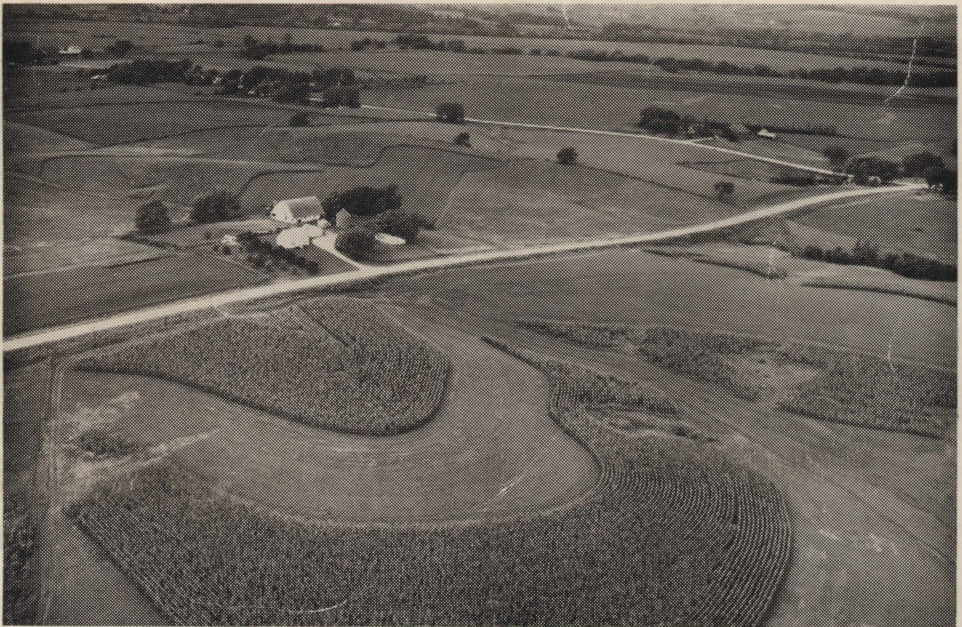


Fifteenth Annual Report

of the

Warren County Soil Conservation District

1958



AERIAL VIEW

ARLIE TILLOTSON FARM

In the interest of promoting Soil and Water Conservation within the Warren County Soil District this annual report was sponsored by the following earth moving and tiling contractors:

HOWARD LESTER, Indianola

EUGENE McANINCH, Indianola

JAMES MEALEY, Indianola

MARION PERKINS, Indianola

LYLE WILLIAMS, New Virginia

ROBERT O'BRIEN, Lacona

GORDON McLEOD, St. Charles

GEORGE HRAHA, St. Charles

KEITH McCORMICK, Pleasantville

GEORGE McANINCH, Norwalk

DWAYNE McANINCH, Norwalk

CLYDE PETERSON, Winterset

TONY HENDRICKSON, Winterset

Foreword

We, the commissioners of the Warren County Soil District, take this opportunity to report to you, the farmers of Warren County, accomplishments in soil and water conservation during 1958.

We wish to thank the many agencies, organizations and individuals whose assistance and encouragement made 1958 another year of conservation achievements. We especially thank personnel of the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, Warren County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee, Iowa Conservation Commission, Warren County Public Schools and Vocational Agriculture Department of Indianola High School.

We point with pride to the Arlie Tillotson family of Prole, sweepstakes winners in the 1958 Iowa Soil Conservation Achievement Contest, sponsored by the Iowa Farm and Home Register. This is the highest recognition an Iowa farm family can receive for conservation achievement.

Warren Co. Soil District Commissioners
Gilbert Fridley, Chairman
Robert Morrison
James W. Ginder

Indianola, Iowa
January 10, 1959

Highlights of 1958

Annual Meeting and Election of Commissioner

James Ginder of East Lincoln Township was re-elected as commissioner at the district's annual meeting held at the Indianola American Legion Hall, February 27. Ginder was elected by a narrow margin over Marvin Mahr, Sr., also of East Lincoln Township.

A special honor plaque was presented to Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Nickle by Bob Morrison, district commissioner. Mr. Nickle, county agent in Warren county from 1928 to 1944, was honored "for outstanding leadership in promotion of soil and water conservation."

