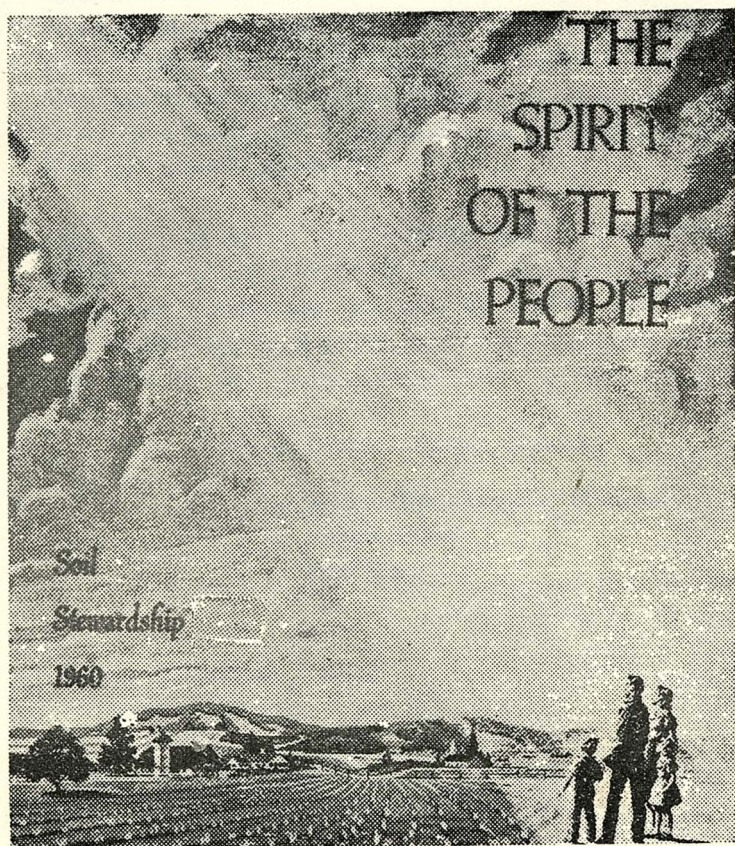


Cedar County
**Soil Conservation
District**

Tipton, Iowa

Annual Report, 1959



The Cedar County Soil Conservation District Commissioners present their report of 1959 accomplishments and activities.

We thank our cooperators for another fine year of progress in soil and water conservation work. We would like to invite you and your neighbors to make greater use of the services which are available through the District staff.

It is well that we pause to consider the rains of the last planting season and the excessive soil and water losses. When we consider these losses, it is easier to see the need for proper land use and conservation practices. Our primary objective is to get every acre of land in the county under proper land use and treatment according to its needs and capabilities. In order to attain this objective, we will need cooperation from you, your neighbor and other agricultural agencies.

The progress shown in this report has been made possible through the cooperation of the many agencies, organizations, individuals, schools and churches. We want to thank those who have participated in the soil conservation program during the past year of the Cedar County Soil Conservation District.

Your District Commissioners:

William Wertzbaugher, Chairman

Harold Oldorf

Paul Hain

DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

The commissioners held twelve regular meetings during 1959 for the purpose of administering the district soil conservation program. New farm plans were presented and approved and technical work and progress of the district was reviewed.

Paul Hain and Harold Oldorf attended the Soil Conservation Short Course in January at Iowa State University in Ames as representatives of the District.

The conservation needs determination for the Cedar County Soil Conservation District was completed in February.

Lawrence Welty of West Branch was appointed as an assistant commissioner in February.

District commissioners held a meeting for earth-moving and drainage contractors in March with the attendance nearly 100 percent.

The regional meeting of soil conservation districts was held at Cedar Rapids in March. Members of five cooperating agencies in Cedar County attended this meeting.

Darwin Hoeft attended a four week conservation course at Coshocton, Ohio in April.

District commissioners and SCS personnel met with County A.S.C. Committee to make recommendations for the 1960 Agricultural Conservation Program.

Material for Soil Stewardship Sunday was sent to ministers in the county during May.

The eighth, ninth and tenth grades from Stanwood took a short tour in May to observe soil and water conservation practices.

Lawrence Welty resigned in June as an assistant commissioner as he will not be farming in 1960.

Tipton Lions and Rotarian Clubs held a joint meeting and soil conservation tour during Soil Conservation Week in June.

The district commissioners selected Milo Ahrens and Harlan Hamdorf as the outstanding conservation farmers in Cedar County for 1959. Their farms were entered in the statewide Des Moines Register and Tribune Contest. As district winners, each received a certificate from the Des Moines Register and Tribune.

Milo Ahrens' farm was selected as a winner in Region 8 of the Des Moines Register and Tribune Contest.

The District together with the American Fence Dealers again sponsored the "Queen of the Furrow" contest. Miss Jean Ruzek of West Branch and Miss Karen Ahrendsen of Oxford Junction represented the district in the regional contest at the All-Iowa Fair in Cedar Rapids. Both girls received bracelets.

The District sponsored two teachers who attended the Iowa Teachers Conservation Camp at Springbrook State Park during the summer. The two teachers receiving the scholarships were Miss Darlene Terrock, Clarence, and Miss Nancy Ball, Tipton.

