the regional level. Franklin Main gave a short report on the Little

River Watershed. Main reported that purchase of land in the water storage area had started and that hopefully construction can start on some of the smaller structures in the fall of 1978 and certainly not later than early 1979.

After the meeting adjourned, the new board met and set Tuesday, January 10 at 1:00 p.m. at the Decatur County State Bank for its initial meeting. Priority concern for the new board is that of completing the sign ups in the entire watershed area. Decklever, SIRWA Coordinator, reported that there are some 300 contacts left to be made. If you have not signed up, or know of a neighbor who hasn't, contact the Extension Office.

Osceola Times
January 19, 1978

Tuesday Meet of River Assoc.

Tuesday afternoon, January 10, 1978, the Little River Water Association Board met at the Decatur County State Bank. The following officers were elected: Loral Hullinger, chairman; Bill Bell, vice-chairman; Keith Williams, secretary; and Leon Kessel, treasurer. Kenneth Scudder was chosen to represent the association on the Southern Iowa Rural Water Association Board. Bob Decklever, SIRWA Coordinator, also attended the meeting.

Decklever pointed out the need to choose an engineering firm to prepare the final design for distribution mains in the Little River source area. At the next board meeting, a date will be set to interview prospective engineering firms.

The Little River Water Association has hired workers to help finish the recanvassing of the Little River Source Area.

Next meeting date for the Little River Water Association Board is set for January 24, at 1:00 p.m. at the Decatur County State Bank, in Leon.

January 26, 1978
Osceola Sentinel

To Close East Park During Winter Months

The Clarke County Conservation Board held its regular meeting Tuesday, January 17 at 7 p.m. at the courthouse. Members present were Jim Asmus, Harold Bonnett, John O'Neill and new member, Frank Riley who was appointed to the Board effective January 3. Riley replaces Melvin Goeldner whose term expired December 31.

Ron Whitham, the fifth member of the board was absent. Others present at the meeting were Dennis Darnold of Southern Iowa Council of Government and Richard Hill of the Clarke County Board of Supervisors.

Officers elected for 1978 were Frank Riley, chairman; Harold Bonnett, vice chairman; and Jim

Asmus, secretary. John O'Neill was appointed as the Conservation Board's representative to the County R.C.&D. Board.

Darnold visited with the Board about the progress of the five-year Comprehensive Plan. Darnold stated the plan should be completed in March.

The Board discussed the East Lake R.C.&D. project and the budget for the next fiscal year.

The Board voted to close East Lake Park for the winter months and to change the meeting date from the third Tuesday to the first Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 7, 7 p.m. at the courthouse.

White Breast Board Discuss Watershed

A special meeting of the White Breast Watershed Board, Watershed sponsors and the Watershed Planning Staff was held in the Osceola City Hall last Tuesday, January 31.

Joe Ausan, SCS planning staff, Assistant Staff Leader reviewed the background and past progress in the watershed and pointed out that White Breast was authorized for planning August 4, 1971. Since that time considerable surveying, economic evaluation, water quality testing and archaeological study has been completed. Recently, nine alternative plans were studied for an economic evaluation.

Duane Miller, SCS planning staff, Agricultural Economist presented a map showing 27 proposed structure sites. He discussed the results of his economic evaluations of three different alternatives using different combinations of structures. Miller pointed out that his evaluation did not include the cost of mitigation for wildlife damages of other environmental damages.

Alternative # 1, included 14 structure sites. This alternative

had a cost-benefit ratio of 1.08: 1 and would reduce flood damages 50 percent. Structure site # 22 would create a 248 acre lake.

Alternative # 2, included 16 structure sites. This alternative had a cost-benefit ratio of 1.13: 1 and would reduce flood damages by 55 percent. Structure site # 22 would create a 175 acre lake and structure # 1 would have approximately 130 acres of water.

Alternative # 3, included 23 structure sites. This alternative had a cost-benefit ratio of .8: 1 and would reduce flood damages by 40 percent.

Ausan pointed out that as a single purpose (flood control) project, the watershed is economically justified. Therefore, planning will not continue unless there is interest from the City Water Board and the County Conservation Board to develop a city water supply and to participate in recreation development.

Ausan and Miller answered numerous questions from those in attendance.

The water board members and Frank Riley, Chairman of the County Conservation Board indicated that they are interested in a water supply and recreation in this area.

County Reports On Soil and Water Resources

A cooperative three year planning effort to develop a long range plan for using soil and water resources of the Des Moines River Basin is just beginning. Glen Kimes, chairman of the Clarke County Soil Conservation District, says the sponsors are looking for ideas from county residents.

Public meetings will be held throughout the Basin to identify local problems. The meeting in this area will be at the Brad Mar Restaurant, in Ottumwa on Wednesday, February 22 at 10:00 a.m.

"Public participation is critical in the development of a long range plan of action," said Ken Kassel, leader of the Des Moines Conservancy District. He urges all interested parties to come and discuss their land and water resource problems.

After problems are identified, alternate solutions will be developed during the three-year planning period. Kassel said some of the likely problems are land use competition, soil erosion, lack of wildlife habitat, inadequate drainage, shortage of recreation areas and poor water quality.

The study is sponsored by the Des Moines Conservancy District, Iowa Conservation Commission, Iowa Department of Soil Conservation, Iowa Natural Resources Council and the Minnesota Soil and Water Conservation Board.

The Clarke County Soil Conservation District may be contacted for more details.

February 28, 1978 - Ocala Tribune

Geologist Predicts—

No Topsoil by Year 2050

A University of Iowa geologist is predicting that by the middle of the next century the typical Iowa farm won't have any topsoil left at all.

"When farmers came to Iowa 140 years ago, the average topsoil thickness was about 11 inches. We have lost half of that and, by my estimates, we can expect to lose the rest in about 80 years," says Lon Drake, associate professor of geology at the U of I.

Principal cause of the increased loss of topsoil is modern farming, Drake says, and he estimates that land planted with such row crops as corn and soybeans, loses topsoil at a rate 100 times that of native land. Even pasture land loses soil at a rate 10 times that of prairie and forest.

Topsoil is a complex blend of minerals and decaying organic matter, plus a host of bacteria and other organisms, which provides a rich medium for plant growth. On native land, which in Iowa was prairie and forest, the soil erodes at a rate of about two inches of thickness per 1000 years, while it forms at a rate of between two and eight inches over the same time, only slightly faster than it is lost. As erosion rates for topsoil increase with farming, the formation rates also decline Drake says, by as much as 50 percent, and the net effect of this loss is tremendous.

Drake points out that his figures, which are based on the results of several different methods of testing soil loss, are much more pessimistic than those usually quoted by agricultural experts, who Drake says tend to base their findings on only one method of analysis.

Most methods of measuring soil erosion involve dipping a bucket into a river or stream and then measuring the contents of the bucket to see what the water is carrying away.

Knowing the number of gallons flowing in the river at any given time plus the land area the river serves, it should be possible to get some idea how much soil is being lost, Drake says, but the problem is not so simple. Everything depends on when the sample is taken and what is done with the bucket once it is filled.

Some tests ignore soil elements dissolved in the water, while others overlook the stage of the river during which the sample is taken. Some, Drake says, intentionally throw out many of the materials in the sample before even testing it.

"Agronomists are going more and more to what is called the 'clean bucket' method. This involves waiting a length of time before the sample is tested so that sediments have a chance to drop out. This is done because scientists find the results are more predictable and more repeatable.

"The problem is that many dissolved elements settle with the clay sediments so that fewer variables turn up in the test. Of

course, they are throwing away exactly what they are testing for, and I think it is the wrong way to go," Drake says.

The "clean bucket" method of analysis is especially favorable to agribusiness interests, Drake explains, because it seems to show less erosion.

"Every measuring method has disadvantages and some advantages, but by cross-comparing these methods, we can offset one set of disadvantages with another set of advantages. We can get a more accurate picture of what is happening to the land," Drake says.

To get his figures, Drake combined the results of several kinds of tests from such short-term methods as the test plot in which soil is measured day to day, to long term methods which estimate soil loss from an entire landscape over millions of years.

"An accurate picture can be obtained only by the coordination of a whole program of testing and analysis over a long period of time. We are just now beginning to get that kind of data from research programs set up 20 or 30 years ago," Drake says.

But no matter who does the testing or how, Drake points out, there is no doubt that soil is being lost and not replaced. The main question is how fast this is

happening, and most data indicate losses at rates 10 to 100 times that of native land.

He noted that crops can be grown without topsoil. "It would mean much more tilling and the application of many more tons of fertilizer," he says, "and there could never be the yields we have with good topsoil. Other places, as in many of the states south and west of us, where topsoil sits on top of bedrock would not be so fortunate.

"At a time when energy is in short supply, losing our topsoil would seem to be the last thing we should let happen," according to Drake, though he admits it would take a major change in farming methods even to slow the current soil loss rates—a change he does not see happening.

"It seems easy to blame the farmer, but he is just doing what he must to survive economically. I would lay the blame more with society, which is not willing to pay higher prices for food to conserve soil, and with the researchers who are coming up with few new and innovative ideas aimed at conservation. The organic gardeners and other funky folks are probably making more conservation progress than the researchers," Drake says.

Merrill McKinnie,	
Wages	229.58
Osceola Farm & Home,	
Supplies	7.05
Calvern Sanders,	
Wages	416.53
Uniongas, Gas	78.80
C. O. White, Wages	220.80
White Oil Co., Fuel	158.12

POOR FUND

Robert L. Burns, D.D.S.,	
Dental	5.00
Capital City Ambulance,	
Ambulance service	58.25
Cass Co. Care Facility,	
Care and medical	352.70
Clarke Co. Dental Clinic,	
Dental	20.00
Food Stamp Cashier,	
Food stamps	113.75
Clarke Co. Homemakers,	
Homemakers service	
(2 mo.)	200.00
Clarke Electric Coop.,	
Inc., Electric	42.97
Clarke Medical Clinic,	
Medical	88.00
Clinic Pharmacy, Med-	
ical	93.00
Wanda Craft, Transpor-	
tation refund	130.00
Decatur Co. Hospital,	
Hospitalization	164.40
Fareway Store, Gro-	
ceries	67.37
General Telephone Co.,	
Service	87.91
Harry Horton, Rent	75.00
Ia. Dept. Social Services,	
Emergency relief	804.37
Iowa Southern Utilities,	
Electric	19.62
Russell McCloney, Rent	60.00
Metcalf Drug, Medical	40.80
Smith Oil Co., Gas	70.50
Southwest Ia. Sheltered	
Workshop, Service	110.88
Union Co. Poor Fund,	
Care and keep	257.99
Uniongas, Fuel	13.50
University Hospitals,	
Medical	698.96
Uptown Apts., Rent	127.00
Frances Wilder, Food	
stamp cashier	47.07
SECONDARY ROAD FUND	
Allen Bottle Gas, Plumb-	
ing & Heating, Backhoe	
and labor	45.00
Ardick Equipment Co.,	
Amber Center Mt.	35.00
Bob Brown Chevrolet,	
Parts	84.58
Herman M. Brown Co.,	
Parts	754.12
Bruning Division, Engi-	
neering supplies	158.43
Century Laboratories,	
Inc., Supplies	152.42
Clarke Co. Tire Co., Tires,	
tubes, repairs	793.00
Clarke Electric Coop.,	
Electric, Co. sheds	127.79
Clarke Rural Water Dist.	
# 1, Water for Co.	

PUBLIC NOTICES

City Council Proceedings

January, 17, 1978

The City Council of the City of Osceola did meet in regular session this 17th day of January, 1978 at City Hall at 7:00 p.m. All councilmen were present. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Lamb and the following bills and claims were presented for approval.

COMMUNITY PROTECTION PROGRAM

Knight Cleaners, Clean-	
ing uniforms	63.50
General Telephone, Ser.	
police, fire	74.99
Peace Officers Equip., Co.,	
Spot light	25.00
Osceola Drug, Pictures	
developed	21.88
Stickler TV & Radio, An-	
tenna	14.55
Metro Uniforms, But-	
tons	4.80
I.S.U. Co., Service, street	
lights	1,088.76

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Osceola Library, Tax	
draw	1,000.00
I.S.U. Co., Ser. pool	16.00

HOME & COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

I.S.U. Co., Ser. sanitation	
and street	486.91
Clarke Electric Co-op, Ser.	
at new sewer plant	754.04
Smith Oil Co., Oil	99.00
Century Laboratories,	
Sewer aid	220.27
Osceola Farm & Home,	
Brush, wire, chain saw,	
etc.	308.35
Western Auto, Sup-	
plies	4.98
Osceola Cemetery, Tax	
draw	2,000.00
Barco Municipal Products,	
Cross chain	288.63
Iowa State Industries, 25	
U-channel posts	181.25
Toney's Truck Co., Haul-	
ing sand	189.00
General Telephone Co.,	
Service	19.52
Sanders Oil Co., Oil, diesel	
fuel	262.61
Jim's Auto Parts, Sup-	
plies	3.66
R & R Welding Supply Co.,	
Welding supplies	3.00
Gibbs/Cook Equip. Co.,	
Chain	99.10
Wilder's Truck Ser., Steel,	

All, Nays: None. Therefore the ordinance will be in effect upon publication.