Mrs. Buena Mockmore, Extension Specialist, Iowa State College, gave a very informative talk on "conservation of youngsters" to the one hundred seventy people present.



Honor Plaque

BOB MORRISON AND MR. AND MRS. L. J. NICKLE

Pasture Improvement Contest

The second annual pasture improvement contest sponsored by Criswell's Feed & Seed Store, Laverty's Elevator and the local Soil District was very successful. Thirty-five entries were received in competition for the \$100.00 worth of grass and legume seed furnished by the sponsors.

Preliminary judging was completed by six local farmers. Final judges were Vogel Smith, Lucas County Soil District Commissioner, and Robert Pim, Farmers Home Administration, Des Moines.

The following were winners of the contest:

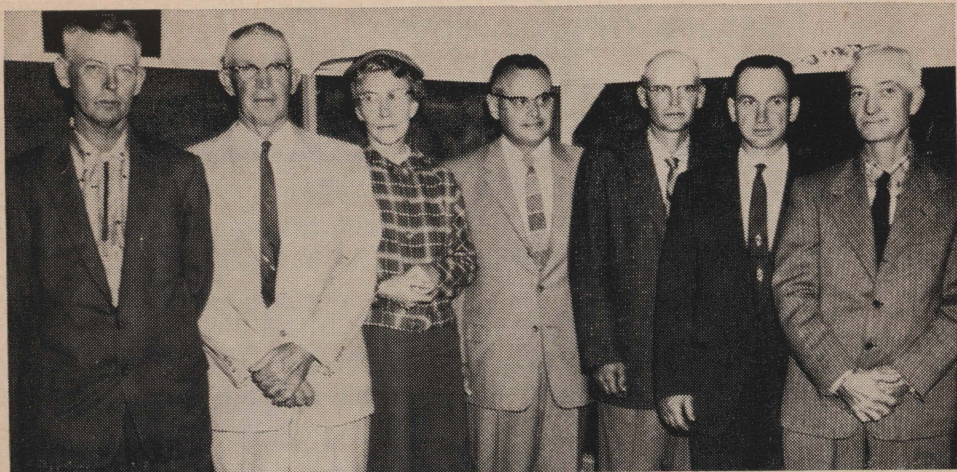
New Seedings:

- 1st Arlie Tillotson, Prole
- 2nd Randall Smith, Pleasantville
- 3rd Orville Lester, Indianola

Established Pastures:

- 1st Irene Croat, St. Marys
- 2nd Elliott Miller, Carlisle
- 3rd Eugene Kuhn, Milo

Winners were honored at a banquet at the Ackworth Friends Church, October 7. Dr. H. Ernest Bechtel, Director of the Larro Research Farm, gave an interesting presentation of efficient livestock production in today's agriculture.



LEFT TO RIGHT—KUHN, MILLER, CROAT, BECHTEL, TILLOTSON, SMITH AND LESTER

Soil Stewardship Week

A group of Warren County Ministers and Simpson College students observed soil stewardship week with a conservation tour and dinner May 8. Farm stops on the tour included Reeds canary grass gully control and multiflora rose fence on the Orville Lester farm; standard and diversion terraces and waterways on the Lester Perdue and F. M. Cunningham farms; and strip cropping, pasture improvement and farm ponds on the Arlie Tillotson farm. Dinner was served to the group at the St. Marys hall.



MINISTERS' TOUR

1958 Soil Conservation

ACHIEVEMENT WINNERS

Winners of the 1958 Soil Conservation Awards for Warren District were Arlie Tillotson, Prole; Luther Williams and Melvin Herold, Indianola, and Fred Lamb and Bob Jacobsen, Indianola. Tillotson was winner in the long time owner-operator division while Williams and Herold were first in the landlord tenant division. Lamb and Jacobsen were winners in the new cooperator division.

These winners were entered in the state wide competition of the Des Moines Register and Tribune Conservation Achievement Contest. Mr. Tillotson was State Sweepstakes winner over all entries. We of the district are very proud of the Tillotsons and their accomplishments. Arlie, Sarah and Keith have worked together as a family to make their farm an efficient producing unit with each acre farmed according to its capabilities.