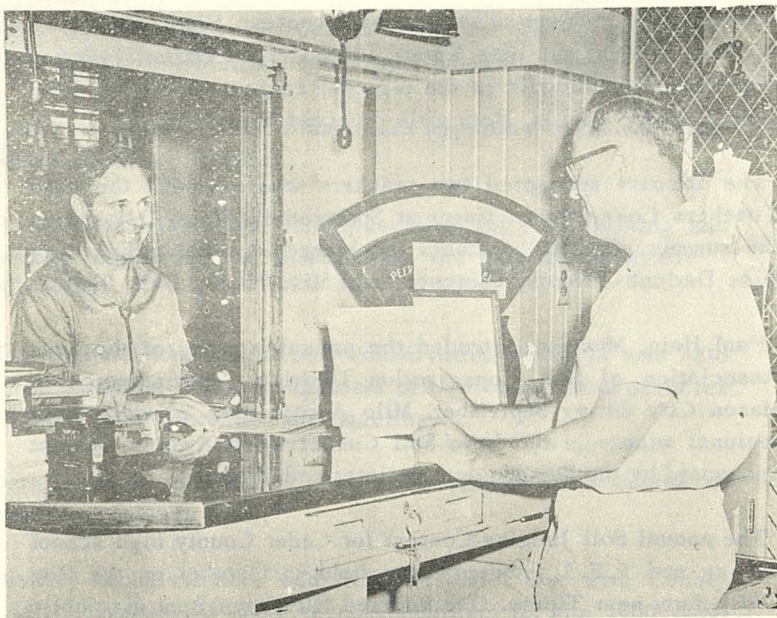
Paul Hain, Moscow, attended the annual meeting of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners in Mason City during September. Milo Ahrens also attended as a regional winner in the Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Contest sponsored by the Des Moines Register and Tribune.

The annual Soil Judging Contest for Cedar County high school voc-ag and F.F.A. students was held in October on the Ray Crock farm near Tipton. One hundred fifty boys from six public schools in the county participated with the West Branch F.F.A. Chapter winning the contest, and the Clarence Ag class placing second.

At this time, plans are being made for the 1960 annual meeting and election to be held on March 10, 1960. Pancakes and sausages will be served at noon. Cy Crawford of Winona, Minnesota, will be the guest speaker.

Don Williams, Clarence Beyer, and Darwin Hoeft continued in their assignments with the district.

Mrs. Lucille Farnum resigned in October as half time clerk to begin employment with the Cedar County A.S.C. Office. After the resignation of Mrs. Farnum, Mrs. Hilda Carey began employment as a full time clerk. Don "Bing" Welty and Robert Wertzbaugher were employed as part-time conservation aids during the spring layout season.



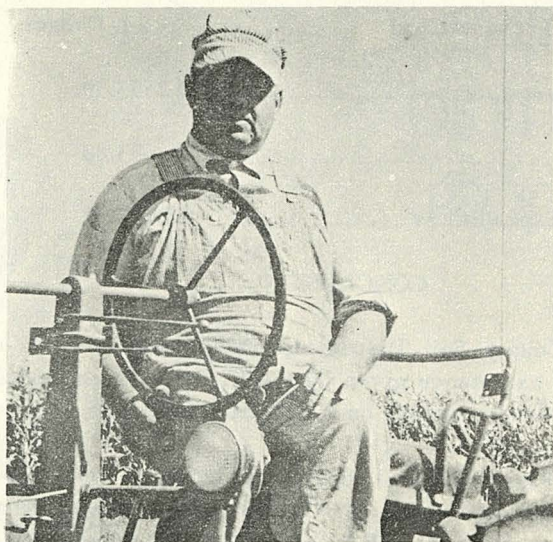
William Wertzbaugher, Chairman of Cedar County District Soil Commissioners, buying a sheet of soil conservation stamps from Herman Onken, Tipton postmaster.

Photo- courtesy Tipton Conservative

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS

The following indicates the goals for 1960, accomplishments during 1959, and the total progress to date:

	1960 Goals	1959	To Date
District Cooperators	42	44	599
Farm Plans	30	33	381
Follow- Up	100	140	
Contouring	2500 Acres	1611 Acres	27988 Acres
Strip Cropping	120 Acres	6 Acres	1628 Acres
Pasture Improvement	350 Acres	235 Acres	2489 Acres
Wildlife Improvement	30 Acres	33 Acres	260 Acres
Structures	12 Acres	13 Acres	51 Acres
Ponds	8	5	40
Tile Drainage	75,000 ft.	38,225 ft.	1,269,219 ft.
Terraces	10 Miles	6 Miles	43 Miles
Waterway Development	30 Acres	16 Acres	269 Acres



Milo Ahrens, Sugar Creek Township, was selected as the outstanding conservation farmer for Region 8 which is made up of 11 counties in east central Iowa.

Photo - courtesy Tipton Conservative

FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial assistance given the district by the State of Iowa provides aid in accomplishing district objectives. Expenditures of state funds in the Cedar County Soil Conservation District in 1959 are as follows:

District Operation Expenses	1 A Budget
Contests	\$ 23.92
Commissioners' Mileage and Expenses	220.41
Office Supplies	116.03
Office Expense	132.12
Printing	39.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 531.48

Clerical and Technical Aid	2 A Budget
Clerical	\$ 2553.59
Technical	\$ 73.80
Total Expenditures	\$ 2627.39

CONCLUSION

The Cedar County Soil District Commissioners wish to acknowledge the assistance given by the U. S. Soil Conservation Service personnel in carrying on the district work load.

Recognition is given for the cooperation shown by the following organizations and agencies: County A.S.C. Committee and staff, Extension Service, F.F.A. Chapters, State Conservation Commission, Farm Bureau, Farm Loan Association, Production Credit Association, and local civic and Commercial organizations. We wish to extend our thanks also for the fine support given by the local newspapers.