Don Martin representing the present Senior Citizen committee met with the council at this time. What Mr. Martin was requesting from the council at this time was to have an official committee appointed by the council to act in regards to a new community building. To try to obtain some funding for such a project. After discussion of the matter it was moved by Edwards and seconded by Clark that the following committee be appointed by the council, also that the committee could appoint additional members if they so deemed necessary. The council thought that possibly some high school students could be consulted to see what their ideas would be in regards to a community center. The named members on the committee would be, Don Martin, Chairman, Marvin McHarg, Hazel Land, Melvin Goeldner, Earl Devol, Helen L. Lewis, Eva Webb, Irene Morgan and Gerald Clark from the council. Vote on the above motion was Ayes: All, Nays: None.

Clayton Scott announced that there would be a meeting Thursday evening at City Hall at 7:00 p.m. with the City Council, Clarke County Development Board, Water Board and members of the Clarke Rural Electric in regards to an Industrial Prospect.

Members of the fire department met with the council at this time. They discussed their present budget and the amounts of some of the items in the budget. They also stated that the tank on the old city fire truck would have to be replaced in the very near future. The council asked the fire department to get some cost estimates on replacing the tank. The fire rates were discussed also at the meeting. The fire department asked if the council would approve the costs of sending some of the firemen to the annual fire meeting in Ames in June of this year. They discuss new fire fighting items and fight actual fires. The council okayed 1/2 of the cost of sending mem-

5 OSCEOLA TRIBUNE
Tues., Jan. 24, 1978

Nays: Estell, Clark. Not voting was McKinnie. Motion did not carry.

Other names were mentioned and it was moved by Estell and seconded by Edwards that Jim Schaefer be appointed to the airport commission. Vote on the above motion was, Ayes: Edwards, Estell, Joseph, Nays: Clark. Not voting was McKinnie. Motion was passed. This appointment is based upon Mr. Schaefer accepting the position.

The Mayor stated that he would like to appoint Gerald Clark to the pool committee from the city council. It was moved by McKinnie and seconded by Edwards that the appointment be approved. Vote on the above motion was, Ayes: All, Nays: None.

The Mayor stated that he would like to re-appoint Lon Williams as City Treasurer. It was moved by Estell and seconded by Edwards that the appointment be approved. Vote on the above motion was, Ayes: All, Nays: None.

The Mayor also stated that he was appointing Gerald Edwards as Mayor Pro Tem.

The dog problem in the city was discussed at this time but no solution to the matter was arrived at to solve the situation.

Signed: G. E. Lamb,
Attest: Dan Cline, Mayor
City Clerk

AROUND IOWA

55 Years

Verle Marlenee of Adel has been a barber 55 years, most of that time in Adel. Many of his customers have patronized him regularly for 40 or more of those years. At least once, he has discovered midway through a haircut that the boy in the chair is a great grandson of a former customer. — Adel News.

Retires

Frank Tiefenthaler of Wall Lake is retiring after being on the Wall Lake town council for 44 consecutive years. During his 44 years, he served under three mayors. He was mayor protem for 30 years. He served with 24 different council members and attended about 900 council meetings. — Wall Lake Blade.

Osceola Tribune, March 7, 1978

Gonseth Calls Meet For Water Quality

Richard Gonseth has announced that a meeting of the Clarke County Resource Coordinating Committee will be held on March 8 in Osceola at the Board of Supervisors room in the courthouse at 7:30 p.m. to discuss the progress of 208 Water Quality Planning.

Iowa has been required by the 1972 Clean Water Act to develop a plan to control Non Point Sources of Pollutants. These pollutants include sediment and chemical runoff from all lands including farmland. The Departments of Soil Conservation and Environmental Quality are charged with developing the plan.

At this meeting, the Clarke County Resource Coordinating Committee will be evaluating proposed practices to control non point pollution. Discussion will also focus on a suggested method

of implementing the pollution control program.

"This meeting will be one of a very few opportunities for local people to have a say in the type of control program to use in Iowa," says Gonseth. "We need to shape the program to our needs or else someone will do it for us."

The implementation program would require pollution control measures in watersheds that contribute to a water quality problem. The Department of Soil Conservation maintains that its proposal allows for a number of incentives and alternative pollution control practices.

The public is urged to attend this meeting of the Clarke County Resource Coordinating Committee. This public input will be reviewed by the conservancy districts before final decisions are made next summer.

Osceola Tribune, March 28, 1978

Keith Ticknor Accepts Nebraska Woodland Post

District Soil Conservationist Keith Ticknor has accepted the position of Woodland Conservationist with the Nebraska Soil Conservation office in Lincoln, Nebraska. Area Conservationist Ernie Aust made the announcement of Ticknor's promotion this week and stated that the transfer to the Nebraska office would be effective May 22.

Ticknor took over as district conservationist in Osceola in the fall of 1970. He has aided in promoting all phases of soil and water conservation in the district and has been well pleased with the progress of the RC and D program including the East Lake project and the outdoor recreation program at Clarke Community Schools.

Projects that are underway at the present time include the standard soil survey for Clarke County and tile outlet terraces that are a continuing project. Ticknor expressed the hope that the Whitebreast Watershed program would be carried forward to its conclusion in the coming years.

Ticknor has been active in community and school activities in the county and is presently serving as chairman of the Clarke Community School Board. The Ticknors plan to move when housing becomes available.

In his new post, Ticknor will travel over the state to the various field offices and aid in setting up conservation planning programs pertaining to wood lands.

A new district conservationist for Osceola will be appointed in the near future.

Osceola Tribune, March 28, 1978

Finalize Recommendations—

Land Policy Commission

The Clarke County Temporary Land Preservation Policy Commission finalized its recommendations as set out in House File 210. Members of the commission are chairman, Leland Hunt, Richard Hill, Orval Coffman, Adrian Fuller, Richard Gonseth, Glen Kimes, Alan Mathias, Gerald Edwards and Marion McKinnie.

The commission held three public hearings, as required by H.F. 210, in various parts of the county. The public was asked their opinion concerning the land use issues outlined in H.F. 210.

Subsequent meetings were held and the following recommendations have been proposed:

- (1) That decision and control of any and all land use issues

remain strictly and solely with the people of the local county.

- (2) That the Preservation of Private Property rights be held in high priority.

- (3) That a reasonable balance between the private and the public interest be resolved at the local county level.

- (4) That present and future land use planning strive to preserve prime agricultural land for agricultural production purposes.

- (5) That due consideration be given to supplying an adequate quantity and quality of drinking water to the residents of Clarke County.

- (6) That the siting of industrial, commercial, educational, cultural, and residential facilities

be planned so as to make the best use of existing facilities and to prevent the unwise use of land resources.

- (7) That maximum emphasis be placed on the local development of land use goals and objectives, local development of comprehensive land preservation plans, and local regulation and enforcement of land preservation decisions.

There will be a final public hearing to allow interested persons to respond to the commission proposed recommendations on Wednesday, March 29, 7:30 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors' room, at the courthouse in Osceola.

SCS Office Accepting Applications

Richard Gonseth, chairman of the Clarke County SCD reminded local landowners that they are accepting applications for state cost-sharing for erosion control work now at the Clarke County SCS office, 820 N. Main Street. Some funds are available at 50 percent rate for spring and summer construction.

Water Conservation Last Summer Helped —

Good Rains Fill West Lake Reservoir

Editorially

He

A year ago, Clarke and surrounding counties were experiencing a water shortage due to a lack of snowfall the year before and a shortage of spring rains. This year, Osceola is blessed with an abundance of water because of good fall rains and spring runoff of winter snow.

For Osceola, the main source of water supply is the 125 acre West Lake, supplying water to the 3500 inhabitants of Osceola, commercial and industrial users

and the rural water users north and east of Osceola.

Last year at this time, the water level in West Lake was some 60 inches below the spillway and went down to a record 83 inches below the spillway at one point in August, according to Ralph Squier, superintendent of the water works.

Much concern was expressed by citizens of Osceola of a possible water shortage and alternatives were sought should

West Lake not be able to supply all the needs. For this East Lake was discussed as a possible water source by the Water Board.

Through most of the summer months until rain finally arrived in late August, the water plant pumped water from the rock quarries below the spillway back into the lake for additional water.

Dr. Fred Wood, chairman of the Osceola Municipal Water

Board, urged all Osceola residents to conserve water as much as possible by using a minimum amount of water in all ways.

According to figures recorded at the water plant on the number of gallons used during the summer months, citizens of Osceola did conserve water.

In 1976, 23,508,000 gallons of water were used from West Lake in the month of June, 23,674,000 gallons used in the month of July and 25,525,000 gallons used in

the month of August. In comparison for the same month the difference was only eight million gallons a year before; 16,9 used in June, 16,4 used in July and 16,9 gallons used in August.

Rainfall had been minimal in 1977 up to when a total of 14.5 inches falling after breakdown of mois-

Some time ago stopped believing be angels in dis boosters started reason to treat v visitors could looking for new

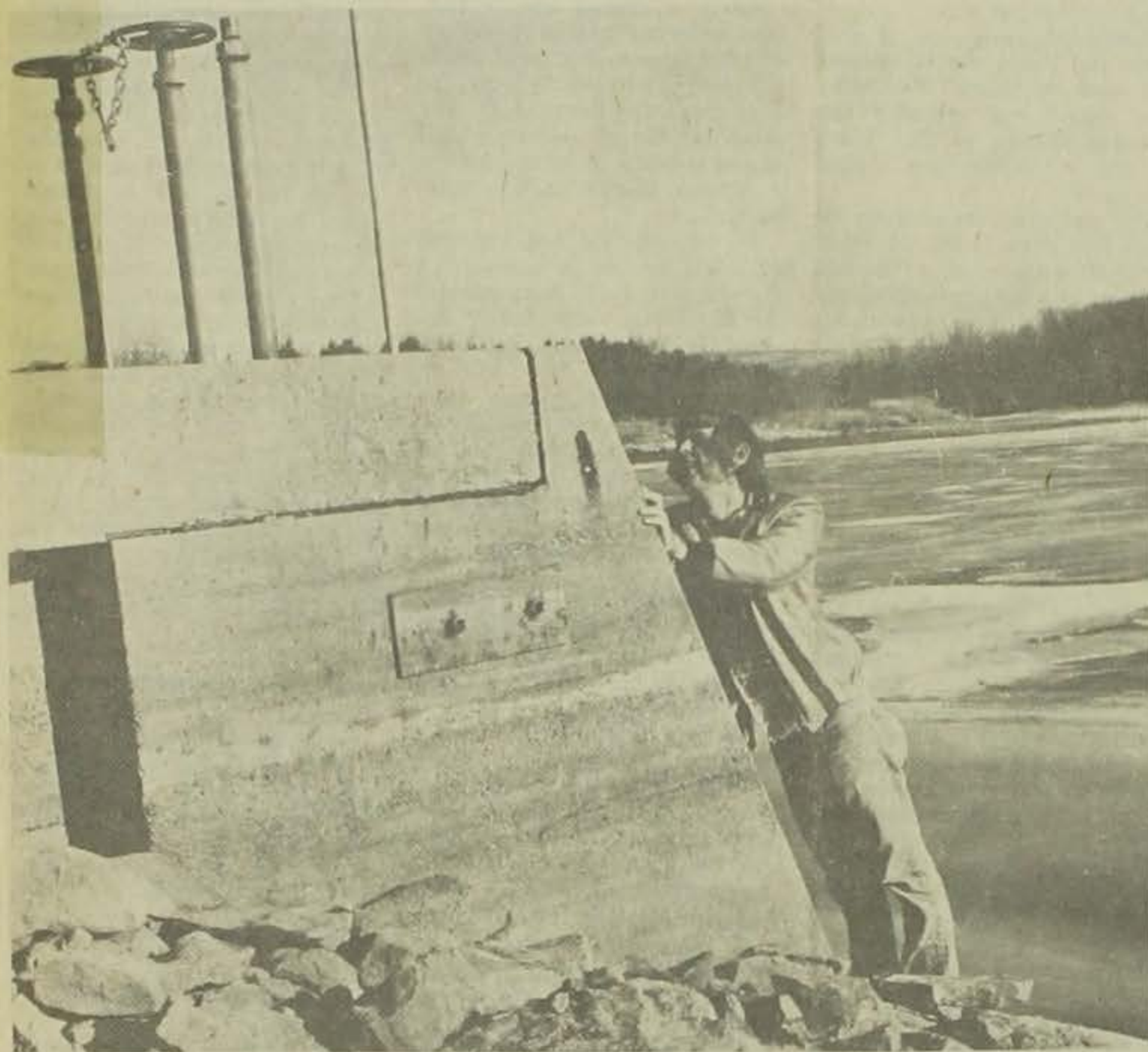
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APRIL, 1977: This was the appearance of West Lake, reservoir for Osceola's water supply just one year ago. Steve Squier measures the depth of

the water at that time and found it to be 60 inches plus below the top intake.



APRIL, 1978: Steve Squier and Herman Gracey stand on top of the intake valves as West Lake is full to overflowing. Water continues to flow over

Give Tips for Planting in Soil 'Trash'

Planting in "trash" will likely take a little getting used to, if you're a farmer who's used to the clean plowed fields before planting. But high soil moisture levels this year and soil conservation advantages might make the effort worthwhile for you this year, soil conservationists say.