QUEEN OF THE FURROW CONTEST

Rosalie Griffiths, Norwalk, and Bonnie Sue Houghtaling, Carlisle, were winners of the 1958 Queen of the Furrow Contest held at Moats Park during Band Concert, July 31. The contest was sponsored by McCoy Hardware, Indianola, American Fence Dealer, and the Local Soil District. The two winners were awarded radios and bracelets.

Other entrants in the contest were Carolyn Morrison, Prole; Linda Lee, Norwalk; Helen Walker, Norwalk; Theresa Hembry, Milo; Sheryl Woodyard, Liberty Center; Esta Fridley, Indianola; Janice Brommel, St. Marys, and Nancy Ross, St. Marys.

FAIR BOOTH

The soil district booth at the Warren County Fair consisted of a large moving portrait of the evils of soil erosion and suggested means of control. The Record-Herald and Indianola Tribune furnished the booth to the district and supplied needed materials.

NATIONAL PLOWING MATCH

Virgil Bender, Prole, Cooperator with the local soil district, represented Iowa in the National Contour Plowing Match at Hershey, Pennsylvania, August 21 and 22. Virgil was chosen to represent Iowa by men who plowed in the 1956, 1957 state plowing matches.

District Accomplishments

	Unit	1958	Total to Date
New Cooperators	No.	60	861
Basic Conservation Plans	No.	45	517
Contour Farming	Acres	1,561	26,490
Strip Cropping	Acres	324	4,119
Pasture Planting	Acres	1,067	3,863
Tree Planting	Acres	18	94
Wildlife Areas	Acres	116	413
Drop Inlet Structures*	No.	17	65
Farm Ponds	No.	90	724
Tile Drains	L. Ft.	53,901	719,383
Open Drains	Miles	4	39
Diversion Terraces	Miles	6	112
Standard Terraces	Miles	37	198
Waterway Shaping	Acres	96	530
Multiflora Rose	Rods	440	3,306
Soil Surveys	Acres	2,660	202,980

* Drop Inlet erosion control structures were built on the following farms: Leo Spencer, Don Reynolds, Roy Rodgers, Wynne Hylton, W. L. Robison, Jerome Dittmer, Luther Middle-swart, Harry Wilson, L. L. Comer, Lloyd Winger, Harry Kaldenberg, Clifford Matlage, Claude Davis, Gerald Fellows, Harold Zeliadt, B. B. Long and Everett Burchett.

New District Cooperators

BELMONT TOWNSHIP

Robert Rodgers
Howard Mosher
Charles Niles
Edith Niles
Henry Dittmer

GREENFIELD TOWNSHIP

James Baker
R. H. Abild
Frank Brunia
S. L. Longabaugh
Earl O'Donnell
Harold Divine
W. L. Robison
Charles O. Laverty

JACKSON TOWNSHIP

Marion Jacobs
F. M. Cunningham, Jr.
Earl Coltrane
F. M. Cunningham, Sr.
Clifford Matlage

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

George Middleswart
Carl Oberender
Thomas Cherry
Rodney Hansen
Maurice Romback
Leland Hill

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP

Howard Tipton
Orville Nagel
Franklin Oppold
Clark Cade
J. R. Downing
Lowell Oxenreider
Gilbert Fridley

LINN TOWNSHIP

John Lord
Joe McBride
Raymond Zeliadt

E. LINCOLN TOWNSHIP

Steve Skorupan
Earl Fickel
Harold Feight
John R. McKee

OTTER TOWNSHIP

P. B. West
B. B. Long (2)
Calvin Board

SQUAW TOWNSHIP

Everett Burchett
Harry Kaldenberg

UNION TOWNSHIP

Lloyd Winger
Worth Fee
Robert Jacobsen

VIRGINIA TOWNSHIP

Emmett Elder
Truman Jones (2)

W. LINCOLN TOWNSHIP

Carl Hirsch & Son
Harold Runciman
Blaine Wilson
Warren County Farm
W. H. Herberger

WHITE BREAST TOWNSHIP

Robert Dittmer

WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP

James Labertew
William Prouty
Earl Condon
Joe Hart
Frank Taylor

1958

Basic Conservation Plans

Ernest Bechtel

A. E. Zelinsky

Earl Hukill

William Fridley

Karl Lawyer

Henry Clarke

Steve Skorupan

D. E. Kean

Frank Brunia

Giles Dittmer (2)

Elmer Jordan

Oral Sams

Norbert Dittmer

Lowell Oxenreider

Austin Keeney

Darl Shupe

L. L. Fry

Joe Seymour, Jr.

