

News Releases

Fayette SWCD



DUDE RANCH

Scrapbook

Horses to ride! Trained guides, horses to ride, cowboys, horses to ride, mountain beauty, horses to ride, outdoor fun, all with horses to ride — real live horses.

Area Farmers Urged To Consider Christmas Tree Crop Planting

The Christmas tree is probably one of the first things many people think of in connection with Christmas. The traditional decoration-laden tree has been a favorite symbol of Christmas for many years and in many counties.

Christmas trees today are harvested from native stands in the north woods, as part of the thinning operations in timber production, or from plantings established primarily for Christmas tree production.

The sheared tree has been increasing in popularity in recent years. By shearing the trees during the early stages of growth, a more compact tree can be produced. The medium long needled Scotch pine and the long needled red or white pine are especially desirable for Christmas trees because they do not shed needles like some of the short needled species.

"Farmers in Fayette county could consider making a small planting of trees," reports Earl Kerker, U. S. Soil Conservation Service. "Some Christmas trees could be harvested to thin a stand of trees planted for timber production."

"Many farms have at least one small old area that is not suitable for crop production or useable for pasture," Kerker concluded.

Cost-sharing is available through the ACP program for tree planting. Rates are 80 percent of the cost not to exceed \$45 per acre for both the cost of trees and planting.

Trees are available from many private nurseries or from the State Conservation Commission nursery. The price for most evergreens trees bought from the State Nursery is \$22.00 a thousand for two year old seedlings.

More information on tree planting may be obtained from the Soil Conservation Service in West Union, Extension Service in Fayette, or William Ritter, District Forester, Elkader.

December 19, 1963

County's Queens Named Monday

OELWEIN — Fayette county's representatives in the regional "Queen of Conservation" contest are Miss Sandra Knickerbocker, 17, Arlington, and Miss Connie Dummermuth, 16, Elgin.

The two young ladies were chosen winners in the event in Oelwein Monday. Nine contestants were entered in the competition.

The regional contest is scheduled for Aug. 4, at the Mitchell County fair, Osage.

The remaining contestants were Miss Bonnie Ruroden, Postville; Miss Shirley Larson, Clermont; Miss Linda Krueger, Clermont; Miss Dorothy Helgeson, Elgin; Miss Annette Meyer, Elgin; Miss Judy Ann Brownell, Westgate, and Miss Judy Derr, Arlington.

July 25, 1963

Leland McCord Ends 28 Years With Soil Conservation Service

Leland A. McCord, U. S. Soil Conservation service, West Union, is retiring Friday, after 28 years of service with the U. S. Government.

McCord, a native of Bayard, graduated from Iowa State college at Ames in 1925. He taught school at Modale, and was a nursery foreman in Venice, Fla., from 1925 to 1930. Following this, he farmed for five years.

McCord started his career with the Soil Conservation service in 1935 at Bethany, Mo. From 1935 to 1954, he worked for the Soil Conservation service in Savannah, Blue Springs, and Harrisonville, Mo., and Chariton, Decorah, and Bloomfield.

In May, 1954, McCord accepted a position as an agricultural advisor with the International Cooperation admin-

istration in Iraq. He served in Iraq for two years.

McCord was appointed as Work Unit Conservationist with Soil Conservation Service in West Union in 1957.



McCORD RETIRES — Leland A. McCord, seated, is pictured here with Earl Kerker, who succeeds him as director of the soil conservation office at West Union, as McCord retires here this week after 28 years with the Soil service.

While McCord has no definite plans for retirement but he and Mrs. McCord are looking forward to a trip through the Southern and Western states this winter.

December 26, 1963



COUNTY VISITOR — Kula B. Karkey, center, a visitor in Fayette county and a citizen of Nepal, chats with J. L. Cline of the Soil Conservation service, left, and Don Bartels, of the Fayette County ASCS committee while on a county-wide ASCS field trip Friday. Karkey is a visitor in the county for a period of approximately three weeks and, while here, is studying various phases of agricultural production.

September 26, 1963

Soil Commissioners Approve Farm Plans

"Soil conservation plans for 3 farms were approved at the December meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Carl Lueder, District Chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Glenn Nicholson and Loraine Albrecht, Harlan Township, and Robert T. Rehmkne, Scott Township.

Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Elmer Spies, Auburn Township.

December 12, 1963

Conservation District Announces Contest

Monday, April 13, has been set as the date for the speech contest sponsored by the Fayette County Soil Conservation District. The event will be held at the high school building in West Union, starting at 7:30 p.m.

The contest is open to all junior and senior high school students in the county. Students will speak on the subject, "How

Conservationist Warns Of Farm Pond Dangers

"Ponds like any body of water attract people," Work Unit Conservationist, Leland A. McCord said yesterday. When the two come together there always is a chance of a drowning.

Ponds are a valuable asset and have many uses. During the past quarter of a century farmers and ranchers have built nearly a million ponds. "Your pond can be a source of joy as well as profit, but only if it is safe," McCord said.

Before you build your pond, find out what your community or state laws say about your liability in case of accident or death. You may need to protect yourself with insurance.

During construction remove all trees, stumps, and brush within the swimming area. Remove all rubbish, wire, junk, machinery, and fences that might hinder safe boating or swimming.

When pond is completed, mark the swimming area. Place lifesaving devices such as ring buoys, ropes, or long poles at swimming areas.

Never swim or skate alone. Use boats that will float if swamped or capsized. Recognize that farm ponds are hazards to small children. All children should be encouraged to learn to swim and non-swimmers should wear life-jackets in boats.

For more information write to the Soil Conservation Service, West Union, Iowa for bulletin PA-396 "Make Your Farm Pond Safe."

July 11, 1963

Soil and Water Conservation Affects My Future.

Further information can be obtained at the Soil Conservation District office in West Union.

March 12, 1964

Eastern Iowa Corn Yields Top '62 in Official Study

By Milt Nelson
Associate Farm Editor

AVERAGE 1963 yields were above last year in all three Eastern Iowa counties involved in the Iowa Corn Yield Study. They were the highest on record in both Keokuk and Fayette counties, and nearly equal to the 1961 record in Linn county, according to information received from Soil Conservation Service offices in the three counties.

The Iowa Corn Yield Study is a long-term project being conducted by the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station at Ames in cooperation with the extension service and Soil Conservation Service in selected counties.

Its purpose is to determine the effects of soil type, management practices and environment conditions on corn yields.

Selected sites in each participating county were randomly selected. Corn yields on each site are measured every year that the site is planted to corn. All yields are computed on the basis of 15.5% moisture.

Top Yields

Highest yield reported on the sites checked this year in the three participating Eastern Iowa counties was 154 bushels per acre in Keokuk county. This yield was achieved on a farm north of Sigourney owned by M. R. Greiner and operated by his son, Francis.

Top yield in Linn county was 151 bushels per acre on the farm of Mrs. Frank Henik located 2½ miles southwest of Mt. Vernon. The farm is operated by Leonard F. and Roland Henik.

Fayette county's top yield also was 151 bushels per acre. It was achieved on the Dr. J. C. Davis farm three miles east of Oelwein on highway three. Emory Wilson is the farm operator.

Keokuk Yields

Average yield on 23 plots harvested this year in Keokuk county was 124 bushels per acre. Three plots yielded more than 150 bushels per acre, according to George P. Thorburn, work unit conservationist for the Keokuk soil conservation district.