"Yields with conservation tillage systems, or planting in crop residues, are comparable and sometimes better than conventional systems," says Ernie Hintz, agronomist with the US Soil Conservation Service. "There are also fuel savings with fewer trips across a field."

"You have to take some extra care in converting to a reduced tillage system," says Keith Ticknor, SCS district conservationist. "It's a different way of farming, and trying something different is usually tougher. But the farmers in this area who have tried conservation tillage, and stuck with it, are happy they did."

There are special planters designed to work in crop residues. The till planter moves residues from the row area to between the rows, and makes a seedbed for the seed in one operation. The no-till or slot planter does essentially the same thing, without disturbing as much soil.

If you're using your regular planter, you can have trouble if you don't break the stalks up before planting.

"You could chop or disk stalks lightly before planting. It helps to put rolling coulters or modi-

fied furrow openers ahead of the planter shoe, too," says Hintz. Most machinery dealers have this equipment.

"The important thing is to get a good soil-seed contact," Hintz says. "You'll want to check the seeds often to see that they're placed just deep enough in the soil and have firm contact."

Keith emphasizes that some farmers have given up on conservation tillage because they tried to use their old planter in residues without allowing for

5 OSCEOLA SENTINEL Thurs., April 6, 1978

handling stalks. He urged them to visit with farmers who are using the method successfully.

Keith Ticknor,
Soil Conservationist

Set Up Beef Test Program

A beef cattle production testing program has been set up in the Southern Iowa Resource Conservation and Development Area under the guidelines established by the Iowa Beef Improvement Association (IBIA). Gary Van Gelder has been hired to assist farmers in carrying out this program in a seven county area including Adair, Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Ringgold, Taylor and Union Counties.

The objectives of this program are accomplished through individual weighing of each calf at weaning so that superior heifers can be identified and retained for herd replacement, low producing cows can be identified and culled from the herd, and herd sires can be evaluated from the performance of their offspring.

"We need your cooperation now to get your calves tagged and identified at birth," according to Jim Glenn, IBIA manager, "so at weaning time, our technician will have all the information needed to properly compute the adjusted 205-day weights."

Due to the great success of this program in 1977, we are expanding our program in 1978. For further information, contact the RC&D Office, 800 South Vine Street, Creston, Iowa 50801.

Caring for Your Trees

With the coming of warm weather, your new trees will be arriving. "How do you take care of them?" is a frequently asked question at this time.

Seedlings arriving from the state nursery will be packed in plastic bags of 50 each. The plastic bag will be wrapped in a large brown paper bag. Don't open the plastic bag until you are ready to plant them.

Store your seedlings in a cool, dry place and once a day turn the plastic bag over. This will allow the moisture in the plastic bag to percolate back up through the seedlings.

"For best results your seedlings should be planted as soon as possible upon arrival. Also the roots should be exposed to the air as little as possible," according to John Tibben, District Forester for the RC&D Area including Adair, Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Ringgold, Taylor and Union Counties.

The District Forester has two mechanical tree planters available for use by the public at the RC&D Office in Creston.

Hand planting bars are also available at the District Forester's Office.

To schedule your tree planting, you should contact your District Forester as soon as you receive your shipment notification from the state nursery.

Pastures Can Be Improved

Pastures without a doubt are our most neglected crop in this area and also the crop with the most potential for improvement.

Carrying capacity or pounds of beef per acre can be at least doubled when going from an unimproved bluegrass pasture to a bluegrass pasture with moderate amounts of fertilizer and

weed control. The number of animals pastured or pounds of beef per acre can be at least tripled when going from an unimproved pasture to an alfalfa or birdsfoot trefoil-grass pasture or to a tall grass pasture with moderate amounts of fertilizer. We are talking about 50 to 60 pounds on bluegrass and 75 to 100 pounds on tall grass pastures.

Each pound of nitrogen will produce about 20 pounds of dry forage up to about 100 pounds on bluegrass and up to about 200 pounds on a tall grass pasture. Because bluegrass, brome, orchard, tall fescue and Reed canary grass are cool season grasses, most of their production is in May and June. By fertilizing the last of May, grass production can be increased for summer grazing. By applying nitrogen around August 1, production can be increased for grazing in the fall.

A good pasture program will provide other sources of grazing besides cool season grasses, for

use in July, August, and September. This could come from a legume-grass pasture, second growth meadow, sudan grass or even from our old warm season grasses like switchgrass.

An alfalfa or birdsfoot trefoil-grass pasture will produce more forage per acre at less cost per pound of beef (or day of grazing) than any other forage combination we can use but should be used in a grazing system with grass for early spring and late fall pasture. The only problem is that it will not increase pasture available this year, but should be considered as a way, in the future, to either carry more livestock, more profitably than on grass, or to carry the same number on less acres at less cost than on grass pastures.

Production of grass can be improved this year by the use of nitrogen. If more than 60 pounds of nitrogen on bluegrass or 120

pounds on our tall grasses are used, it should be applied as a split application. Most of our pastures will require 30 to 50 pounds of phosphorus to go with the nitrogen. A good soil test should be used to determine the exact amount.

Any good pasture program must include a weed control program. A regular clipping program will generally be all that is needed. On grass pastures, one to two pounds of 2,4-D ester or low-volatile ester when most weeds are four to six inches tall and actively growing will give good control. Rotational grazing will also increase carrying ability of all pastures. The main idea is to come up with a pasture program that lets your livestock harvest as much of their feed as possible and lets them graze this forage when it is at its optimum quality to give you maximum carrying capacity.

Water Conservation Last Summer Helped —

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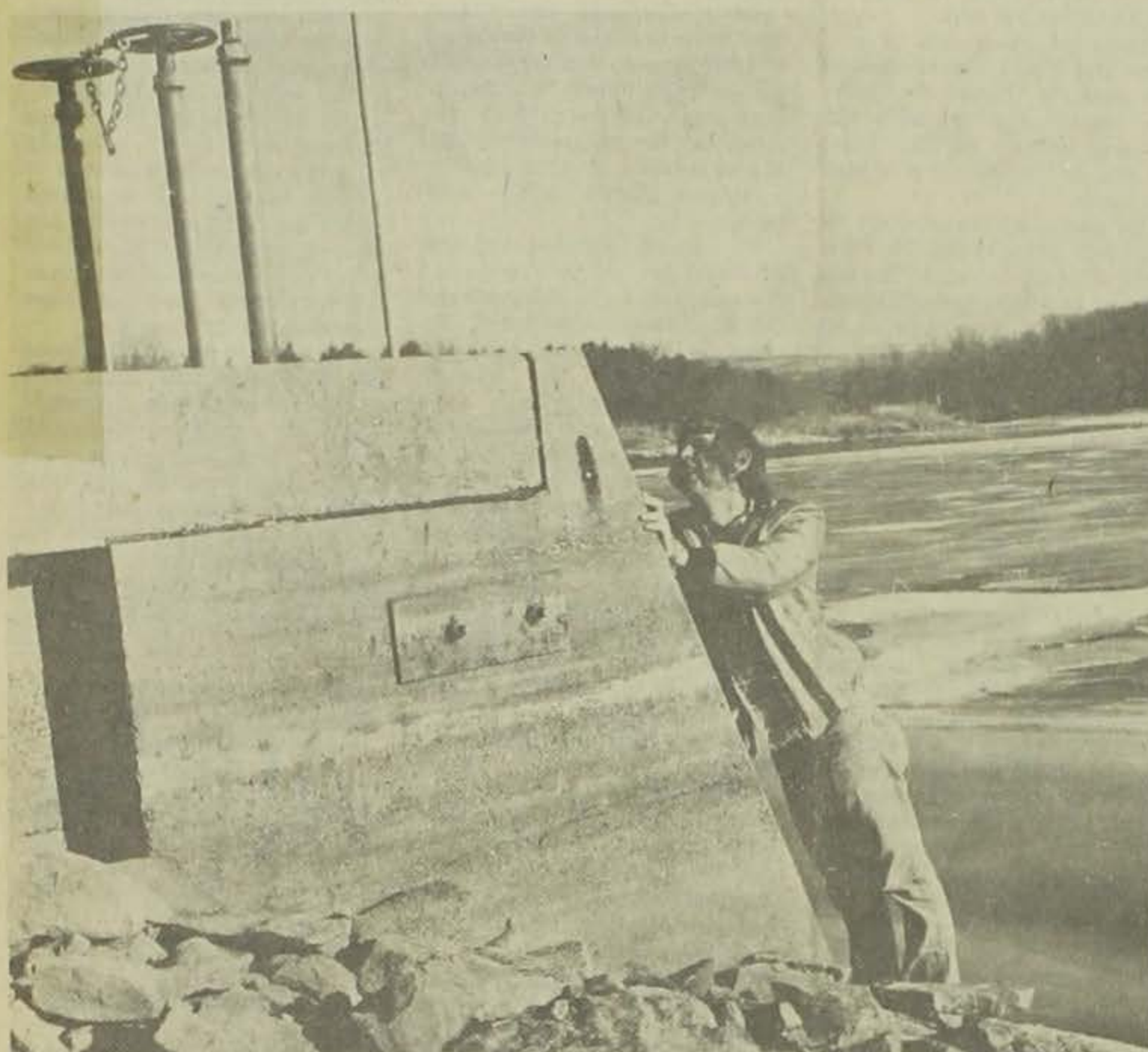
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the month of August. By comparison for the same months in 1977, the difference was approximately eight million gallons less than a year before; 16,918,000 gallons used in June, 16,496,000 gallons used in July and 17,207,000 gallons used in August of 1977.

Rainfall had been below normal in 1977 up until August, when a total of 14.93 inches were recorded for the month, 9.38 inches falling after August 26. A breakdown of moisture in other

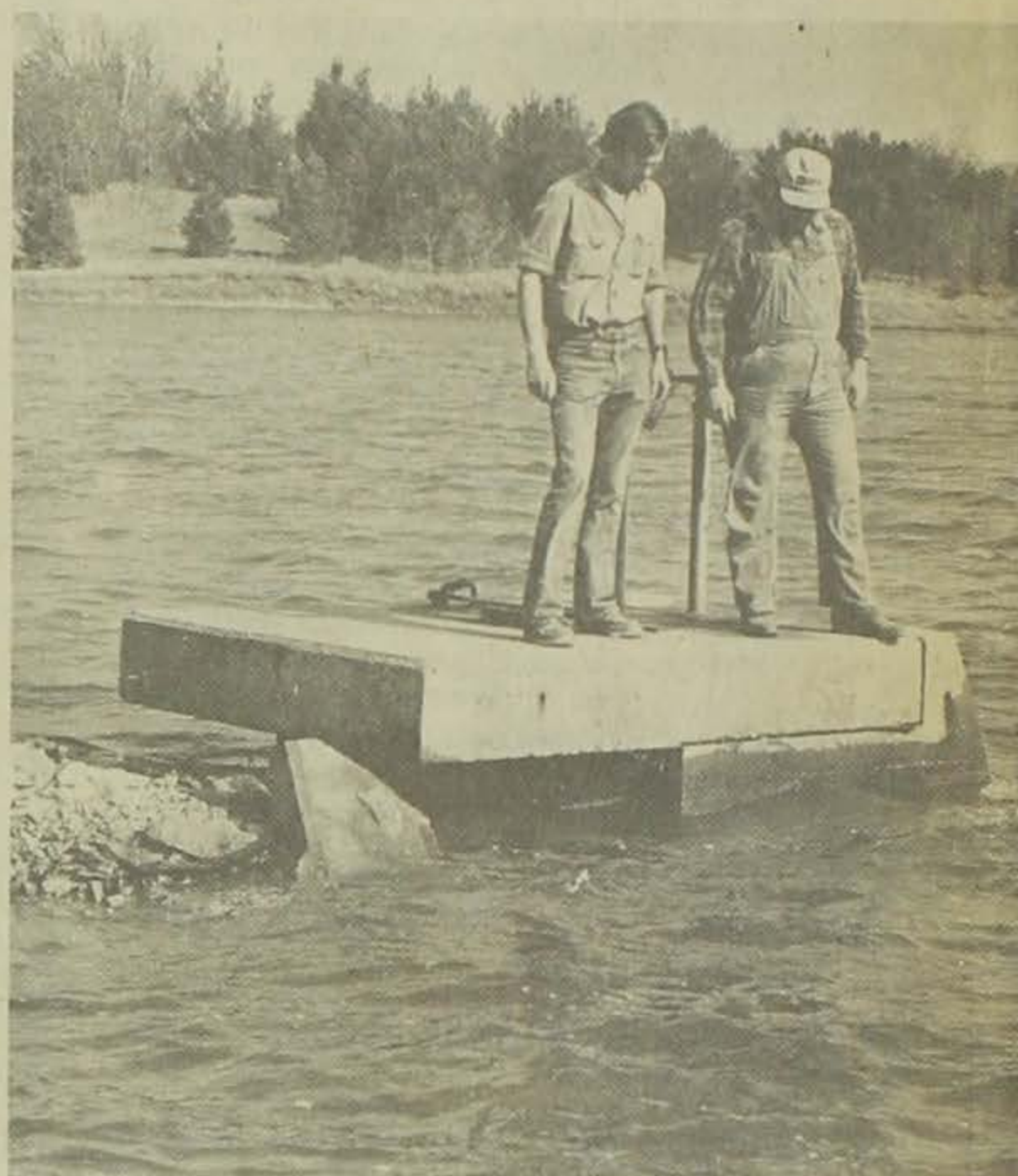
months leading up to spring time shows 2.91 inches recorded in September, 1.76 inches in October, 1.22 inches in November, .83 inches in December, .85 inches in January, 1.53 inches in February and .97 inches in March.