Carl Hirsch and Son

John Lord

Wilbur Howard

Hershel Shutt

Joe McBride

C. G. McKinney

Fred Lamb

Lawrence McClure

Joe Robinson

Duane Felton

B. B. Long & Son (2)

William Prouty

Robert Rodgers

J. R. Downing

George Middleswart

Maurice Romback

Ralph Bishop

Max Berry

C. G. McLeod

Howard Hollingsworth

Franklin Oppold

George Morrison

L. L. Comer

Otto Huss

Harold Feight

**Conservation Accomplishments
of the Arlie Tillotsons, Prole, Iowa
Sweepstake Winners of the 1959
Iowa Soil Conservation Achievement
Contest**

120 acres Strip Cropping
75 acres Pasture Improvement
7 acres Grassed Waterways
2 Farm Ponds
120 rods of Contour Fencing
2,000 feet of Tile Drains

Four year crop rotation used of corn, oats, alfalfa - brome-grass (two years). Livestock includes a 45-cow herd of purebred Angus, 25 feeder cattle, 150 market hogs and a small flock of ewes.

Production on the 410-acre Tillotson farm has doubled over the past six years through the application of conservation measures and the development of a good livestock program.

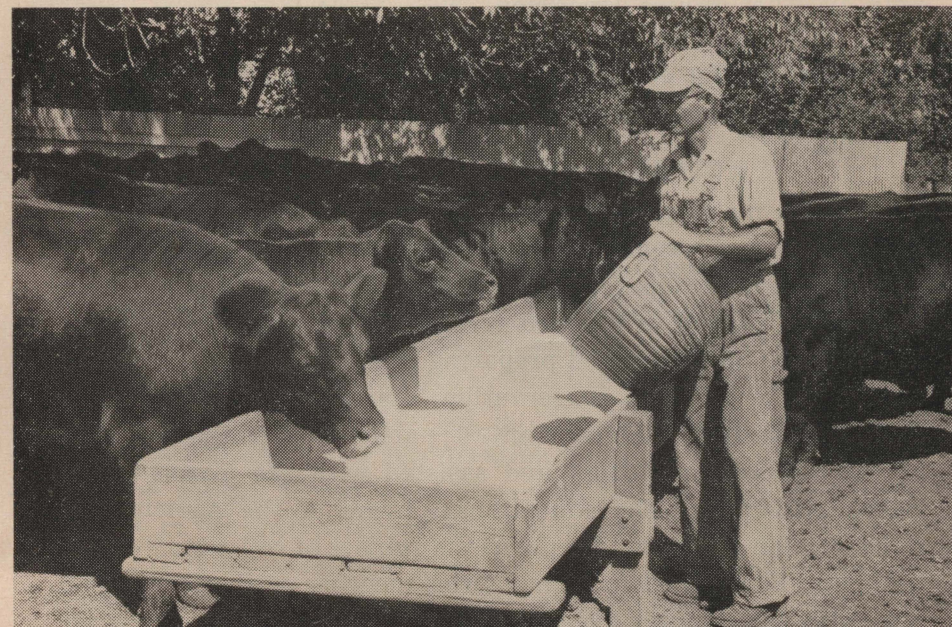


KEITH, SARAH AND ARLIE TILLOTSON



STRIP CROPPING

TILLOTSON FARM



ANGUS FEEDERS

MR. TILLOTSON

Cooperating Agencies and Groups

WARREN COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE

MARVIN SMART, Extension Director

The Extension Service recognizes the fact that conservation of the soil is very important not only for the present generation, but especially for the generations to come. Farm Record Summaries in Warren County have proven that two-thirds of the farmers' net income is from the land alone.