The yields ranged from 90 to 154 bushels per acre.

Average yield this year in

Linn county was 115 bushels per acre on 23 sites, according to Mervin G. Danielson, work unit conservationist. This compares with 103 bushels per acre last year and 116 bushels in 1961.

A yield of 148 bushels per acre was measured on the Junior Edwards farm south-east of Prairieburg, Danielson reported. Another high yield was 146 bushels per acre on the George Marak farm 3½ miles southeast of Marion.

Identical yields of 141 bushels per acre were measured on two farms.

One of these was a site on the farm operated by Covert Goodlove 1¼ miles east of Center Point on the Central City road. The farm is held in trust by the Peoples Bank and Trust Co. of Cedar Rapids for the heirs of the late Dr. Charles J. Yost of Center Point.

The other farm, 2¼ miles south of Mt. Vernon, is owned by Charles Hedges of Mt. Vernon and operated by Lester S. Turner.

Fayette County

This year's average yield in Fayette county—111 bushels per acre on 19 plots—topped last year's 78-bushel average on 27 sites by a wide margin, according to Leland A. McCord, work unit conservationist. The average yield for 1961 was 97 bushels per acre on 20 plots.

Average ear weight per stalk in the Fayette county tests was about one-third greater this year than last, reported Howard F. Boyle, soil conservation technician. This accounted for a major portion of the increase in average yield.

Because of dry weather conditions, the heaviest stands did not produce the highest yields per acre. This was generally true throughout Eastern Iowa.

December 12, 1963

Soil Conservation Speech Contest Is Monday, April 13

Monday, April 13, has been set as the date for the Speech Contest sponsored by the Fayette County Soil Conservation District and the contest will be held at the High School Building in West Union, starting at 7:30 p.m.

The contest is open to all Junior and Senior High School students in the county. Students will speak on the subject "How Soil and Water Conservation Affects My Future." Further information can be obtained at the Soil Conservation District office in West Union.

February 27, 1964

Bodensteiner Gets Fayette Soils Post

WEST UNION — Albert Bodensteiner of West Union has been elected to a six-year term as Fayette county soils district commissioner to succeed Hilder Gilbertson of Elgin.

The election was held Monday evening at the soils district's biennial meeting and dinner in the Farm Bureau building in Fayette. The meeting was attended by about 100 people.

Dr. George M. Browning, associate director of the Iowa State experiment station, was the speaker.

February 19, 1964

Commission Encourages Planting Game Cover

Time is growing short for landowners to order trees and shrubs for wildlife plantings, the State Conservation commission said today.

Orders for plantings are accepted until the supply, available at the Commission's state forest nursery near Ames, is exhausted. This usually occurs near mid-March.

Each spring Iowa landowners plant idle acres, inaccessible areas and poorer class land to young trees and wildlife species. In recent years, young stands of trees have provided enjoyable recreation areas, good wildlife cover, and a variety of products, at early ages, such as Christmas trees, posts and poles.

The trees and shrubs ordered from the state nursery are to be used for erosion control, wildlife cover and woodlot plantings. Trees cannot be used for windbreaks, landscaping, ornamental use or shade trees. Trees cannot be resold as "balled stock." Trees are not sold inside cities or towns unless the land has a farm number assigned to it by the Agricultural Stabilization Conservation service office in each county.

Federal cost-sharing is available to Iowa landowners who plant trees or wildlife cover plantings on qualifying land. This program is administered by the ASCS office located in each county seat town.

In 1964, one important change

March 5, 1964

10 Farmers Plan To Plant 23,000 Trees This Spring

"Tree planting is going to be popular in Fayette County this year," reports Earl Kerker, U.S. Soil Conservation Service. "Bill Ritter, the district forester, has informed me of 10 farmers who intend to plant a total of 23,000 trees or more. There may also be others who are interested."

According to Ritter, those interested in planting trees this spring are J. J. Miller, Ervin Handel, Delbert Leverington, Arthur Gross, Charles Schlumbohm, Ruby Freier, Samuel Koehler, Eugene Wenger, Al Porter and Carl Kuhens.

Trees ordered so far have been Scotch, red, or white pine, and Norway Spruce. A number of honeysuckle seedlings have also been ordered. Orders may be placed with the Soil Conservation Service office in West Union, Bill Ritter, in Elkader, or Wes Ashby, conservation officer, in Fayette.

Cost-sharing through the ASC Office in Fayette is available for most tree planting projects.

"We hope to be able to have one or two tree planting demonstrations this spring," Kerker concluded. "Anyone interested in tree planting will be able to see a planting machine in operation at the demonstrations."

February 26, 1964

Soils Cooperators

WEST UNION — Fayette soils district commissioners have approved conservation plans for farms owned by William Bultman, R. B. Jones estate and Wilson and Williams.

has been made in the cost-sharing rates available for wildlife cover plantings. Rates have been raised from 50 percent to 80 percent of the costs of tree or shrub seedlings.

County Conservation offices can give people assistance in developing wildlife cover planting projects and District Foresters for the Commission will give assistance to people wishing to make tree plantations.

Order blanks for the trees are available, in this area, from Wes Ashby, conservation officer, Fayette; Fayette County Extension office, Fayette; the Soil Conservation Service, West Union, and the ASCS office, Fayette.

Fayette Co. Looking For 1963 "Queen Of Conservation"

Somewhere in Fayette County is a pretty farm girl who could become Iowa's "Queen of Conservation" for 1963.

The contest is being co-sponsored by the soil conservation districts of Iowa and the Farmers Grain Dealers Association of Iowa (Co-operative) Des Moines, Iowa.

The contest at the county level will be held at Oelwein Dairy Day July 22. The contestants will be in the parade at 10:00 a.m. and the judging will take place in the afternoon. The winner will advance to the regional contest to be held on August 4, 1963 at the Mitchell County Fair in Osage, Iowa.

The contest is open to all single girls between the ages of 16 and 21 who reside on farms in Iowa. The queen will be chosen for her poise, personality, intelligence, and personal attractiveness. She will also be required to have a general knowledge of soil conservation, farmer cooperatives, and agriculture in general.

The lucky winner at the state contest will receive a check for \$250.00 to be used as she pleases. Besides her prizes, the new queen will act as official hostess of the Iowa Soil Conservation Districts Field and Plowing Match which will be held in Benton County, Iowa on September 17, 1963.

Official entry blanks may be obtained from any cooperative elevator in the county or the Fayette County Soil Conservation Office in West Union.

July 11, 1963

Fayette Soils District Slates Annual Meeting

WEST UNION — Dr. George M. Browning of Ames, associate director of the Iowa agricultural experiment station, will speak Feb. 17 at the annual meeting of the Fayette county soil conservation district.

The meeting will begin with noon dinner in the Farm Bureau building at Fayette.

Polls will be open from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. to elect one soil district commissioner for a six-year term. Candidates are Hilder Gilbertson of Elgin, and the incumbent, Albert Bodensteiner of West Union.

February 9, 1964

OPEN FORUM

"Let the chips fall
Where they may."

The Fayette County Union will accept for publication in its Open Forum section signed letters which are, in the opinion of the editors not libelous or in poor taste. No more than one letter will be printed from any one writer within a six months period. Unsigned letters will not be published. The Union reserves the right to edit any letters published in these columns.