With the spillway overflowing from the recent thaws in March, citizens of Osceola are assured that West Lake will supply sufficient water this spring and summer.



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the water at that time and found it to be 60 inches plus below the top intake.



APRIL, 1978: Steve Squier and Herman Gracey stand on top of the intake valves as West Lake is full to overflowing. Water continues to flow over

the spillway following the melting of recent snowcover.

Union Counties
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Crop Residues Should Be Left Near Soil Surface Says Kent

The increase in conservation tillage acreage (leaving crop residues on the soil surface during planting) in Iowa has been astounding. According to Soil Conservation Service figures, the practice has grown from very few acres in 1967 to more than nine million acres 10 years later.

"But there's a problem with those figures, that is, on about a third of those acres, less than 1,000 pounds of crop residue was left on the surface at planting time. Reduced tillage, to be sure, but not leaving enough residue on the soil to do an effective erosion control job," SCS agronomist Ernie Hintz says.

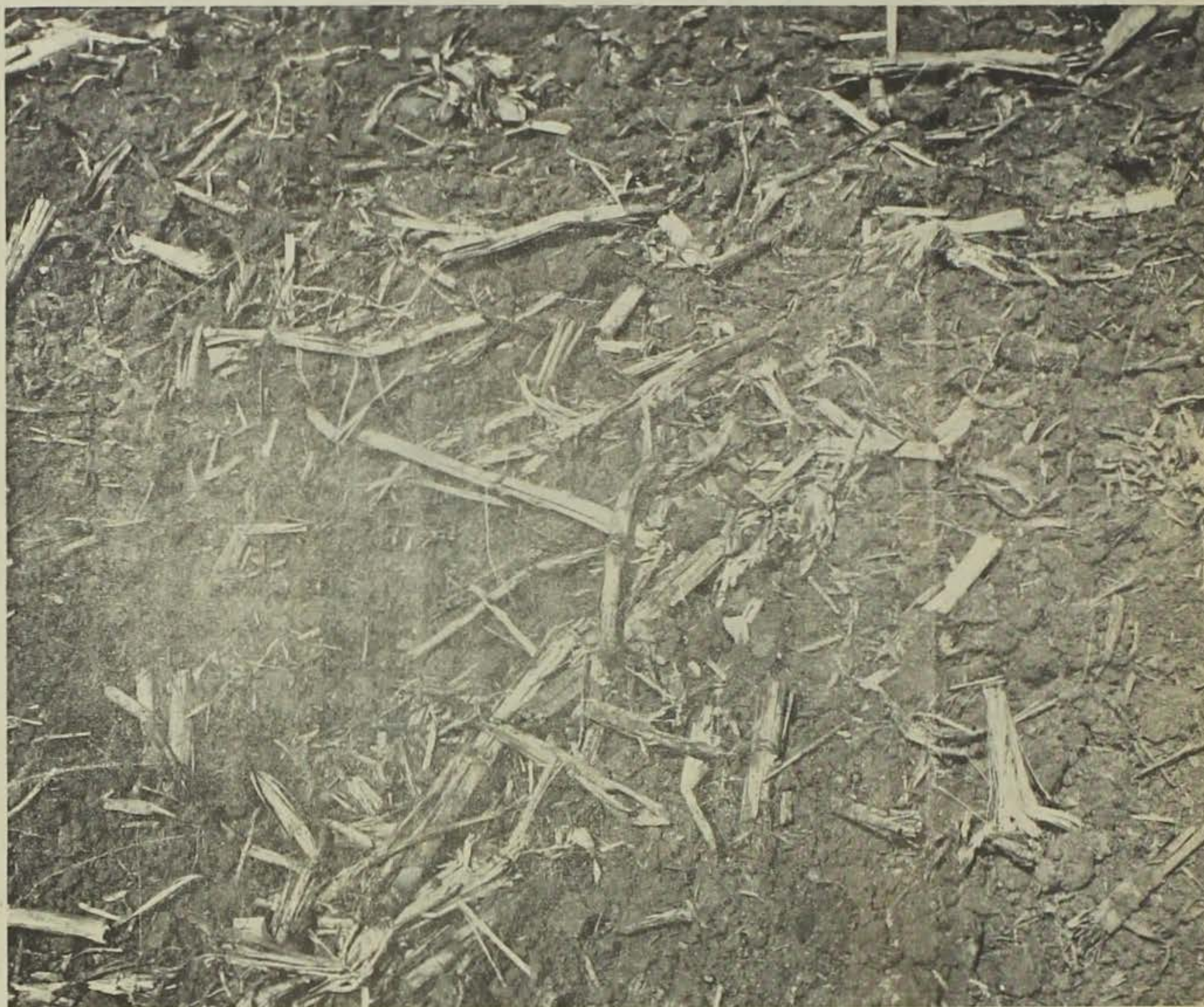
It takes 3,600 pounds of residue per acre to generally cut water erosion in half. One trip across a corn field with a disc buries half the residue, by rule of thumb. So if a farmer were to start with 7 - 8,000 pounds per acre, which is normal, with one disking he can be down to 3,600 pounds an acre of protection on the surface.

If you feel there is a real need to disc, cut no deeper than three or four inches. This will leave the residue you covered near the surface. In recent research we have found this residue also benefits water erosion control.

We have the machines to leave protective residues on the soil surface. The problem no longer seems to be to get farmers to use them; it's a problem of keeping them from over-using them.

We agree with conservation officials who urge use of no-till or till planters, and limited use of chisel plows, discs and rotary equipment. Our soil is important, and this system is an important way to save it.

For more information on **Controlling Soil Erosion With Crop Residues**, please stop by the Soil Conservation Office and pick up a pamphlet.



3600 pounds per acre should be a goal for every conservation tillage farmer. This residue in a chisel-disk system should control erosion

on slopes up to 6% and 200 foot long, if tilled and planted on the contour.

April 18, 1978 - Osceola Tribune

Soil Stewardship Week Set For April 30 to May 7

The United States' annual loss of five million acres of rural land to non-agricultural use is a special concern during this year's celebration of Soil Stewardship Week April 30 to May 7, Glen Kimes, chairman of the Clarke County Conservation District announced this week.

This year's Soil Stewardship Week theme, "Compelling Ventures", also stresses the importance of controlling water pollution causes by run-off from unprotected farms, ranches, roadsides, and construction sites Kimes added.

Soil Stewardship Week is a nationwide observance which emphasizes man's responsibility to protect and conserve soil, water, and other natural resources. Traditionally, churches and local citizen's groups participate.

"Nearly 3,000 conservation

districts throughout the U.S. will focus their attention upon conserving and preserving America's best farmlands during this 21st annual observance of Soil Stewardship Week," Kimes said. "The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that of the five million acres annually lost to agriculture, nearly one million acres are classed as 'prime' land — the best and most productive land we have. We are encouraging the preservation of these top-quality farmlands for farming rather than their indiscriminate use for housing developments, highways, shopping centers, and the like."

The 1978 Soil Stewardship Week placemats, "Compelling Ventures," placemats are available to local churches and community groups through the Clarke County Conservation District.

April 18 - Osceola Tribune

Ticknor Feted At Farewell

Keith Ticknor, Clarke County Soil Conservationist, was honored at a farewell dinner-party at Gus and Tom's Restaurant Friday evening, May 12. Ticknor has accepted a position as forester with the Lincoln, Nebraska Soil Conservation Service. He had been with the Osceola office since 1970.

Guests attending included, Mrs. Keith Ticknor, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Laing, Greg Kent, Bill Hodge, Jim Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gonseth, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Garner, Barbara Sunds, Mr. and Mrs. Glen Kimes, Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Thornton, Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Fuller, Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Henrich, Mr. and Mrs. John Webb, Doyce Miller, Maxine Kimball and Mr. and Mrs. Dale Chidester, Jerry Parsons.

The group presented a gift to the honored guest.

*May 18, 1978
Osceola Sentinel*



SERVICE AWARD: Past Clarke Community School Board resident Keith Ticknor receives a service award from new board resident, Vaughn Cline for a job well done. Ticknor served as resident for the past year until resigning his board position recently after accepting a job with the Nebraska Conservation Commission, headquartered in Lincoln, Nebraska.

*June 6, 1978
Osceola Tribune*

Weed Control Results Good

There's been a widespread belief that weeds are much more difficult to control on conservation (minimum) tillage fields than on conventionally tilled fields. But evaluations in northeastern Iowa and other tests say otherwise.

Weed control evaluations by the Iowa State University Extension Service in northeast Iowa conclude that "the performance of pre-emergence and post-emergence herbicides evaluated was basically the same as that with conventional tillage systems." The Extension Service has been studying herbicide performance there since 1971.

"They found good weed control with residue amounts of 3,000 - 4,000 pounds an acre, the same amount needed for good erosion control," says state agronomist Ernie Hintz of the U.S. Soil Conservation Service. But he cautions area farmers to be ready with a back-up system in case weather or other factors made herbicides less effective.

"Most years, a properly selected herbicide will do a good job of controlling weeds in fields planted with conservation tillage systems. But there are times when weather and other factors made herbicides less effective, and a back-up weed control system is needed, he says.

Planning now can save headaches later in those cases. "Adapting your cultivator to handle cornstalks is the most important step you could make now for a back-up system."

"The most common and a practical way to make your cultivator work in residues is to attach disc hillers to the cultivator. Then it's a trial and error system of adjusting them to work best," Greg says.

The rolling cultivator is one of the most widely accepted machines for weed control in "trashy" fields. Most manufacturers have one and most machinery dealers in Iowa sell them.

Greg Kent,
Soil Conservation Aid

*June 13, 1978
Osceola Sentinel*

Keith Edwards Assumes Duties



Keith Edwards

Keith Edwards assumed his new duties as soil conservationist for Clarke County Soil and Water Conservation District last week. He and his wife, Janet, are living at 209 Northeast Street in Osceola.

A native of Columbus Junction High School. He earned his degree from Iowa State in 1975 in farm operations and conservation and went to work as a trainee the same year in Shelby County. He moved to Monroe County in the same capacity and continued his training there before coming to Clarke County as district conservationist.

Edwards sees the need for water in southern Iowa as being one of the top priorities for the area. Planning that has already been started needs to be encouraged so that both rural and urban people can profit by having enough of the commodity made available to them in future years.

A second priority for this part of Iowa includes the need for conservation tillage. Edwards stated that while in Monroe County he witnessed a rapid growth of the practice brought on by drought conditions and the need to practice energy conservation measures. In the past two years there has been approximately a 300 percent increase in this particular tillage practice. He foresees a continuing movement to minimum tillage although a relatively small portion of the county's farmers are using it to date.

Edwards succeeds Keith Ticknor in the conservationist's post who became area forester in Nebraska and is headquartered in Lincoln.

District soil commissioners include Glen Kimes, Adrian Fuller, Richard Gonseth, Merrill Thornton and Philip Henrichs with Doyce Miller, Dr. Fred Wood and Mrs. Betty Webb serving as assistant commissioners.

RC&D Meet Set July 12

Chariton Valley RC&D Executive Board will hold a public tour of the Conservation Tillage trials near Rathbun Lake from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 12.

The tour will begin on the south side of J-18, one mile east of Iconium. This trial area features 144 acres corn planted with an Allis Chalmers no-till planter and 43 acres corn planted with a buffalo-till plant system. Also included are 21 acres of switchgrass planted using a John Deere no-till power seeder.

A second trial area consisting of 48 acres no-till corn and 19 acres no till soybeans is located one-fourth mile west of the Rathbun Lake Corp of Engineers Headquarters building.

The demonstration will be informal with the public able to tour the different sites at their own pace. Extension and Soil Conservation Service personnel will be present in the area to answer questions and provide background information. In case of rain, the tour will be held Wednesday, July 19, from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Contact Keith Edwards for additional information at the Clarke County Office.

Osceola Sentinel July 6, 78

Commissioner Seat Is Up For Election

The term of one Clarke County Soil Conservation District Commissioner, Adrian Fuller of Osceola, Knox Township, will expire at noon on January 2, 1979. Successors will be elected at the general election on November 7, 1978.

Any qualified elector residing in the soil conservation district, which is all of Clarke County including cities and towns, is eligible for the office of commissioner, except that no more than one commissioner may be a resident of any one township. Incumbent commissioners are Phillip Henrichs of Osceola, Washington Township; Glen Kimes, Osceola, Osceola Township; Richard Gonseth, Osceola, Green Bay Township; Merrill Thornton, Osceola, Jackson Township; therefore, residents of these townships would not be eligible for office at this time.

Prospective candidates seeking the office of soil conservation district commissioner must file nomination petitions in the same manner as for other elective positions at the general election, except that no political party is designated. Nomination petitions can be obtained from the County Auditor.

These petitions, signed by 25 eligible electors, must be filed with the County Auditor at the Clarke County Courthouse no later than 5:00 p.m. on September 13.

Individuals elected in November 1978 will serve a term of six years commencing January 2, 1979. Soil conservation district commissioners serve without salary and guide the overall soil and water conservation program in the county. For further information pertaining to the responsibilities of a commissioner, contact the Clarke County Soil Conservation District office.