Too much of the topsoil in Warren County has already been washed away, and with some of the farming practices that are being carried out even yet today, there will be a lot more unless our educational program can be more effective in reaching the folks that it should reach. That is the job the Extension Service has been working toward in Warren County in cooperation with the Soil Conservation Service, Soil District Commissioners and with all other groups concerned.

Some of the educational projects and activities that the Extension Service has assisted with during the past years are as follows:

Held a meeting on pasture improvement and assisted with the pasture improvement contest; furnished many bulletins and educational materials for use by school children and teachers in the county as well as assisted several Simpson College students in obtaining materials and preparing units for practice teaching on the subject of soil conservation; assisted with the F. F. A. Field Day and Soil Judging Contest; participated in the meetings of the soil commissioners and assisted with the Conservation Needs Survey and the educational phases of the Agricultural Conservation Program; discussed the subject of soil conservation with Boy Scout leaders at a district meeting of the group and also with the Country Couples at one of their regular meetings; promoted the testing of soil to determine its needs and gave

considerable assistance in interpreting the results of the soil tests.

We of the Extension Service are glad to have a part in helping to conserve our most precious natural resource - the soil.

WARREN COUNTY ASC

WILFRED POWERS, Chairman

The Warren County ASC Committee, consisting of Wilfred Powers, Raymond Felton and Austin Keeney, met with the district commissioners and SCS personnel throughout the year. Powers and Felton served as assistant district commissioners with the soil district.

1958 was a record year for ACP assistance on permanent type soil and water conservation practices. We feel that by the application of these practices, our land in Warren County will be protected and used according to its ability to produce.

Thirty-two farmers participated in the Conservation reserve section of the Soil Bank Program during the year. The SCS technicians gave valuable assistance in working with the Soil Bank Program.

FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION

ROBERT PIM, Supervisor

The Farmers Home Administration, the lending agency of the USDA, works very closely in every county with the Soil Conservation Service and Soil Conservation Districts. Whenever a technical question arises in land use and soil conservation, the Work Unit Conservationist is called upon for assistance. When our soil and water conservation loans are made, help from SCS is a Must. These loans are made to encourage and help farmers in the improvement, protection and proper use of farm land by providing adequate financing for soil conservation; water development, conservation and use; and drainage.

These loans are made to help farmers make good use of

land diverted from the production of surplus crops, protect their land resources against adverse weather conditions, and improve their economic circumstances.

The Farmers Home Administration also makes loans for land purchase. The first requirement when we are considering a land purchase application is that an SCS Basic Farm plan be made of the tract to be purchased, and in this way we are able to estimate the maximum amount of production to be expected without depleting the soil, and at the same time determine the earning capacity value of the farm. Also, if terraces or other type structures are suggested in the plan, allowance for these improvements is included in the original loan, so the farmer will have the advantage of these structures at the outset of the loan.

When a loan is made for land purchase or soil conservation purposes in Warren County, it is expected that the borrower cooperate to the fullest extent possible with all agencies, particularly with the Warren County Soil Conservation District and the Soil Conservation Service.

IOWA CONSERVATION COMMISSION

DUANE STOPPEL, District Forester

During 1958 six more Warren County farmers planted a total of 18 acres to trees under the Conservation Reserve or regular ACP practices. They are Allen Kline, Blaine Wilson, T. J. Wilgenbusch, William Prouty, Herb McCaw and Ernest Bechtel.

The Conservation Reserve is designed so that, through cost sharing and annual payments, the farmer can make a long term retirement of cropland and tame hay land. He can depend upon at least a 10-year contract, land rent payments every year of the contract, and reimbursement, in cash, for up to 80% of the cost of the trees and planting. At the end of the contract period, the farmer can harvest any product he chooses. He can continue to grow his trees into a profitable woodland, he can harvest fenceposts, fuel wood, Christmas trees, or make any other use of the land he desires. Management plans were made on two tracts of native timber and approximately 10 thousand board feet of native timber was marked in Warren County for harvest during the past year.