To the Editor:

The Soil Conservation Service has attempted for the past several years to make its employees safety conscious. Of course all government departments and agencies are doing likewise but we feel our program is especially good. I would like to pass along some information I have gathered through our program. I write this with

the hope that it might make some who read it a bit more careful and maybe prevent them from becoming a "statistic."

About 75% of all fatalities occur when either a driver or pedestrian has violated traffic rules. Errors were committed in 96% of the accidents causing fatalities. Of all drivers involved in fatal accidents usually 55% of them have had previous accident records. One-car accidents cause 30% of our fatalities. Some of above figures of course, are overlapping.

A further breakdown on fatal traffic accidents and when they occur shows: secondary roads — 32% of total; interstate highways — 1.3% of total; primary highways — 45% of total; other (towns, etc.) — 22% of total.

A simple analysis of above figures points toward the fact that "accidents don't happen they are made." It also shows that more than 1/2 the traffic deaths occur off the main highways.

In closing, let me say that we, in Soil Conservation Service advocate the saving of soil and water, but at the same time we advocate the saving of life and limb. Let us be careful.

Sincerely,

Howard K. Boyle
Soil Cons. Tech.

January 14, 1964

SCS Announces 1963 Conservation Speech Contest In County

"How Soil and Water Conservation Affects My Future" is the topic of the speech contest recently opened to all junior and senior high school students in Fayette county. The contest is co-sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary of the Iowa Assn. of Soil Conservation District commissioners and the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Co., according to Earl J. Kerker, Soil Conservation Service, West Union.

Local winners of the contest will be eligible to compete in the regional contest and compete for \$25, \$15 and \$10 for first, second and third prizes, respectively.

Contest rules have been sent to all high schools in the county. Any student desiring to enter the contest may do so by sending his name, address and name of school to Fayette County Soil Conservation district, Post Office Box 231, West Union, Iowa.

RAD Meeting Set For Monday

In an effort to encourage interest in the formation of a Rural Area Development organization in Fayette county, the Extension Service of Iowa State University, through the Fayette County Extension service, will sponsor a program Monday evening, beginning at 8 p.m., in the North High school gymnasium.

Information concerning the future of Fayette county, as reflected by figures compiled by the cooperative extension services, will be presented by Dr. Eber Eldridge, Iowa State University extension economist.

Letters inviting individuals to the meeting have been sent out over the signatures of Earl Kerker, West Union, soil conservationist; M. C. Wangsness, Fayette county extension director; Kermit Teig, West Union, FHA supervisor, and Chester Turner, Fayette, ASC manager.

January 23, 1964

Soil Plans Approved For County Farmers

Soil conservation plans for four farms were approved at the March meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners, according to Carl Lueder, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Forrest Cumberland and Howard Cordes, Smithfield township; Gerald Schmidt, Jefferson and Oran Townships; William W. Bachtell, Fairfield township.

New cooperators with the district are Max W. Jansen, jr., and John L. Lennon, Fremont township; Alfred H. Burrack, Putnam township, and Kenneth S. Jennings, Center township. Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Frederick Rueber, Fremont township.

March 12, 1964

Fayette Soils Tour Planned

WEST UNION—The annual Fayette county soil conservation tour will be held Sept. 20, starting from the courthouse square in West Union at 9:15 a.m., Carl Lueder, soils district chairman, has announced.

Stops will include: 9:30 a.m., Melvin Molokken farm, Dover township, strip cropping and pond; 10:30 a.m., Michael Finnegan farm, Clermont township, FHA information; 11:15 a.m., Appelmann estate farm, Clermont township, terraces; 1:15 p.m., Wilder Mattocks farm north of Wadena, birdsfoot trefoil and spring development; 2:15 p.m., Jack Erickson farm, Wadena, pasture improvement and cattle feeding.

September 12, 1963

Conservation Plans For Farmers Approved

Soil conservation plans for three farms were approved at the January meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners, reports Carl Lueder, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: William Bultman, Putnam township; R. B. Jones estate, Illyria township; and Wilson and Williams, Jefferson and Scott townships.

New cooperators with the district are Ervin E. Handel, Union township; Sheldon E. Fox, Don C. Becker, Center township; Gene Brownell, Edward Reiter, Harlan township; Cornelius Yearous, Smithfield township; A. F. Robinson, operated by Jack Erickson, Illyria township.

Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Anna Steege Estate of Harlan township.

Jan 1964

Conservation District To Name Commissioner

Dr. George Browning, associate Director, Agriculture and Home Economics Experiment station, Iowa State university, Ames, will be the featured speaker at the Fayette County Soil Conservation District annual meeting Monday, Feb. 17.

The meeting, to be held in the Farm Bureau building at Fayette, will start with a dinner at 12 o'clock.

An election to be held Feb. 17 at the Farm Bureau building will select a district commissioner for a six-year term. Candidates are Hildor Gilbertson and Albert Bodensteiner. Polls will be open from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Feb 1964

Soil Conservation Commissioner To Be Elected

An election will be held Feb. 17, between the hours of 11:30 a. m. and 1:30 p.m. to name a commissioner for the Fayette County Soil Conservation district.

All owners and operators in the district are eligible to vote at the Farm Bureau building polling station at Fayette.

Eligible voters not residing in the district or who will be absent from the district may apply in person or in writing to the County Auditor at West Union for absentee ballots.

SPEECH CONTEST

The Fayette County Soil Conservation District will sponsor a Speech Contest for students of Fayette County. Students will speak on the subject, "How Soil and Water Conservation Affects My Future." The date for the contest is Monday, April 13 at the High School Building in West Union starting at 7:30 p.m. Additional information may be obtained at the Soil Conservation District office in West Union.

April 1964

County Soil Districts Enter Conservation Contest For 1964

Fayette County Soil Conservation District has entered the 18th annual Goodyear competition to select the nation's top 52 conservation districts, according to Carl Lueder, Fayette, district chairman.

Activities of the district will be weighed against the performance of other districts in the state in determining the outstanding district in the annual event sponsored by The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company of Akron, Ohio.

Key agricultural leaders will serve as judges and will select the state winner. Soil conservation efforts from Jan. 1, 1964, through Dec. 31, 1964 will be considered.

Grand award for the 52 districts selected nationally will be an expense paid, work-study trip to Arizona in December of 1965, for one member of the district governing body and the outstanding farmer-cooperator in each winning district. The 104 men selected will be guests at Goodyear Farms, a 14,000-acre general farm operation near Phoenix.

Fayette district has taken part in the competition three times in the past. District supervisors are Carl Lueder, Fayette; Hildor Gilbertson, Elgin; Alfred Stewart, Oelwein.

Lueder said the district's outstanding cooperator will be selected from among the 800 farm operators enrolled in the district program. Nationally, about 1,800,000 farmers in 2,900 districts will be eligible for the grand award trip.

Clayton county will also be entering the event, for the ninth time, having placed first in the state in 1955 and again in 1960. District commissioners are Oscar Pufahl, Guttenberg; George Keehner, Monont; Robert Corlett, Farmersburg; Eldon Kruse, Elkport; Bernard Hanson, Elgin, and James E. Nading, Strawberry Point.