Osceola Sentinel
Thursday July 20
1978
No. 21

almost a total loss of crops and destroyed other property to the amount of thousands of dollars.

Open Forum

(Editor's Note. Open Forum letters are welcomed by this newspaper. They provide a vehicle for the transmission of views by individuals and do not necessarily constitute an endorsement by the newspaper. Letters must conform to the dictates of good taste and must be signed by the person writing them.)

For sometime concerned citizens of Osceola have been interested in getting "Q" pond area cleaned up for a park and recreational purposes which our city needs badly. East Park is not large enough to fill needs of Osceola, it is also outside of the city limits. "Q" pond area is much closer being partially within city limits. If in any doubt about distance look at the city map. Now we know this sort of a project takes money.

The Conservation Board has offered to lease "Q" pond area for any number of years agreeable with council, clean it up at no expense to city and have it fit for citizens of Osceola to use and enjoy. Our councilman refused this offer. Why?

One of our esteemed councilman is concerned it will cost the city some money. So what? Isn't it time the citizens of Osceola have something in return for their tax dollars? There seems to be money for anything else that serves no purpose for ordinary citizens.

However, Conservation Board stipulates it will cost city nothing. This Conservation Board is made up of dedicated stable citizens. Would they make such a commitment and then renege? I think not.

So concerned citizens of Osceola ask your councilmen why this project can't be carried out. It is what over fifty percent of the qualified voters of Osceola want.

Mrs. Don Martin

Osceola Tribune, August 22, 1978

Seek Commissioner for Conservation Board

The term of one Clarke County Soil Conservation District Commissioner, Adrian Fuller of Osceola, Knox Township, will expire at noon on January 2, 1979. Successors will be elected at the

general election on November 7, 1978.

Any qualified elector residing in the soil conservation district, which is all of Clarke County including cities and towns, is eligible for the office of commissioner, except that no more than one commissioner may be a resident of any one township. Incumbent commissioners are Phillip Henrichs of Osceola, Washington Township; Glen Kimes, Osceola, Osceola township; Richard Gonseth, Osceola, Green Bay township; Merrill Thornton, Osceola, Jackson township; therefore, residents of these townships would not be eligible for office at this time.

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Individuals elected in November 1978 will serve a term of six years commencing January 2, 1979. Soil conservation district commissioners serve without salary and guide the overall soil and water conservation program in the county.

Oscoda Sentinel, 10-5-78

Soil Conservation

Holds Speech Contest

This year's Soil Conservation Speech Contest will be held the week of October 23, date and time will be confirmed.

Topic this year is "Soil and Water - Key to Our Future". All Clarke County students (grade 7 through 12) may participate on the district level. Awards will be given, first place \$15, and \$5.00 for all other that enter.

Contestants will give a five to 10 minute speech, and in addition the judges will ask each contestant two general questions about the topic. Speeches will be judged on originality, aptness of thought, accuracy of information and the manner in which they are delivered.

The district first place winner will compete on the regional level with nine other district winners. The regional winner will go to the state level to compete.

To enter, students should contact the Soil Conservation District office, vo-ag instructor, or 4-H Club leader. They will be able to supply information on the topic.

Oscoda Tribune 10-10-78

Slate Speech

Contest, Oct. 24

This year's Soil Conservation Speech Contest will be held October 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the Soil Conservation Office in Osceola.

The topic is "Soil and Water - Key to Our Future". All Clarke County students (grade seven through 12) may participate on the district level. Awards will be given, first place \$15, and \$5.00 for all others that enter.

Contestants will give a five to 10 minute speech, and in addition the judges will ask each contestant two general questions about the topic. Speeches will be judged on originality, aptness of thought accuracy of information and the manner in which they are delivered.

The district first place winner will compete on the regional level with nine other district winners. The regional winner will go to the state level to compete.

To enter, students should contact the Soil Conservation District office, vo-ag instructor, or 4-H Club leader. They will be able to supply information on the topic.

Public Meeting Planned For Resource Committee

County residents are urged to attend a joint public meeting to be held July 31, at 7:30 p.m. at the Osceola City Hall on conservation programs. The Clarke County Resource Coordinating Committee will review and discuss the second draft prepared for 208 water quality planning in Iowa from the Department of Soil Conservation on how Non-Point Pollution will be controlled. These pollutants include sediment and chemical runoff from all lands including farmland.

Iowa has been required by the 1972 Clean Water Act to develop a plan to control Non-Point Sources of Pollutants. This public input will be reviewed by the conservancy district so that final decisions can be made by November 1978. The Department of Soil Conservation and Environmental Quality are charged with developing the plan.

Also at this meeting county residents will be asked for their opinions on what kind of conservation programs should be offered in the future.

"We're asking people to fill out a worksheet to find out what they think are the most serious problems," says Glen Kimes, chairman of the Clarke County Soil Conservation District. "For instance, they tell us whether they're more concerned about soil erosion and flooding than they are about the loss of prime farmland or wildlife habitat."

The Clarke Soil Conservation District will use the answers in formulating local conservation programs for the future. They

will also forward a summary to state and national offices of the U.S. Soil Conservation Service. The information will be used with other county summaries to develop state and national programs.

It's all part of the Resources Conservation Act of 1977, termed "unprecedented legislation" by conservation officials. The act requires the U.S. Department of Agriculture to use public opinion as well as scientific data to appraise natural resources on private land all over the U.S. every five years. Then, in cooperation with local soil conservation districts, other resource agencies, and with public input, they must develop a five year conservation program. They must also evaluate progress in attacking the problems identified by people.

More information on the Resources Conservation Act and what can be done to influence future conservation programs is available at the Soil Conservation Service office in Osceola.

Oscoda Tribune
11/13/78
July 18, 1978

Osceola So. Ind. -- 11-23-78

Recognize Gonseth for Soil Commission Work

Region Eight of the Soil Conservation Commissioners held their annual meeting Monday evening, November 20 at the Chicken Inn in Creston. Richard

Gonseth of rural Osceola was awarded the Outstanding Soil Commissioner for this area.

Gonseth has lived in Osceola all his life, graduating from Osceola High School in 1958. He and his wife, Lois, have three children: Phillip, June and Julie. They farm approximately 420 acres of ground, 150 acres in corn, 40 acres in hay and the balance in pasture. Gonseth also raises 800 hogs and 60 head of cattle.

Gonseth won the award for his conservation practices on his farm and his work as a commissioner since 1969, and chairman from 1974 to 1976. He established an active Youth Conservation Board as a part of the District Education Committee, helped set up the fair committee, served on the Goodyear Awards Committee and is a township representative for the county rural water survey.

Bob Carroll, Clarke County's entrant in the speech contest placed second in the speech competition and will be an alternate for state competition should the first place winner not be able to attend.

A part of his speech concerning soil conservation practices read, "One easy method of soil conservation is to build the organic matter in your soil. You can do this by plowing in manure and plant residues such as corn stalks and straw. When you build the organic matter you are improving the soil structure as well as the soil's capabilities to hold water."

Osceola So. Ind. -- 11-28-78

Need More Support for Whitebreast Water Project

"More support and interest is needed," stated Charley McDonough, "if the Whitebreast Rural Watershed Project is to become a reality."

McDonough, president of the Whitebreast Watershed Project in Clarke County and a representative on the Southern Iowa Water Association Board serving a seven county area, made the statement after spending the last six years seeing little progress on the needed water facility in Clarke County.

Originally, the Southern Iowa Water Association was estab-

lished in the early 1970s and included a seven county area of Clarke, Union, Decatur, Ringgold, Wayne, Lucas and Madison. Because the Federal Home Administration, (FHA) providing the funding for the projects, saw the need was greater than the amount of money they could allow at one time, the areas were broken up into smaller divisions to spread out the funding over a period of time. Whitebreast Watershed will serve all of Clarke County and parts of Union and Decatur Counties.

"Several steps must be followed when applying for federal grants for such a project," commented McDonough. Through the Southern Iowa Water Association, Western-Hoskins Engineering firm of Lincoln, Nebraska, was hired to complete a feasibility study of the different areas to discover their rural water needs. Because of the time element, the Whitebreast Water Board hired Lynn Sickels of Midstate Engineering firm, in Creston, to make a separate feasibility study of Whitebreast to attempt to speed up the application process for funding.

Another requirement that FHA requires on such a project is a sign-up of all area residents to be affected by the watershed to show the support of such a project. This phase of the requirement has been complete in Clarke County and has been sent to FHA.

McDonough stated that the Little River Rural Water Project in Decatur County is quite a bit further along than Whitebreast and still has a ways to go before actual work can be started. According to McDonough, the project has been accepted by FHA, but the actual plans for cost must still be approved.

"Clarke County still has a ways to go before application for the funding can be made," stated McDonough, "and before Whitebreast can become a reality, more interest and participation is going to have to be shown on the part of Clarke County residents."

Gonseth Is Recognized as Outstanding Commissioner

Richard Gonseth was the commissioner from District 8 who received the Outstanding Soil Conservation District Commissioner honor at the annual conference held December 6 and 7 in Fort Dodge.

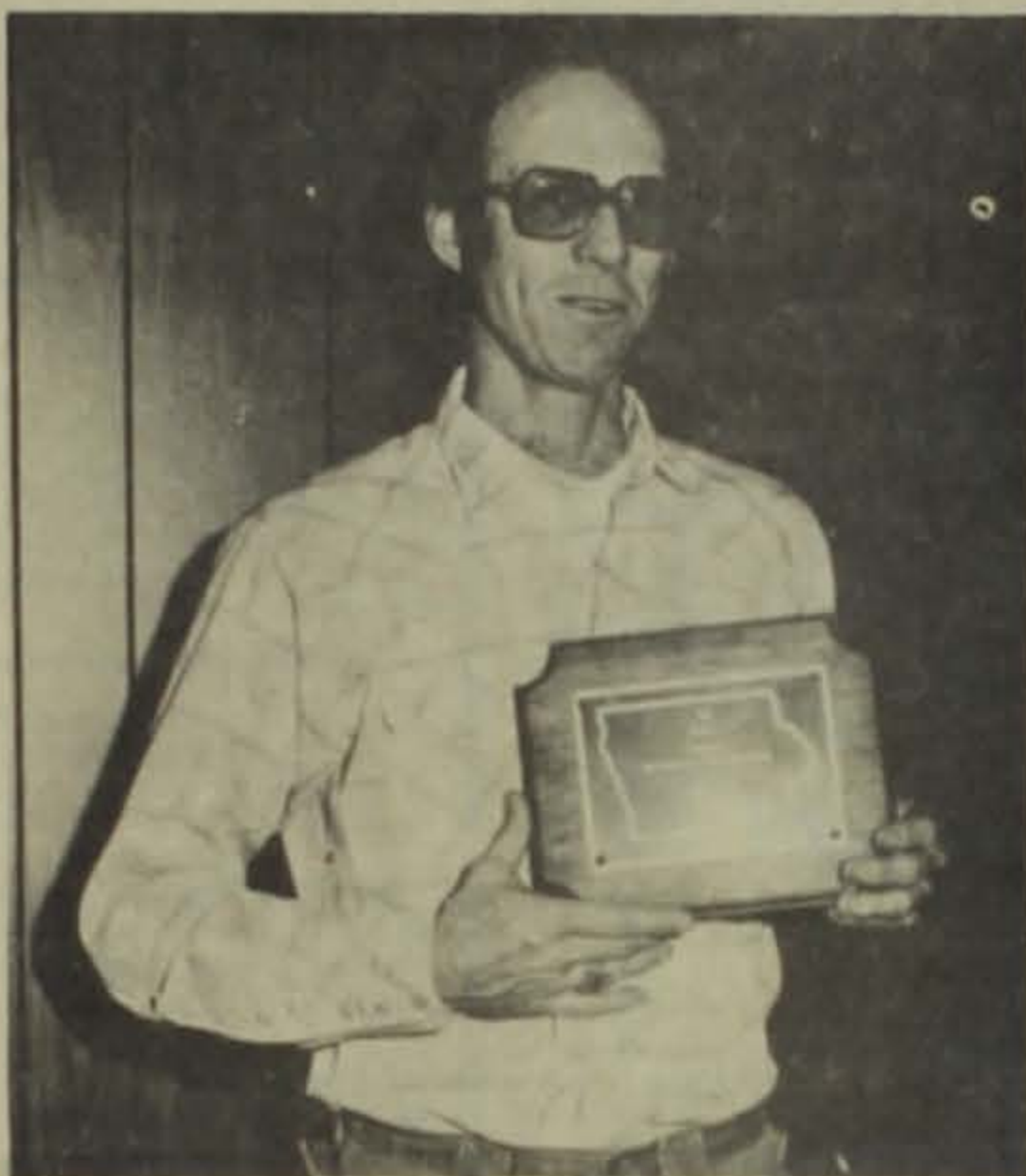
Gonseth has been a commissioner for nine years and served three years as assistant commissioner. He served as chairman of the district governing body and been active on the committees of education, soil stewardship, fair, and Goodyear Awards. He holds a 97 percent attendance at regular meetings and has attended a number of regional and state commissioner meetings.