Vocational Agriculture Department

INDIANOLA HIGH SCHOOL

GERALD E. SUTTON, Advisor

The eighth annual Soil Conservation Field Day was held April 10th on the home farm of Ramon Lester, a senior in the vocational agriculture class. The entire vocational agriculture class took a full day to work over a part of this farm. Five Indianola implement companies cooperated by furnishing tractors, plows and blades to do this work. The Warren County Soil District provided the tree planter for use in planting multiflora rose. The Reeds Canary grass sod was donated by the Iowa State Conservation Commission. Technical assistance and supervision was provided by technicians from the Soil Conservation Service. The following five jobs were accomplished during the day:

1. A large gully was pushed in with farm tractors and a waterway was established.
2. Eight acres of permanent pasture was renovated and improved by planting it to birdsfoot trefoil and orchard grass.
3. A reeds canary grass sod chute was laid at the lower end of a grassed waterway.
4. About 2,000 multiflora rose were planted on the contour for a fence and wildlife cover.
5. A diversion terrace was constructed to divert water into the farm pond.

A contouring contest was held in the afternoon with all F. F. A. members taking part. The Warren County Bank and Trust Co. furnished cash prizes for this event as follows:

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 1st | \$6.00 to Dennis Bishop and Dwaine McCormick |
| 2nd | \$5.00 to Loren Goodwin and Larry Foust |
| 3rd | \$4.00 to David Morrison and Jack Hardin |
| 4th | \$3.00 to Dean Clark and Paul Mead |
| 5th | \$2.00 to Andy Johnson and Ed Sink |
| 6th | \$1.00 to Bob Benge and Jim Sargent |



REED CANARY GRASS SOD CHUTE

ORVILLE LESTER FARM

The range of accuracy for the above teams was from .1 ft. off true contour for the top team to .6 ft. off for the 6th place team.

PLACED SECOND IN STATE CONSERVATION PHOTO CONTEST

The Indianola Chapter F. F. A. placed 2nd and 15th with two black and white pictures of the F. F. A. soils conservation field day entered in a state contest. This contest was sponsored by the Iowa Chapter of the Soil Conservation Society of America. The second place photo showed several boys with tractor equipment filling a gully and the other picture showed three boys running a terrace with tractors and plows. The pictures were taken with equipment loaned by Eaton's Studio.

SOIL JUDGING CONTEST

The fifth annual F. F. A. soil judging contest was held on the Guy Hornaday farm, Oct. 21st. This event was sponsored by

the Laverty Elevator in cooperation with the local Soil District. Those helping conduct the contest were Bob Bollman, Gail Bagley and Kermit Wilbur, Soil Conservation Service; Marvin Smart, Extension Service, and Keith Gaumer of Laverty's Elevator.

The scores in the contest were based on a possible 300 points. The placings were as follows:

- 1st Ramon Lester, scored 289 points
- 2nd Loren Mahr, scored 251 points
- 3rd Tie, Paul Mead and Jack Hardin, scored 247 points

F. F. A. WINNINGS IN STATE CONSERVATION CONTEST

Darrell Goodhue, past president and member of the local F. F. A. Chapter, entered an essay contest on conservation sponsored by the Iowa Grange and the Iowa Manufacturers Association. He won third place and a check for \$20.00 in the state contest and was honored at a recognition banquet at Knoxville last spring. The year before Darrell had won a second place award in the same contest.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS ON F. F. A. MEMBERS' HOME FARMS

Conservation and soil and crop improvement is stressed on the boys' home farms in their project work. A summary of last year's accomplishments is as follows:

Soil Conservation Practices 10 boys—1120 acres.

Crop Improvement 5 boys—675 acres.

Soil Improvement 4 boys—200 acres.

Pasture Improvement 6 boys—116 acres.



F. F. A. SOIL JUDGING

GUY HORNADAY FARM

WARREN COUNTY SCHOOLS

DWIGHT A. ERICKSON, Superintendent

The Warren County Soil Conservation District and the Warren County Bank and Trust Company jointly sponsored an Essay Contest throughout all of the grade schools in the County during the school year 1957-58.

The Essay Contest was open to two groups — Group I was composed of grades five and six and Group II consisted of grades seven and eight.