Jan 1964

Conservation Plan Okayed on Area Farms

Soil conservation plans for four farms were approved at the February meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation district commissioners, according to Carl Lueder, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: F. W. Pape, Union township; Neil Kruse Farm, Auburn township; Russell F. Lockard, one farm in Harlan township and one farm in Center township.

New cooperators with the district are Melbert Meyer and Max Thoma, Pleasant Valley township; Earl Wilbur, Union township; Stanley Yearous, Illyria township, and Max Skinner, Oran township. Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Cleve Bennett, Illyria and Pleasant Valley townships.

Feb. 1964

Begin Search for Conservation Queen

The 1964 "Queen of Conservation" Contest is being co-sponsored by the Soil Conservation Districts of Iowa and the Farmers Grain Dealers Association of Iowa (Cooperative) of Des Moines, Iowa, for the fifth consecutive year.

The contest is open to all single girls between the ages of 16 and 21 who reside on farms in Iowa. The queen will be chosen for her poise, personality, intelligence,

and personal attractiveness. She will also be required to have a general knowledge of soil conservation, farmer cooperatives, and agriculture in general.

The lucky winner will receive a beautiful wrist watch and a check for \$250.00 to be used as she pleases. The 1964 queen's first official duty is to serve as hostess of the Iowa Soil Conservation Districts Field Day and State Contour Plowing Match which will be held near Van Meter, Iowa on September 9 and 10, 1964.

The district contest for the Fayette County Soil Conservation District will be held on August 3 at West Union in conjunction with the annual Town and Country Barbecue.

April 1964

Kilburn Wins SCS Speech Contest

Norman Kilburn, West Union, was named winner of the Fayette county soil conservation district speech contest.

Eight contestants competed in the contest which was held on Monday, April 13, at the North Fayette County Community school, West Union.

Kilburn received \$10 as top prize in the contest. The Farmers Mutual Insurance company and German Mutual Insurance company furnished the prize money. Proud parents of the winner are Dr. and Mrs. Norman Kilburn.

Jerry Jellings, Oelwein, won second place honors in the county contest of \$7.50, and Anthony Luzum, St. Lucas, took third prize of \$5. All contestants spoke on the subject "How Soil and Water Conservation Affects My Future."

Norman Kilburn will now advance to regional competition to be held at Manchester on July 21. There he will compete with other county winners in the region for a top prize of \$25 and the privilege of representing the region in the state contest. Second place in the region will receive a \$15 cash award, and third prize is \$10.

Regional winner of the contest will represent this area in state contest competition with the 10 other regional contestants.

The state contest will be held on Sunday, Sept. 20, at the Hotel Worden, Fort Dodge, Iowa, in conjunction with the annual conference of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners.

The 1964 soil conservation

speech contest is sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary of the IASDC and Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company of Grinnell.

Calendar

Saturday, April 25: Score purebred Holstein heifer calves, Holstein committee.

Monday, April 27: Sunnyside Gals of Fremont and Banks 4-H club meeting, Westgate Legion hall.

Tuesday, April 28: Extension Council meeting, 8 p.m.

SCS News

"Soil conservation plans for four farms were approved at the April meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Carl Lueder, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Art Matt, owner and Ralph Matt, operator, Union township; E. and L. Vagts, owners and Donald Vagts, operator, Dover township; Milton L. Ash, Pleasant Valley township, and Kenneth S. Jennings, Center township.

New cooperators with the district are: James F. Gaffney, Putnam township; Ronald Glass, Harlan township; Louis Stevens, Oran township; and Wes Ashby, Westfield township. Also approved was a revised plan for Max Jennings, Fairfield township.

April 1964

Molokken, Shepperd Farms Win

"The farms of Myron Shepperd, Fayette, and Melvin Molokken, Castalia, have been selected as Fayette County's winners in the 1964 Iowa Soil Conservation Achievement Awards Program," reports Carl Lueder, Chairman of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District.

Shepperd was one of the first farmers in the Fayette area to adopt conservation practices. He developed a conservation farm plan, with the assistance of U.S. Soil Conservation Service tech-

nicians, in January, 1948. Much of the cropland on Shepperd's farm is terraced. Additional conservation practices include contour farming, waterway construction, establishment of permanent vegetation, pasture renovation, and woodland management.

Molokken has been a cooperator with the Soil Conservation District two years and was entered in the division for new cooperators. His farm has contour strip crop-

ping, a livestock water pond, pasture renovation, waterway construction, and wildlife habitat preservation. Molokken has several other conservation projects he would like to do in the near future including more strip cropping and converting a large gully to a grassed waterway.

The Shepperd and Molokken farms will represent Fayette County in regional judging in September.

July 29, 1964

Queen Of Conservation To Be Chosen Aug. 3

Seven attractive farm girls will be competing for the title of "Queen of Conservation" at the Fayette County Soil Conservation District contest to be held Aug. 3, 5 p.m. at the West Union Town and Country Barbecue. Two district winners will be chosen, and each of the lucky winners will receive a sterling silver charm bracelet with the inscription "Queen of Conservation."

They will also represent the Fayette County Soil Conservation District at the regional contest to be held at the Dubuque County Fair on Aug. 11.

The "Queen of Conservation" Contest is co-sponsored by Iowa's 100 Soil Conservation Districts and the Farmers Grain Dealers Association of Iowa (Cooperative). The object of this contest, which had over 450 contestants in 1963, is to increase public interest in the soil conservation program in Iowa.

Serving as judges for the district contest will be Connie Dummermuth, Elgin; Robert J. Ralston, West Union; and Alvin Stewart, Oelwein. They will select the two

winners on the basis of their poise, personality, intelligence and personal attractiveness. Contestants will also be judged on their knowledge of soil conservation, farmer cooperatives, and agriculture in general.

Candidates competing in the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Contest are: Dawn Renae Rau, Arlington; Kathleen Van De Berg, Judy Hyman, Hawkeye; Linda Kay Cummings, Clermont; Linda Lea Niles, Beverly Morse, Fayette; Paula Halverson, West Union.

July 1964

Conservation Plans Approved For Four Fayette Farms

"Soil conservation plans for four farms were approved at the March meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Carl Lueder, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Forrest Cumberland and Howard Cordes, Smithfield township; Gerald Schmidt, Jefferson and Oran townships and William W. Bachtell, Fairfield township.

New cooperators with the district are Max W. Jansen Jr. and John L. Lennon, Fremont township; Alfred H. Burrack, Putnam township and Kenneth S. Jennings, Center township. Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Frederick Rueber, Fremont township.

4-Oelwein (la.) Daily Register
Wednesday, March 11, 1964

Soil Stewardship Week Is May 3-10

Soil Stewardship Week, a nationwide observance which places emphasis on man's obligation to God as stewards of the soil, water and other related resources, will be celebrated locally May 3-10, according to Carl Lueder, Chairman Fayette County Soil Conservation District.



This year's observance, with the theme, "To Each Among Us—A Share," underscores the responsibility which each citizen has in meeting the responsibilities of soil stewardship. The Fayette County Conservation District and some 2,940 companion Districts throughout the nation and Puerto Rico, through their State and National Associations, are sponsoring this event for the tenth consecutive year.