He is a member of the National Association of Conservation Districts, the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation Districts Commissioners and the Soil Conservation Society of America. He is chairman of the County Resource Coordinating Committee, the County Extension Council and the FHA committee. He is a member of the Temporary County Land Preservation Policy Commission, a director of the Whitebreast Water Board and served as its president, and secretary-treasurer as well as being a township representative. In 1974 he received the Ken

Wagner Award recognizing him as the outstanding young commissioner and while he was commissioner, the Clarke Dis-

trict placed first and second in its division of the Goodyear Awards program.

(Continued on back page.)



Richard Gonseth

More About —

Gonseth

(Continued from page 1)

Gonseth operates a 420-acre grain and livestock farm where he practices parallel tile outlet terraces, windbreak, pasture renovation, erosion control structure, warm season grasses, crop rotation, inter-seeding alfalfa and conservation tillage. In 1965 he was recognized as an outstanding farm operator-owner in the conservation awards program.

He and his wife, Lois, are the parents of three children.

Dale Chidester of Clarke County was one of 50 Iowans who received recognition from the Izaak Walton League for their work in establishing windbreaks to aid in conserving America's natural resources.

Lyle Bauer, national president of NACD, was chief speaker for the occasion who emphasized the need for continuing conservation.

"New wealth is created from the natural resources of this country," stated Bauer.

Local persons attending the Fort Dodge meeting included Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Fuller, Mr. and Mrs. Glen Kimes, Richard Gonseth, Linda Hodge and District Conservationist Keith Edwards.

GROW UP, NOT OUT, SOIL GROUP URGES

By DON MUHM

Register Farm Editor

AMES, IA. — Iowa's land-use policy might include a recommendation that cities and towns build upward and not outward into the countryside, the chairman of the temporary state land preservation commission indicated here Friday.

The official, Ervin J. J. Koos of Shelby, said that his organization will make its final recommendations on statewide land-use policies to the Iowa Legislature next July.

Currently, the state agency is digesting 99 land-use reports provided by county land preservation commissions, Koos told the annual meeting of the Iowa Chapter of the Soil Conservation Society of America.

The local county reports were compiled after a series of local meetings were held across the state to obtain citizen input.

Preserving Farmland

In general, the land-use policies are designed to implement a state law concerning the protection and preservation of top Iowa farmland.

Iowa, Koos said, has been "losing" land regularly to urban sprawl, with the equivalent of 2.5 counties "lost" to farming during a recent 25-year period.

Koos reported that during that period, 1945 to 1969, some 2.5 percent of Iowa's 35 million acres of farmland was converted to non-farm uses.

In Warren County, Koos said, 28 acres of farmland is "lost" to urbanization weekly. A total of 6,500 acres has been taken out of farming in the past 16 years in that county, he said.

In Linn County, 1,000 acres was "lost" between 1958-1967, while in Scott County, about 1,450 acres is switched to non-farm uses yearly.

"Total Economy"

Koos, a long-time state and national soil conservation leader, feels that professional soil conservationists will ultimately be called upon to make key decisions about what Iowa land should be protected and preserved for farming.

However, Koos added, "Not just farming is involved here, but the total economy of the state. Cities and towns do not want to be locked in, and say they need room to expand and grow. But they may have to grow upward instead of spreading out."

He added, "We have to keep in mind that we in Iowa need as much emphasis on quality as quantity of land in deciding what land is preserved for farmers."

The Iowa Chapter of the Soil Conservation Society of America, which has its international headquarters near Ankeny, elected Leon Foderberg of West Des Moines as president. He is employed by the State Department of Soil Conservation.

Other officers elected were Harold Boehmer of Mason City, vice president; Charles Shirley of Oakland, secretary; and Dick Mooney of Urbandale, treasurer.

Awards

Special awards were presented to Lawn Griffiths of The Waterloo Courier for his soil conservation reporting and to Al Heinz of KGLO in Mason City for his farm broadcasting. Special recognition was given to WHO of Des Moines for its radio and television conservation coverage.

Keith Williams, a Leon banker and farm manager, was given the group's Byron Lodwick pasture management award for his efforts to improve pastures on a 4,500-acre Decatur County farm-ranch.

Development of East Lake Is Discussed

Members of the Clarke County Conservation Board met Tuesday evening, January 2 in the courthouse to discuss progress of the East Lake development.

Soil Conservationist Keith Edwards was present and expressed a need by the board to hire a consulting engineer for a Recreational Study to be made of the area before the Soil Conservation Service would share in the cost of any recreational equipment. The board moved to hire an engineer with the Soil Conservation Service paying 50 percent of the consultant's fee.

Dennis Darnold, SICOG representative, informed the board on the five year plan and work being done concerning East Lake. He stressed high priority projects,

discussing possible future land acquisitions. Currently development money is not available to acquire additional land on a large scale.

Vandalism to the Murray Park was reported and past and future plans concerning the upkeep on the park was held.

Discussion was held concerning the possible purchase of additional land bordering the north of East Lake. Because of the price asked for the land, the board did not strongly consider the purchase at this time.

In other business, development of hiking trails from Osceola to East Lake were discussed and it was felt by board members that the concern should rest with the citizens of Osceola, but that the board would allow access to the park should the project be developed.

In final action taken by the board, election of officers for the 1979 year was held with Harold Bonnett as chairman; Frank Riley, vice chairman; Ron Whitham, secretary and John O'Neal R.C. and D Board Member.

Soil Conservation Plans Banquet

The Clarke County Soil Conservation District will host a Recognition Banquet Monday, January 29, at 6:30 p.m. at the Osceola United Methodist Church, for landusers in Clarke County who have made outstanding achievement in soil and water conservation.

The public is invited with advance tickets available until January 15. Tickets are available from the Clarke Soil Conservation District Commissioners, Glen Kimes, Adrian Fuller, Richard Gonseth, Phillip Henrichs, Merrill Thornton, Betty Webb and Doyce Miller and the Clarke SCS office.

Osceola Sentinel
1-11-79

Jan. 26, 1979 - Osceola Tribune

Coal Mine Landowners Eligible for Funds

Landowners with abandoned coal mines on their land may be eligible for cost-share funds to reclaim the land for other purposes. Keith Edwards, district conservationist for the U.S. Soil Conservation Service (SCS) at Osceola said applications from landowners will be accepted at the SCS office beginning February 1. The signup period will last through February.

"Our first step is to see what kind of interest we have in reclaiming the land," Edwards says. "We're just starting into this program, and need an idea of how many people would be interested in reclaiming land. That will have an impact on how much money will be available in Iowa for next year and future years."

The cost-share money is available as a result of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977. It provides for collection of money from current coal mining operations, to be put back into land reclamation programs.

Owners of abandoned coal-mined land will be eligible for both technical and financial help. After the signup period, the Soil Conservation Service will assign priorities to the applications.

Highest priority will be given to sites where there could be extreme danger to the public from past mining activity. Second priority will be to protect public health, safety and general

welfare from the adverse effects of mining. The Surface Mining Act requires that funds be spent on these priorities first; applications are being taken now for these cases. The third priority is to restore the environment where it has been downgraded.

The cost-share rate depends on how big the site is and on whether the reclamation primarily benefits the landowner or the general public. Highest rates are for sites 120 acres or under, where the main benefits are to the public. The cost-sharing would be reduced on larger sites or where the land will be changed to an income-producing use such as cropland. Since reclamation costs are high, cost-sharing will cover 75 to 100 percent of the cost of the work. Edwards conceded, however, that there will not be a lot of money available through the program for this year.

When applications are approved, the landowners would sign contracts to do the reclamation work within 5 to 10 years. Work involved could include such things as land shaping; planting of trees, grass and shrubs; and building diversion terraces and sediment basins. The landowner would make a reclamation plan with SCS help.

Edwards said there are many more details to the program, and urged landowners to stop in the office in February to discuss the program and sign up.

Osceola Sentinel
2-10-79

Will Take Applications For Sharing

Richard Gonseth, chairman of the Clarke County Soil Conservation District, announced that SWCD officers are now taking applications for cost-sharing on conservation work.

The cost-share funds will be used to pay 50 percent of the cost of installing permanent conservation practices such as terraces, diversion terraces, erosion control dams, and grassed waterways.

All landowners in Clarke County that are interested in installing conservation practices for controlling erosion should make application for cost-sharing at the Soil Conservation Service office.

PUBLIC NOTICES

School Board Proceedings

Osceola, Iowa
February 12, 1979

The Clarke Community School Board of Directors met in regular session in the Board Room at 7:30 p.m.

Members Present: Pres. Vaughn Cline, Kathy Barr, Harold Bonnett, Emil Muller, Wm. Short, Orville Turner, and Ed Weakland.

Administrators Present: Supt. Riekens and Principals Carson and DeWitt.

Visitors Present: John D. Lloyd, Tim Samuelson, Duayne Fletcher, Merrill Thornton, Laverne Duncan, Doris Stout, Bev. Edwards, Rod Gall, Jerry Hammer, Esther Hammer, Gracie Crawford, Sharon Nervig, Doris Canavan, Bill Harley, Robert Grune, James Vawn, Doris Richardson, Chuck Cosgrove, Kay Cosgrove, Jackie Jameson, and Sharon Cameron.

Agenda: The agenda for the February 12, 1979 School Board Meeting was approved in a motion by Short seconded by Weakland. All Ayes, Motion carried.

Minutes: The minutes of the January 29, 1979 meeting were amended by changing the word "following" to "followed" in the seventh sentence under Open Meeting Law and were then approved along with the minutes of the January 8, 1979 meeting in a motion by Short seconded by Barr. All Ayes, Motion carried.

Bills: Following discussion regarding extra payroll, the Board recommended that Paul Baker's custodial assignments be changed so that his duties are strictly maintenance. Turner then made a motion to approve the additional payroll; Barr seconded. Nay Votes, Weakland and Muller, Motion carried.

Short made a motion to approve vendor payments dated February 13, 1979 adding Bill Young's expenses to National Convention and excluding Viking Window. Muller seconded the motion. All Ayes, Motion carried.

The payment of the attached list of January, 1979 secretary's prepaid bills was approved in a motion made by Barr and seconded by Muller. All Ayes

garding selling projects. They realize the problem of several groups selling at the same time, which occurs primarily during the holiday season, but felt that if they were restricted, they would have difficulty funding some of their activities. Short recommended that the Board not set any restrictions at this time but that if selling projects get out of hand, it might be necessary to make some limitations in the future.

Visitors: Esther Hammer appeared before the Board to state that her kindergartner was being "picked on" by older children on the school bus, and that since this has been going on since last fall and has not been corrected, she thought perhaps the Board could look into the matter. It was suggested that Mrs. Hammer contact Principals Carson and DeWitt regarding taking care of the situation, and Supt. Riekens indicated he would also speak to the bus driver, Mrs. Donaldson.

I-35 Community School: Supt. Riekens reported that in again reviewing past Board minutes he found that Don Russell met with the Board on April 12, 1971 and approval was given for the County Superintendent to proceed with the legal transfer of the NW quarter of the NW quarter of Sec. Fourteen (14) and the E 1/2 of the NE quarter of the NE quarter of Sec. Fifteen (15), Township Seventy-three (73) Range Twenty-five (25) West of the 5th P.M. Clarke County, Iowa, out of Clarke Community School District into the District of Interstate 35.

Athletic Field Project: School Attorney John D. Lloyd reported that based upon the Iowa Code limitations of a maximum of forty (40) acres being acquired for a school house site and adjacent playland, stadium, or field house, acquiring additional land for the proposed football site would be excessive acreage owned by the school district. Following discussion of the alternatives, the Board determined that it is necessary to make immediate repairs to the present field, since it will have to be used for several years even if a new complex is built.

Turner made a motion for the

then made by Muller seconded by Weakland. Nay votes, Barr, Turner. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Muller to advertise for a new high school principal and that a committee of two elected by the Board and the administration review all applications and decide which applicants to interview. Weakland seconded the motion. All Ayes, Motion carried.

February 26 Meeting: Due to a conflict with the Boys' District Basketball Tournament, Muller moved and Weakland seconded a motion to excuse the Athletic Department from the February 26, 1979 meeting and to reschedule them for the second meeting in March. Barr moved to amend the motion to cancel the Board meeting on February 26, 1979. Muller seconded. Motion as amended. All Ayes, Motion carried.

March 12 Meeting: Tentative Agenda Items: A) Budget Hearing. B) Staff Recommendations and Contracts for 1979-80. C) Audit Report. D) Energy Conservation Engineer.

Substitute Bus Driver: Mr. Larry Coffman has applied to serve as substitute bus driver. A motion was made by Short and seconded by Muller to approve his application. All Ayes, Motion carried.

Jaycees: The Jaycees have scheduled the High School Gym for a community activity on March 18, 1979. Proceeds will be used to finance CPR Course within the community. Barr moved that the charge for the gym be waived; Short seconded the motion. Muller voted Nay on the motion to indicate disapproval of holding the activity on Sunday. Motion carried.

National School Board: After reviewing material regarding NASB policy manuals and enrollment in the program, Muller moved not to subscribe to the services. Barr seconded the motion. All Ayes, Motion carried.

School Board Supper: A motion was made by Barr to have a supper/talent show prepared by the Home Economics Department in cooperation with the Local Arts Council. Motion was seconded by Turner. All Ayes, Motion carried.

Bus Drivers Salary Schedule: Barr moved to accept the 1979-80 bus drivers salary schedule as proposed. Turner seconded the motion. All Ayes, Motion carried.