Winners in Group I were:

- 1st Joann Curtiss
- 2nd Deanna Sue Kline
- 3rd Jerry Ball

Winners in Group II were:

- 1st Janice Triggs
- 2nd Betty Taylor
- 3rd Vicki Ann Mann

Individuals in the fifth and sixth grades were permitted to write about one of the following subjects:

“For Tomorrow’s Sake, Protect Wildlife Today”

“Boys’ and Girls’ Jobs in Wildlife Preservation”

The subjects used for the seventh and eighth grades were as follows:

“Let’s Save Our Vanishing Soils”

“The Importance of Soil Conservation to Every American”

These essays were judged by Mrs. G. D. Bellman, W. H. Hoyman and Clark Mahr.

Cash prizes were awarded to the winners in each division with first prize receiving \$10.00, second prize \$5.00, and third prize \$3.00. In addition to these prizes award pins were given to the contest winners. The school or room receiving first prize also received a cash prize of \$5.00.

This contest encouraged considerable research among the students. It also assisted with the development of a better understanding of the fundamental purposes back of conservation.

SPRINGBROOK TEACHERS' CAMP

HELEN IRWIN, New Virginia, Iowa

The education of our boys and girls in conservation is the basis for the success of future conservation practices. Much of this can be done in our schools. Many teachers feel the lack of a substantial background to do their job well as teachers of conservation.

From my experience in taking a science course this summer at Iowa State Teachers' Conservation Camp at Springbrook Park I found it to be ideal training for teachers. Emphasis was placed upon soil, water and forests and their conservation as found particularly in Iowa. Traveling about 1,000 miles while there, we experienced typical forms of conservation practices in all phases of soil, water and forestry.

During the course we had as instructors quite a number of efficient personnel who were from our state colleges and federal and state conservation branches of service, plus the regular camp staff.

Visual aids, demonstrations and projects suitable for elementary grades were given a great amount of attention. We were given large amounts of material suitable for school conservation teaching and also information for personnel who were available for calling at our schools for special instruction for our classes.

As it is with children, teachers also gain more from actually experiencing situations or by doing that which they are wanting to learn; so with this in mind the conservation camp is one of the answers to our needs.

Teachers can receive financial help from their respective soil districts to attend camp schools. I wish to acknowledge my thanks to the Warren County Soil District for taking care of my tuition.

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Gilbert Fridley	Chairman
Robert Morrison	Member
James W. Ginder	Member
J. I. Middleswart	Secretary
Clark Mahr	Treasurer
Robert Dittmer	Assistant
J. R. Downing	Assistant
John McKee	Assistant
Marvin Mahr	Assistant
Ray Cummings	Assistant
Burl Woodyard	Assistant
Raymond Felton	Assistant
George Putney	Assistant
Wilfred Powers	Assistant

U. S. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE PERSONNEL

Robert V. Bollman	Work Unit Conservationist
Gail A. Bagley	Soil Conservationist
Harold L. Godlove	Conservation Aid
Kermit Wilbur	Conservation Aid

STATE PERSONNEL

Mrs. Evelyn Baughman	Clerk
Bob Downing (part-time)	Farm Planner Aid

OTHER SCS PERSONNEL ASSISTING DISTRICT

Kenneth E. King	Area Conservationist
Reuben L. Kammerer	Agric. Engineer
James C. Fluke	Engineering Aid
Dale Frank	Engineering Aid
Elton L. King	Sup. Soil Scientist
Mrs. Wilma Kimbal	Area Clerk

STATE ASSISTANCE TO DISTRICT

Funds received from the State of Iowa for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1958, included \$500.00 for Commissioners' mileage expenses, printing and purchase of materials, plus \$3,690.00 which was used to hire a full time clerk and part-time technical aids.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Pictures on pages 10, 11, 23 and cover courtesy of the Iowa Farm and Home Register. Pictures on pages 2, 4, 5, 16 and 18 courtesy of The Record-Herald and Indianola Tribune, Indianola, Iowa.



ARLIE TILLOTSON

Sweepstakes Winner, 1958
Iowa Soil Conservation
Achievement Award



Wren Borne

Carlisle, Pa