The Fayette Conservation District has distributed, to churches of all faiths, booklets created particularly for this year's observance. The booklets were prepared by the National Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, in cooperation with a Soil Stewardship Advisory Committee composed of leading churchmen in the nation. The Committee consists of the Rev. E. W. Mueller, D.D., National Lutheran Council, Chicago; the Right Rev. John George Weber, National Catholic Rural Life Conference, Des Moines; the Rev. Harold S. Huff, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., Philadelphia; the Rev. Henry A. McCanna, D.R.E. National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., New York, and the Rev. Lewis W. Neuman, Southern Baptist Convention, Atlanta.

Through the 1964 theme and in the attractively illustrated booklet, emphasis is placed upon the fact that there is a clearcut need and opportunity to improve upon the conservation, wise use, and development of the nation's valued soil and water resources. In this year's booklet each citizen is asked to consider his share —

"In the great Society of mankind, (since) each of us has a God-given purpose for being. In our time each among us fulfills a mission in the long progression toward the ultimate design of our Maker.

"To each among, God has assigned a share in the expanding brotherhood of stewards. It is a membership of service, dedicated to the husbandry of lands and waters, forests and ranges, and the fish and game He has placed at our disposal."

April 1964

Begin Search for Conservation Queen

The 1964 "Queen of Conservation" Contest is being co-sponsored by the Soil Conservation Districts of Iowa and the Farmers Grain Dealers Association of Iowa (Cooperative) of Des Moines, Iowa, for the fifth consecutive year.

The contest is open to all single girls between the ages of 16 and 21 who reside on farms in Iowa. The queen will be chosen for her poise, personality, intelligence,

and personal attractiveness. She will also be required to have a general knowledge of soil conservation, farmer cooperatives, and agriculture in general.

The lucky winner will receive a beautiful wrist watch and a check for \$250.00 to be used as she pleases. The 1964 queen's first official duty is to serve as hostess of the Iowa Soil Conservation Districts Field Day and State Contour Plowing Match which will be held near Van Meter, Iowa on September 9 and 10, 1964.

The district contest for the Fayette County Soil Conservation District will be held on August 3 at West Union in conjunction with the annual Town and Country Barbecue.

April 1964

Kilburn Wins SCS Speech Contest

Norman Kilburn, West Union, was named winner of the Fayette county soil conservation district speech contest.

Eight contestants competed in the contest which was held on Monday, April 13, at the North Fayette County Community school, West Union.

Kilburn received \$10 as top prize in the contest. The Farmers Mutual Insurance company and German Mutual Insurance company furnished the prize money. Proud parents of the winner are Dr. and Mrs. Norman Kilburn.

Jerry Jellings, Oelwein, won second place honors in the county contest of \$7.50, and Anthony Luzum, St. Lucas, took third prize of \$5. All contestants spoke on the subject "How Soil and Water Conservation Affects My Future."

Norman Kilburn will now advance to regional competition to be held at Manchester on July 21. There he will compete with other county winners in the region for a top prize of \$25 and the privilege of representing the region in the state contest. Second place in the region will receive a \$15 cash award, and third prize is \$10.

Regional winner of the contest will represent this area in state contest competition with the 10 other regional contestants.

The state contest will be held on Sunday, Sept. 20, at the Hotel Worden, Fort Dodge, Iowa, in conjunction with the annual conference of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners.

The 1964 soil conservation

speech contest is sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary of the IASDC and Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company of Grinnell.

Calendar

Saturday, April 25: Score purebred Holstein heifer calves, Holstein committee.

Monday, April 27: Sunnyside Gals of Fremont and Banks 4-H club meeting, Westgate Legion hall.

Tuesday, April 28: Extension Council meeting, 8 p.m.

SCS News

"Soil conservation plans for four farms were approved at the April meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Carl Lueder, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Art Matt, owner and Ralph Matt, operator, Union township; E. and L. Vagts, owners and Donald Vagts, operator, Dover township; Milton L. Ash, Pleasant Valley township, and Kenneth S. Jennings, Center township.

New cooperators with the district are: James F. Gaffney, Putnam township; Ronald Glass, Harlan township; Louis Stevens, Oran township; and Wes Ashby, Westfield township. Also approved was a revised plan for Max Jennings, Fairfield township.

April 1964

Molokken, Shepperd Farms Win

"The farms of Myron Shepperd, Fayette, and Melvin Molokken, Castalia, have been selected as Fayette County's winners in the 1964 Iowa Soil Conservation Achievement Awards Program," reports Carl Lueder, Chairman of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District.

Shepperd was one of the first farmers in the Fayette area to adopt conservation practices. He developed a conservation farm plan, with the assistance of U.S. Soil Conservation Service tech-

nicians, in January, 1948. Much of the cropland on Shepperd's farm is terraced. Additional conservation practices include contour farming, waterway construction, establishment of permanent vegetation, pasture renovation, and woodland management.

Molokken has been a cooperator with the Soil Conservation District two years and was entered in the division for new cooperators. His farm has contour strip crop-

ping, a livestock water pond, pasture renovation, waterway construction, and wildlife habitat preservation. Molokken has several other conservation projects he would like to do in the near future including more strip cropping and converting a large gully to a grassed waterway.

The Shepperd and Molokken farms will represent Fayette County in regional judging in September.

July 29, 1964

Queen Of Conservation To Be Chosen Aug. 3

Seven attractive farm girls will be competing for the title of "Queen of Conservation" at the Fayette County Soil Conservation District contest to be held Aug. 3, 5 p.m. at the West Union Town and Country Barbecue. Two district winners will be chosen, and each of the lucky winners will receive a sterling silver charm bracelet with the inscription "Queen of Conservation."

They will also represent the Fayette County Soil Conservation District at the regional contest to be held at the Dubuque County Fair on Aug. 11.

The "Queen of Conservation" Contest is co-sponsored by Iowa's 100 Soil Conservation Districts and the Farmers Grain Dealers Association of Iowa (Cooperative). The object of this contest, which had over 450 contestants in 1963, is to increase public interest in the soil conservation program in Iowa.

Serving as judges for the district contest will be Connie Dummermuth, Elgin; Robert J. Ralston, West Union; and Alvin Stewart, Oelwein. They will select the two

winners on the basis of their poise, personality, intelligence and personal attractiveness. Contestants will also be judged on their knowledge of soil conservation, farmer cooperatives, and agriculture in general.

Candidates competing in the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Contest are: Dawn Renae Rau, Arlington; Kathleen Van De Berg, Judy Hyman, Hawkeye; Linda Kay Cummings, Clermont; Linda Lea Niles, Beverly Morse, Fayette; Paula Halverson, West Union.

July 1964

Conservation Plans Approved For Four Fayette Farms

"Soil conservation plans for four farms were approved at the March meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Carl Lueder, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Forrest Cumberland and Howard Cordes, Smithfield township; Gerald Schmidt, Jefferson and Oran townships and William W. Bachtell, Fairfield township.

New cooperators with the district are Max W. Jansen Jr. and John L. Lennon, Fremont township; Alfred H. Burrack, Putnam township and Kenneth S. Jennings, Center township. Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Frederick Rueber, Fremont township.

4-Oelwein (Ia.) Daily Register
Wednesday, March 11, 1964

Soil Stewardship Week Is May 3-10

Soil Stewardship Week, a nationwide observance which places emphasis on man's obligation to God as stewards of the soil, water and other related resources, will be celebrated locally May 3-10, according to Carl Lueder, Chairman Fayette County Soil Conservation District.