1979-80

Bus Driver Salary Schedule	
1st year	\$3,000.00
2nd year	\$3,100.00
3rd year	3,200.00
4th year	3,400.00
5th year	3,600.00
6th year	3,800.00

scheduled day after the holiday
4. Physical examination paid by district—one needed every three years.

5. Paid Employee Insurance (full-time personnel). Health, Life, Disability.

6. All personnel leave policies to apply.

7. One meal per day paid to district in addition to above salary for full-time persons on (contracted people).

Secretarial Salary Schedule: Following discussion regarding extra pay for head secretaries Weakland moved and Muller seconded a motion to table the proposed salary schedule for building secretaries until the March 12, 1979 meeting. All Ayes, Motion carried.

Custodial Salary Schedule: motion was made by Muller seconded by Weakland to approve the 1979-80 proposed custodial salary schedule adding the words "continuous service" each of the steps in item 2. Nay vote, Short. Motion carried.

1979-80

Custodial Salary Schedule	
1st year	\$3.
2nd year	4.
3rd year	4.
4th year	4.
5th year	4.
6th year	4.
7th year	5.
8th year	5.
9th year	5.
10th year	5.
11th year	6.
12th year	6.

1. Twelve month contract—hour week.

2. Two weeks vacation after completing entire year of continuous service. Three weeks vacation after completing 10 years continuous service. Four weeks vacation after completing years of continuous service.

3. All personnel leave policies apply.

4. Eight paid holidays: Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years, Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, and birth of Must work regularly scheduled day before and after the holiday in order to be eligible for holiday pay.

5. Paid employee health, life and disability insurance.

6. Night employees to receive 20 cents per hour additional September through May.

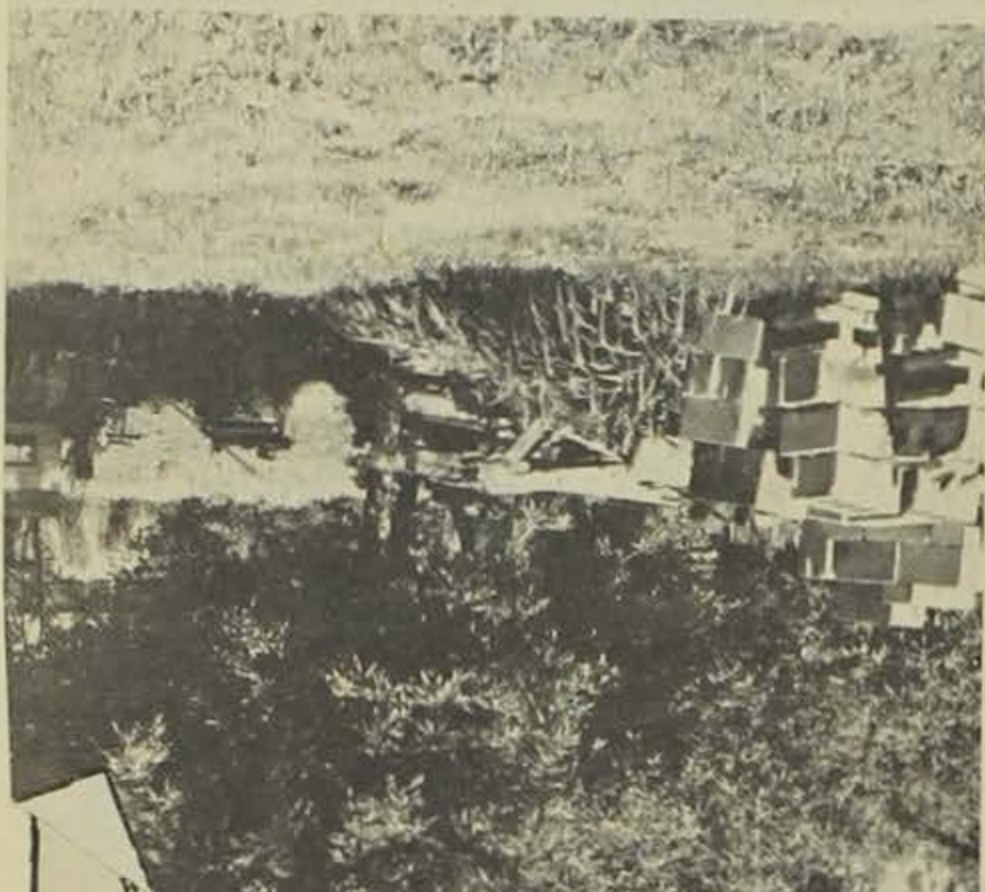
7. Night Supervisor to receive 50 cents per hour additional.

8. Maintenance person to receive the same hourly increase.

Secretarial Salary Schedule: Following a short recess, Short moved to take the proposed 1979-80 salary schedule for building secretaries from the table.

*Annual Report
Tues., March 20, 1979
Osceola Tribune*

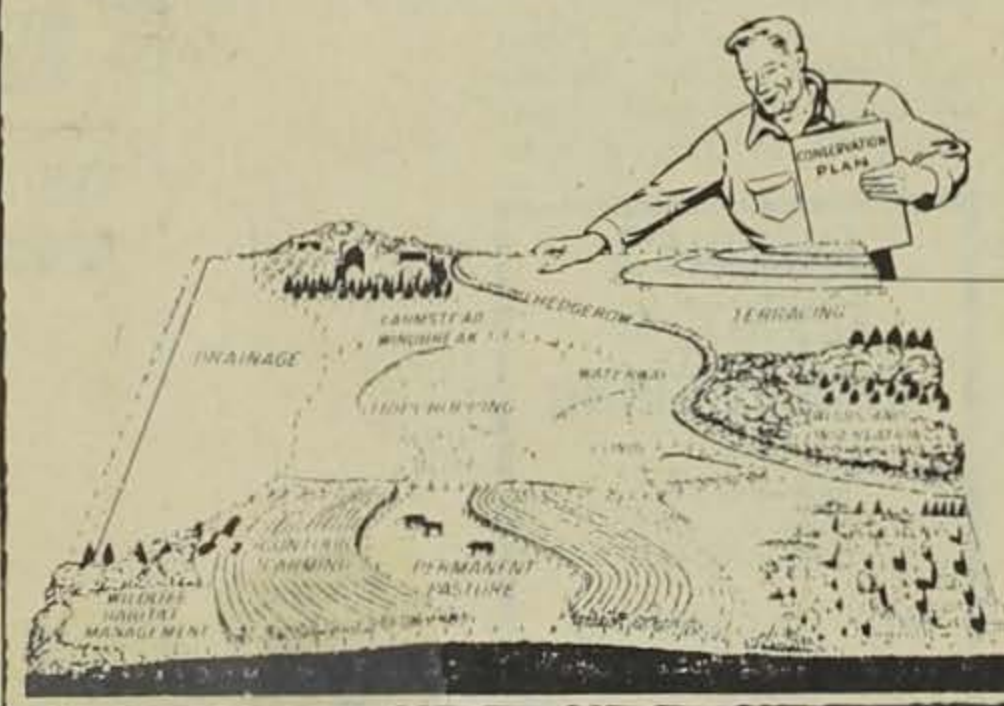
The above pictures are the third of a series that will be published in Osceola newspapers to show area where improvement can be made. No names will be used with the photos. Along with the recent pay



effect January 1, 1979. A board, council, commission or other governing bodies, expressly created by the statutes of this state or by executive order, is considered a governmental body.

The Soil Conservation Districts are political subdivisions created by state statutes. Our elected board of District Commissioners, therefore, constitutes a "governmental body", and meetings of the board are subject to the provisions of the Iowa Open Meetings Law.

The Commissioners of the Clarke County Soil Conservation District hold regular monthly meetings every third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m., in the District Office at 820A North Main Street. All our meetings are open to the general public, and you are welcome anytime you can join us.



Murray

Mrs. Cleo Garrison

The Murray Legion Auxiliary

The Midwest area meeting is one of a series of state-wide Cyclone Club addresses made this spring and summer by Duncan and virtually all basketball coach.

and Reggie Warford, assistant speakers will include Lou McCullough, director of athletics, be in attendance. Other key athletic administrators who will be in attendance are Iowa State coaches and January, will headline a battery of Iowa State coaches and last

Duncan, who succeeded Earle Club in Creston.

meeting of the Midwest Cyclone will be the featured speaker

Football Coach Donnie Duncan



Donnie Duncan

WILLITS

State Senator Earl Willis

a permanent basis.

embrace income tax indexing on

wisely to see how Iowa might

we hope the interim will be used

are reviewing that measure, and

of the utility sales tax repeal. We

the individual income tax in lieu

refund, you chose a reduction in

you quickly accepted the tax

that would benefit Iowans. While

forms of substantial tax relief

tax on residential utilities as

the permanent repeal of the sales

one-time refund of \$50 million and

was able to offer to you a

picture improved enough that I

"Indeed," he said, "the revenue

this past year, Ray commented,

of revenues the state has enjoyed

without the substantial growth

would not have been possible

to local and higher education

The large increases in state aid

problem in this country."

foreseeable future as a major

energy will not disappear in the

session. Indications are that

committee at the end of the

that remained in a conference

year on the solar rights measure

can quickly complete action next

on utility refunds. Hopefully you

mitting a more fair rate of return

"Legislation was passed per-

retrofitting.

more energy efficient through

effort to make state buildings

almost \$9 million marks a major

buildings. The appropriation of

That balance is critical to retain-

and his or her private pursuits.

part, have led to a better balance

"Your new rules, for the most

in the Legislature.

active careers at home and serve

retain legislators who pursue

more difficult to attract and

longer sessions. It has become

the tendency to have longer and

history has demonstrated clearly

length of the session. Recent

new procedures to limit the

willingness to experiment with

and criticized because of its

the Legislature has been praised

At the outset Ray noted that

high.

where the marks were not as

made reference to a few issues

mentous decisions. Likewise, he

makers for some of their "mo-

Robert Ray applauded the law-

In that message, Governor

page document.

stood at ease awaiting the four

wasn't ready. So both houses

session. Simply put, the message

governor comments on the ses-

the lawmakers in which the

governor transmits a message to

over an hour. By tradition the

The ceremony was delayed for

session.

door on the past legislative

the official ceremony to close the

least, came back 18 days later for

lawmakers, a few of them at

known as adjournment. So the

passed in that flurry of activity

while to process all of the bills

Our current list of contributors (74) have contributed \$907.15 so far in 1979. Your support is greatly appreciated. These funds are put to good use for conservation education; stewardship materials for the churches; district membership in the national and state association; promotional activities such as local awards; contest prizes; conservation booklets for local schools; and many other activities that promote conservation in Clarke County.

Our sincere thanks to everyone on the following list for your financial support:

Jerry & Eva Kelly
Simpson College Farms
Clarke County State Bank
C. & L. Const. Co. Inc.
Larry Van Werden
Robert Kitchell
Wilma Casey McFarland
Osceola Realty, Inc.
Richard Barr
J.J. Nolan
Carl Brammer
Arthur Anderson
Price Farms, Inc.
Robinsons
Charles Emmack
Samuel Edgington
Donald Edgington
R.M. Overholtzer
Loren Davis
W.W. Reynoldson
Bell & Sons, Inc.
Robert Liggitt
Col. M.M. Miletich
Robins Farms
Jessie Powell

Kenneth Sickels
Wm. R. Young
Jacob Cozad
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The Levine Company, Inc.
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Merlin Newman
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Orval Coffman
Barnard Bros.
Elvin H. Sunds
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Brian Oehlert
William Oehlert
Rick Eddy

Carl Handrock
G. Allen Heston
Jack Heilman
Saylor Feed & Grain Co.
Osceola Sale Co.
Osceola State Bank & Trust Co.
Ronald Whitham
Miller Farm Account
The Pines Shorthorn Ranch
Beardsley Pasture Account
Bill Kelso
Madeline Meyer
Wayne Swegle
Willard Brittin
Vern L. Minnich
Lloyd Morgan
Melvin Goeldner
Farm Service Co., Humeston
Keith E. Kent, Inc.
James Macholz
Chester Woods
Merrill Thornton
Bob Andrew
E.W. Touet

Project: Conservation
PPPI, OS, etc.
...
...

Work Continues On E. Lake Park

Twelve new sets of picnic frames will be purchased for the East Lake Park, as action took place on the development of East Lake Park Tuesday evening, May 1 at the regular meeting of the Clarke County Conservation Board.

Twelve new horseshoe courts were discussed by the board, with an area to be graded for the courts and rock and pads be purchased when money allows.

Further developments for the East Lake area include the rerouting of the roadway into the park, to follow a westwardly route allowing the development of 20 camping spaces, of which 10 would have electrical hookups and drive through capacities. The camping area would have its own drive through roadway, separate from the main road through the park. The camping area would be split up into four to five separate camping sites rather than grouping them all together.

Council Okays Go-Ahead For White Breast Study

City councilmen heard a variety of water problems from Osceola residents at the regular board meeting Tuesday evening, May 1.

Experiencing a wetter than normal spring, several Osceola residents complained of water rising in their front and back yards. Councilmen listened to each case, but felt a major storm sewer project to rectify the situation was not in the city's budget, and the repairing of each individual case would not solve the total water problem.