This year's observance, with the theme, "To Each Among Us—A Share," underscores the responsibility which each citizen has in meeting the responsibilities of soil stewardship. The Fayette County Conservation District and some 2,940 companion Districts throughout the nation and Puerto Rico, through their State and National Associations, are sponsoring this event for the tenth consecutive year.

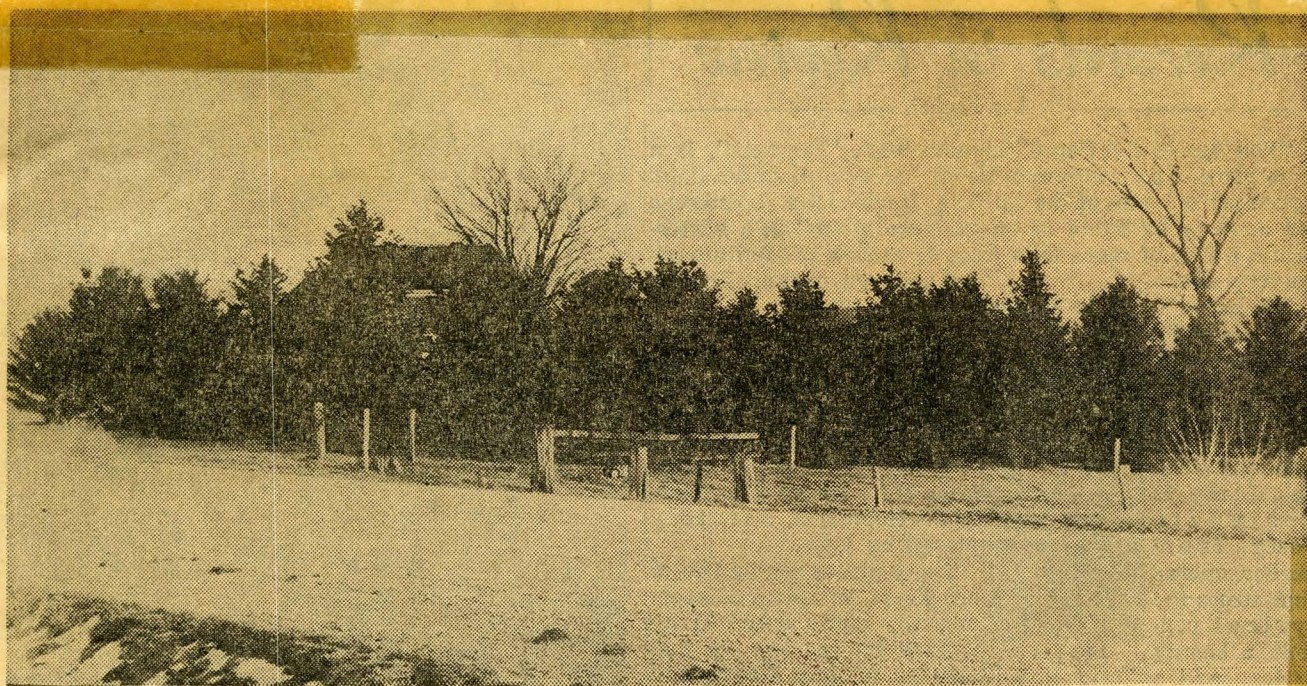
The Fayette Conservation District has distributed, to churches of all faiths, booklets created particularly for this year's observance. The booklets were prepared by the National Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, in cooperation with a Soil Stewardship Advisory Committee composed of leading churchmen in the nation. The Committee consists of the Rev. E. W. Mueller, D.D., National Lutheran Council, Chicago; the Right Rev. John George Weber, National Catholic Rural Life Conference, Des Moines; the Rev. Harold S. Huff, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., Philadelphia; the Rev. Henry A. McCanna, D.R.E. National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., New York, and the Rev. Lewis W. Neuman, Southern Baptist Convention, Atlanta.

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"To each among, God has assigned a share in the expanding brotherhood of stewards. It is a membership of service, dedicated to the husbandry of lands and waters, forests and ranges, and the fish and game He has placed at our disposal."

April 1964



—Gazette photos by Rex Conn

THE EVERGREEN SHELTERBELT to the west and north of the E. W. Maurer farmstead three miles east of Fayette gives protection from the cold northwest winds in winter. It was planted in 1951 to replace an old willow thicket, and now the Norway spruce trees are 35 feet tall. Care was taken to plant the three rows far enough from the barnyard that the snow piles up before it reaches the working area.

★ ★ ★

Maurers Like Shelterbelt Protection

By Rex Conn

FAYETTE — When I was hurrying into West Union late one afternoon last week to keep an appointment with Earl Kerker, the SCS man there, (an appointment which I never did manage to fill) someone behind me tooted insistently on his horn. I stopped and E. W. "Lefty" Maurer pulled up alongside.

"Earl Kerker tells me you are interested in seeing a good shelter belt, and I have one," he said. "If you want to get a picture of it before the sun goes down we'll have to hurry, for it's eleven miles from here."

Although the traffic was moving at a moderate pace and the long yellow lines on highway 150 south of West Union kept us slowed down, we made it to the Maurer farm three miles east of Fayette in time for a fair picture, which is reproduced on this page.

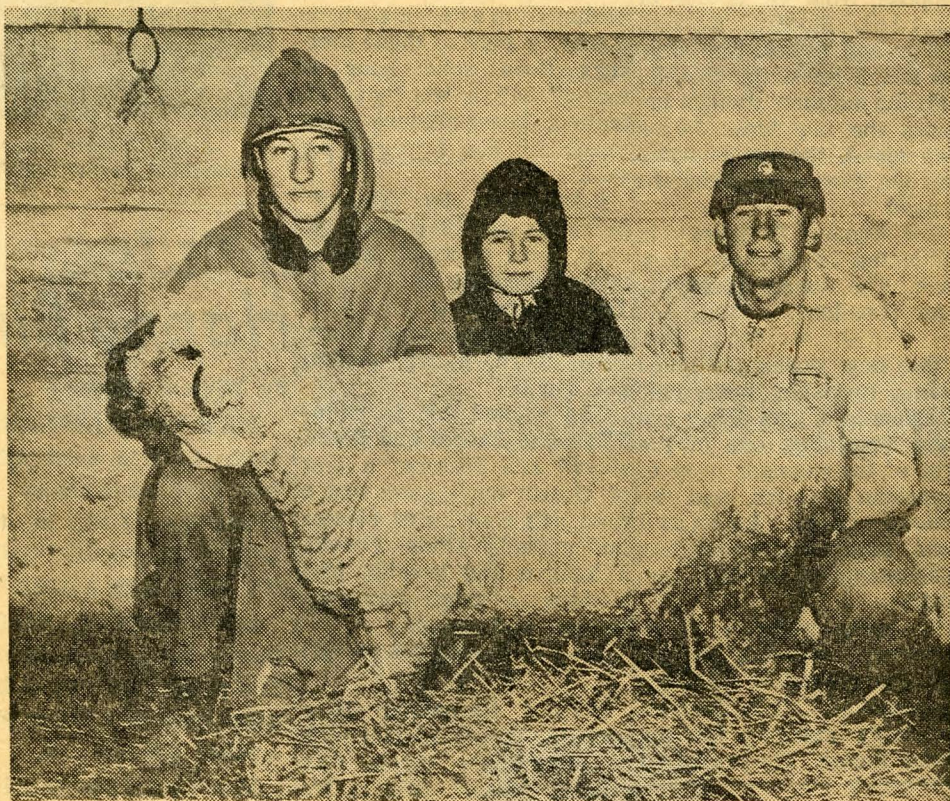
Planted in 1951

"When we moved here in 1950, the farmstead was surrounded by a willow thicket," Mr. Maurer said. "The people who lived here before us said they couldn't raise chickens because of the 'coons it harbored."

"We set out three rows of little Norway spruce trees to the west and north of the house in the spring of 1951 and, as you can see, they are about 35 feet tall now. They grew slowly at first, but they have really been stretching upward these last few years."

"The old willows were so close to the buildings that they dumped the snow right in the barnyard. We put the evergreens back farther and now the snow piles up before it reaches the working area."

The trees are big enough now that they provide protection from the cold north-



THIS 15-YEAR-OLD EWE must be setting something of a record, even for the Hampshire breed, which has a reputation for longevity. She lambed first in 1951 and produced twins most years and triplets twice until 1964, when she raised a single lamb. She is due to lamb again this spring. The boys are, from the left, Gary, Dwight and Jim Maurer.

west winter winds, he said. Even in the summer, the shelterbelt seems to keep the farmstead more comfortable by providing shade and breaking the hot southwest winds, he added.

Shorthorn Herd

Main enterprise on the farm is the purebred Shorthorn herd operated under the name E. W. Maurer and Sons. The sons are Jim, 20, Gary, 17, and Dwight, 11. The Maurers have a daughter, Karla Kay, 6.

The Shorthorn herd of about 30 breeding-age females is headed by Hickories Commodore, a son of the famed Bapton Constructor. The thick, typy young bulls and heifers in the lots attest the good he is doing in the herd. Several of the attractive young animals are being fitted for the Hawkeye Downs, Iowa State and Northern Iowa Shorthorn sales.

The boys also have a flock of 30 purebred Hamp-

shire ewes. Among them is a ewe lambed in 1950 which they purchased from Otis Rothlisberger of Elgin. She lambed first in 1951 and has had twins or triplets nearly every year until 1964, when she raised a single lamb. She is due to lamb again this spring.

"That ewe has raised between 20 and 25 lambs for us," the boys reported. "One of her ram lambs sold for \$90."

"I'd guess that we have sold \$1,000 worth of lambs from that old ewe," their father added.

Mr. Maurer returned home recently after one week in the West Union hospital and

five weeks in the Veterans hospital at Iowa City, where he received treatment for a back injury. He still is forbidden to do much, so the three boys are handling the work by themselves.

Soil Commissioners Approve Farm Plans

"Soil conservation plans for two farms were approved at the February meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Carl Lueder, District Chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U.S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Henry Schmitt, Windsor township, and Clifford Medberry, Pleasant Valley township.

New cooperators with the district are Charles Baumler, Westfield township; Louise Miller, Allen Grimes, Pleasant Valley township. Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Will Christen, Illyria township.

Will Sponsor The Soil Conservation Speech Contest

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners and the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company of Grinnell, Iowa, announce that they will sponsor the Soil Conservation Speech Contest for 1965. Topic for the contest is "How Soil and Water Conservation Affects My Future."

Entry in the contest is open to all junior and senior High School students living in Iowa. Contest information may be obtained from the Fayette County Soil Conservation District office located at West Union. Winners in the local contest will represent their home districts in the regional contest competition.

Due to a recent re-alignment of regions of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners, nine regional winners will advance to the 1965 state contest, which will be held on September 19, 1965 at Des Moines.

Regional and state prizes will be furnished by the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company. Regional prizes will consist of \$25.00 in cash for first place, \$15.00 for second and \$10.00 for third place.

A \$250.00 scholarship to any accredited university, college or

junior college, plus \$100.00 in cash will be won by the winner of the state contest. Second and third prizes in the state contest will each consist of \$75.00 in cash.

Winners of the 1964 contest were: Gary Roewe, Laurens, first; Patrick Vandello, Ottumwa, second; and Nancy King, Dickens, third.

8—Sumner Gazette

Thursday, February 18, 1965

Jan. 17, 1965

Feb. 17, 1965

S.C.S. will sponsor Conservation camp

"Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners plan to sponsor a scholarship to the Iowa Teachers Conservation Camp," reported Carl Lueder, district chairman. "The scholarship would pay the tuition, which is about one half of the cost."

"A deadline of March 31 has been placed on applying for the scholarship. We will then be able to notify the successful candidate in April so that he can make plans for attending the camp," Lueder concluded.

The camp is being held at Springbrook State Park, seven

miles north of Guthrie Center. Much of the work will be in the field and students travel approximately 1,000 miles to various areas of Iowa for a view of conservation practices in action.

Students may earn three semester hours of credit during each of the three week sessions. Six hours of credit may be earned by staying for both courses. Starting dates are June 6 and July 18 for biology 104, and June 27 for biology 105.

Further information may be obtained at the Soil Conservation Service office in West Union.

March 18, 1965

Conservation District

To Pay Teacher's Tuition At Camp

Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners plan to sponsor a scholarship to the Iowa Teachers Conservation camp, according to Carl Lueder, district chairman. The scholarship would pay the tuition, which is about one half of the cost.

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Further information may be obtained at the Soil Conservation Service office in West Union.

March 25, 1965

County Watershed Problems Being Studied By USDA

Chairman Carl Lueder of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District announced this week that agencies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture are making a joint study of watershed problems and project needs of all counties in the state. According to Lueder, interested state, county and other federal agencies and groups are invited to participate and assist in the assembly of data, problems, and needs to complete the study.

The Soil Conservation Service has been assigned leadership in assembly of data and the compilation of the county and state report, according to I. L. Christensen, SCS Area Conservationist at Elkader.

Mr. Christensen says the objectives of this study are to:

1. Determine the extent and seriousness of floodwater damage, sediment problems, water quality, water based recreation needs, farm drainage needs, rural and municipal water supply and fish and wildlife development needs, in all watersheds of the state, county by county, which have potential and a possibility of being solved by projects now authorized by Public Law 566 as amended by Congress.

2. To provide data on these same problems now needed for the comprehensive river basin study now underway in the Upper Mississippi River and Missouri River Basin States. These river basin surveys are under leadership of the Corps of Army Engineers with other departments of government and the states assisting.

Earl Kerker, local SCS Work Unit Conservationist at West Union recently attended a training workshop at Manchester to obtain detailed procedures for conduct of the survey in Fayette County.

Chairman Lueder pointed out that the present amendments to Public Law 566 permit federal cost-share assistance to locally organized groups of landowners for solving problems of floodwater and sediment damage, land drainage, rural water supply, fish and wildlife development, water quality control, and water based recreation.

Organized groups of landowners may apply for assistance under the Small Watershed Act, says Mr. Lueder.

Detailed information on organization and development of watershed projects is available at the office of the County Extension Director or local SCS office.

March 25, 1965



SPEECH WINNER — Norman Kilburn III, second from left, receives first prize in the Soil Conservation Speech contest from Gordon Lauer, left. At right are Commissioner, Carl Lueder, and Earl Kerker, soil conservationist.