In other business, the library finance was changed to call for one member board rather than five member board. Current Osceola Public Library board members are Belva White, Virginia Ogan, Walter Cothorn, Sandra Fisher, Dr. Fred DeHaan, Annie Hertz, Bob Killmar, Marvin Wade and J. Waid Lentz. Water Board members, Conith and B.M. Shadley, along

with SICOG representatives, appeared before the council and asked the council to be the applicant for a new HUD grant to develop Whitebreast Watershed.

A city government must sponsor a grant of this type, and show where the addition of water will spur private sector investment. Clarke County, as a whole, has need for additional water and the City Council agreed to sponsor the grant application.

Joe Kieffer, Osceola Airport Commission, reported on progress of the Environmental Impact Study with the hearing set for June 13. Of big concern is the tractor and mowing unit that is used to mow the runway. Councilmen agreed to investigate the matter.

In final action, a bid of \$2,944 by All-Weather Roofing Co. of Des Moines was accepted, for stripping of the old roof on the City Council and Police Station building and building a new roof.

Southern Iowa Conservancy Committee Hold Meeting

[By Mrs. Maurice Keeler]

The Southern Iowa Conservancy District Advisory committee held a meeting at Creston Monday, April 24 from 10 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. at Berning's Cafe.

A discussion on water quality planning under Section 208 of the Federal Law 92-500 was conducted by Don Lindquist and George Annan from the Department of Soil Conservation.

Goal of this law is to clean up the nation's lakes and streams by 1983. The intent is to reduce chemical and sediment discharge into the waters of the nation.

In Iowa the Department of Environmental Quality has been given the responsibility of planning how they will clean up the water, and the Department of Soil Conservation has the responsibility of planning for non point sources of pollutants.

Non point sources which pollute streams and lakes are materials which enter in a diffuse manner; such as sediment, animal wastes, fertilizers, and pesticides. "Point" sources which have received the most attention to date, are pollutants which reach the water at a point, such as municipal and industrial wastes.

The law requires public input into the planning so this was the purpose of the meeting—

Iowa's Non point Source Control Program consists of five goals and these were presented and discussed very thoroughly. There was a unanimous vote to accept them.

The goals are as follows:

1. To maintain a voluntary implementation program as long as satisfactory progress is made

toward controlling non point sources.

2. Maintain adequate participation to sustain the voluntary program.

3. Evaluate the implementation program annually in order to: (a) Redirect or adjust the voluntary program. (b) Determine if mandatory provisions need to be initiated.

4. Institute implementation efforts to solve the worst water quality problems first.

5. Retain a maximum of local control to: (a) Provide flexibility in the administration of control programs. (b) Assure that the program will be sensitive to economic impact upon individual land owners. (c) Encourage voluntary participation.

The 208 program is a very complicated program to fully understand, but it could have one of the most significant effects on agriculture.

An erosion sensitivity map made up by the Iowa Department of Soil Conservation was presented and it showed that Clarke County, for the most part, has a slightly moderate hazard erosion problem in the lower half of the county, except the very southeast corner which has a moderate hazard. The north half has a moderately severe hazard, except the very northwest corner which is a moderate hazard.

Many farmers do not use the conservation practices on their farms, such as contouring to prevent soil erosion. This can cause a hazardous condition in the small streams because of chemicals and fertilizers. So much can be done in Clarke County to help keep the water clean.

June 1, 1978
Osceola Sentinel

August 24, 1978
Osceola Sentinel

East Lake Dam Project—

Completion Date Nears

For persons who have tried to visit the East Lake park area of late, they find chain blocking the road to keep traffic out. Also, large grading equipment can be

seen working on the new dam of the lake area.

The summer-long project, known as East Lake Park RC&D project, had its beginning a year

ago when the Clarke County Soil Conservation Board undertook the job of repairing and improving the existing East Lake dam to meet safety regulations and to

provide a much needed recreational facility for Clarke County residents.

The project had been scheduled to take place in three stages over a four year period. Two of the stages involving the East Lake dam repair were combined and will be completed by the middle of September.

According to local Soil Conservationist Keith Edwards, the dam was in dire need of repair, the old emergency spillway was a major concern with erosion taking place underneath the dam.

Edwards went on to say, "although the beefing up of the dam will not increase the amount of water the lake will hold, the project will greatly improve both the dam wall and spillways."

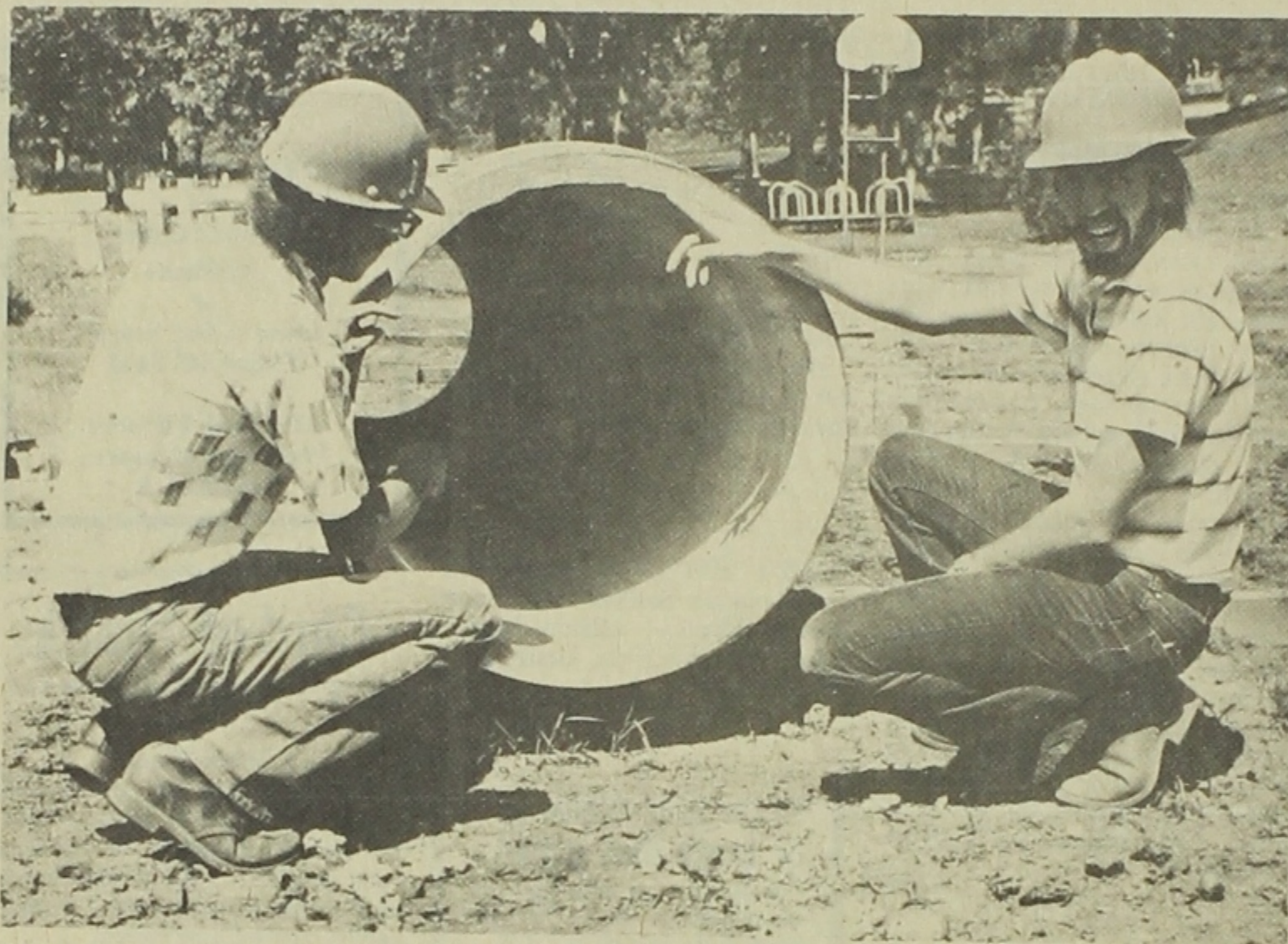
The dam area itself will have rip rap, (large chunks of stone and concrete) all along the face of the dam two feet below the water level and three feet above to insure the stability of the dam wall, along with a network of foundation drains located at the base of the dam to help insure that seepage doesn't occur and deterioration take place.

The principal spillway will be constructed of concrete pressure pipe, 55,000-cubic yards in length, with each section 30-inches in diameter, 200-feet long. The concrete conduit has a steel cylinder enclosed in the intermediate section, 16-feet long, to help insure water safety. The sections of concrete conduit are connected together at each end where a bell shaped lip in the steel cylinder fits tightly together, with a round rubber gasket approximately one-half inch in diameter. The gasket is a good water sealer and is protected from deterioration with four inches of asphalt coating.

Approximately 32,000 to 33,000 cubic yards of the concrete conduit has been constructed by Iowa Road Builders, subcontractors to Prime Central Iowa Grading, Inc., hired to do the project.

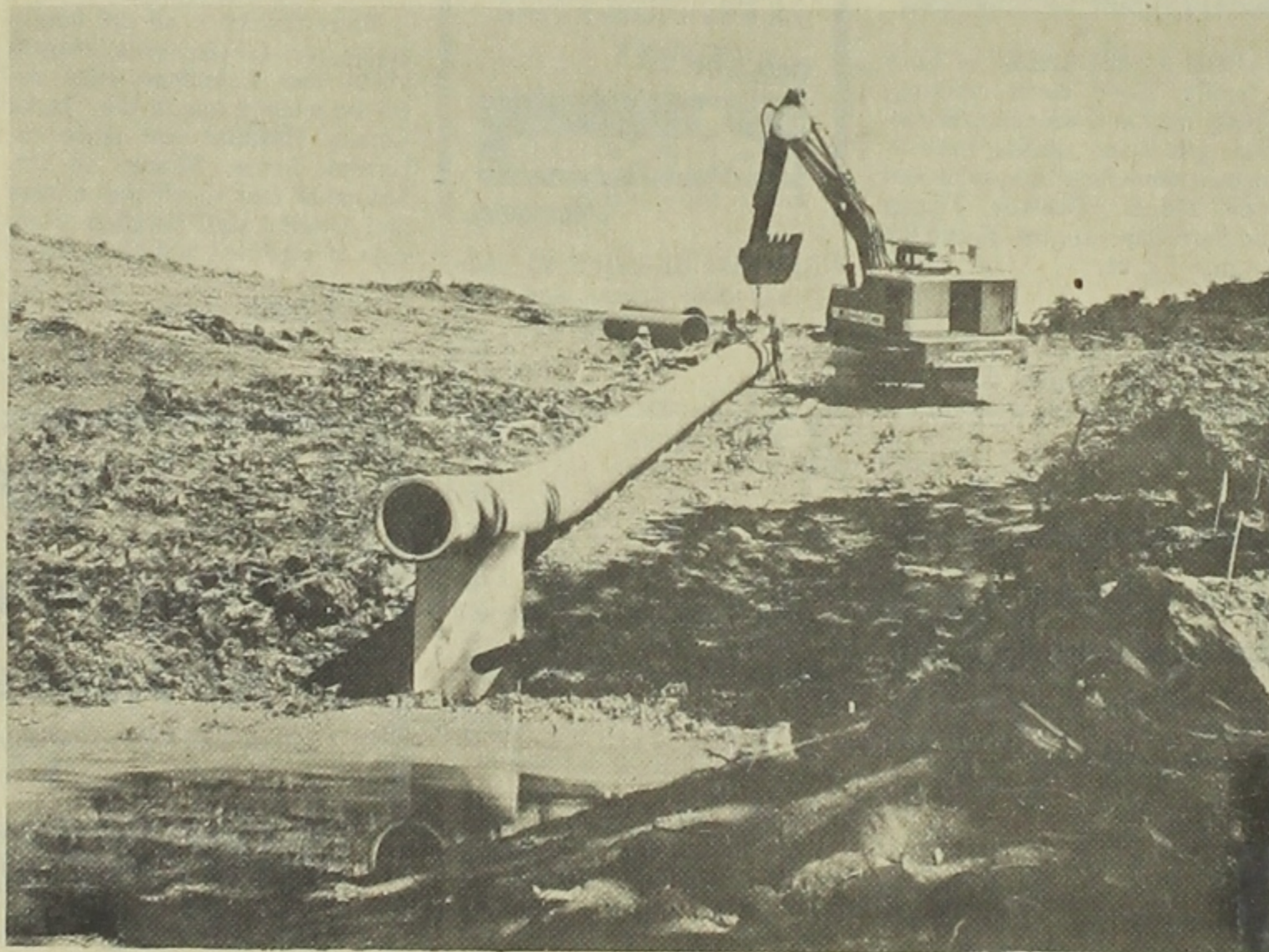
Following completion of the renovation project, the area will be seeded this fall.

The RC&D project will be rated Class A following completion, meaning the safety standards have been met and after a period of time to secure funding, the recreational facilities of East Lake will be further developed.



IT'S STRONG: Greg Kent and Keith Edwards look over one of the sections of 20-inch pipe used in the East Lake dam project. A coating of

concrete is molded around the core of steel—making the pipe impervious to normal weathering.



INTO POSITION: Sections of the 20-inch, concrete and steel pipe are positioned on the dam of the East Lake park. Work is slated to be

completed on the project this fall that is a part of the improvement of the park by the Clarke County Conservation Board.



Scrapbook