Wins Soil Conservation Speech Contest

Norman Kilburn, III, a junior at North Fayette County Community School, West Union was the first place winner in the Soil Conservation Speech contest held Monday at North High School, and will represent Fayette county in the regional contest to be held later this spring.

The contest was co-sponsored by the Fayette County Soil Conservation District and the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company and its affiliate companies. German Mutual Insurance Company, West Union, and Fayette County Mutual Insurance company, Fayette, furnished prizes for the contestants.

Mary Metzger, Elgin, a student of Valley High school, was second place winner, and Anthony Luzum, St. Lucas, a student at St. Luke's High school, won third place.



CONTESTANTS in the Soil Conservation Speech contest at West Union Monday include, left to right, front row, Ann Marie Hartman, Oelwein, and Mary Metzger, Elgin. Back row, Ken Smith, and Tony Luzum, St. Lucas, and Norman Kilburn III, West Union.

March 25, 1965

Topic Announced For 1968 Soil Conservation Contest

"Soil, Our Important Legacy" will be the topic for the 1968 Soil Conservation Speech Contest to be sponsored locally by the Fayette County Soil Conservation District. The contest is open to all junior and senior high school students in the county.

This is the first year the contest has utilized the topic "Soil, Our Important Legacy." A total of 378 Iowa youth participated in the 1967 state-wide contest, which was won by Patricia Colvin, of Hawkeye.

The regional and state levels of the contest are co-sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners and the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company, Grinnell.

The winner of the local contest will advance to the regional competition which will be held in July. Regional contest prizes will consist of \$25, \$15, and \$10 for first, second, and third placings respectively.

The state contest will be held in September, 1968, at the Annual Conference for Soil Conservation District Commissioners in Mason City, Iowa. The first place winner in the state contest will receive a \$250 college scholarship and \$100 in cash. The second and third place awards in the state contest will consist of \$75 and \$50 in cash respectively.

Anyone interested in entering the 1968 Soil Conservation Speech Contest may obtain contest information from the Fayette County Soil Conservation District office,

or the nearest Vocational Agriculture Department. The sponsors encourage all youths, whether rural or urban, to enter this very educational and rewarding contest.

Plans For Soil Conservation Announced

"Soil conservation plans for seven farms were approved at the March meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Alfred Stewart, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U.S. Soil Conservation technicians, by the following farmers: Claude Hayes, Putnam Township; Wilson Patterson, Pleasant Valley Township; Donald Rodas, Fairfield Township; Laurence Schott, Clermont Township; Harry Arthur, Center Township; Edwin Gage, Illyria Township; Wayne Pape, Dover Township.

New cooperators with the district are Eugene Bodensteiner, Auburn Township; Norman W. Kilburn, Union Township; Carrol V. Houge, Scott Township; Wayne Pape, Dover Township.

Also approved were revised conservation plans for Robert Cowles, Herman Pape, Dover Township; Lyle Arthur, Fremont Township.

Conservation News

"Soil conservation plans for two farms were approved at the January meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Alfred Stewart, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Herbert Vagts, Union and Dover townships; and Clarence Cannon, Union township.

New cooperators with the district are Jane Blair, Oran township; and Fred Wilker, Clermont township. Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Jack Erickson, Illyria and Fairfield townships.

Tentative date for the annual meeting and election is March 21.

Conservation Officials Plan Fayette Dinner

The Fayette County Soil Conservation District will hold its annual meeting Thursday, March 21 at St. Francis Catholic church in Fayette. The meal will be served by the ladies of the church starting at 7 p.m.

A special feature of the meeting will be Patricia Colvin, of Hawkeye, state winner of the 1967 conservation speech contest. Miss Colvin, a student at Iowa State University, will present her prize-winning speech entitled "Water Conservation—Vital To All."

Featured speaker of the evening

will be the Rev. Andrew S. Olson of Strawberry Point. The Rev. Olson will give an illustrated talk on his experiences as a missionary in Northeastern Parana State, Brazil.

Tickets are available from district commissioners or the district office at West Union.

Fayette County Named Among Top In Contest

DES MOINES—Two soil conservation districts have been named the state's outstanding districts in The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company's annual Soil Conservation Awards Program.

Winning district in the northern division was the Palo Alto County Soil Conservation District, and the Adams County Soil Conservation District in the southern division.

Fayette County Soil Conservation District in the northern division was awarded second place in the Goodyear conservation program, with Robert Cowles, Ossian, named the outstanding farmer-cooperator.

A committee of state agricultural and conservation authorities made the following selections after reviewing accomplishments of the various participating districts:

Palo Alto County SCD—Richard Clasing, Ruthven, was selected as the outstanding farmer-cooperator, and Gerald Norland, Cyllinder, chairman of the district's governing board.

Adams County SCD—Ira Paul Flowers, Corning, was selected as the outstanding farmer-cooperator, and Ted Turner, Corning, chairman of the district's governing board.

These four men will be guests of the rubber company in December on a four-day visit to Goodyear Farms, located near Phoenix, Ariz. A total of 106 men, representing top districts throughout the country, will observe conservation practices on the 14,000-acre desert farm.

Goodyear's Soil Conservation Awards Program, one of the oldest of its kind in the world, has hosted over 1,800 farmers from every state and Puerto Rico since its beginning in 1947.

County Conservationist Notes Deaths Of Lakes And Rivers

WEST UNION — Many Iowa lakes and rivers are dying from soil erosion, and it would cost \$25 million to save them according to Howard K. Boyle, Fayette County Acting Work Unit Conservationist. He adds that the cost will go up if erosion control isn't started now.

The killer is silt which is gradually filling up some of Iowa's favorite lakes and streams. Even though Iowa conservation officials have moved to take action, it may already be too late to save some of them.

The two-mile-long Backbone Lake near Strawberry Point has filled with sand and silt 15 feet deep in spots. "It's a lost resource," said Gary Ackerman, district fisheries manager at Independence.

Commissioner William E. Noble of Oelwein adds that the Maquoketa River was one of the finest trout streams in the state, but now there aren't any pools in it deep enough for trout.

Siltation surveys by the state also show that natural lakes are filling up. Storm Lake is estimated to have seven feet of silt; North Twin Lake, five feet; Clear Lake, two feet; Blue Lake, eight feet; Manawa, six feet; and Silver Lake, 4½ feet. East Okoboji Lake, Prairie Rose Lake, Rock Creek Lake and Lake Darling are other lakes with serious silting.

Charles Ballantyne, extension soil conservationist at Iowa State University, says the problem of soil erosion and resulting silt deposits in lakes and rivers has become more acute in recent years. Changes in farming methods are the major reason, he says. Rotation systems with oats and meadow crops once helped prevent erosion, but the trend today is to continuous cropping systems with row crops year after year. Big machinery has also adversely affected conservation programs, the conservationist said. Farmers find that large equipment is more difficult to operate on contoured fields, so they are straightening the rows and are farming up and down the hills instead of around them.

In addition, more fall plowing is done to spread the workload. These changes in farming methods contribute to increased erosion and consequent heavier siltation of lakes and rivers, Ballantyne said.

Much of the silt washing into rivers and lake beds is rich topsoil. This vital topsoil is needed on the land, and it is cheaper to keep it there than to clean it out of the many places where it isn't wanted. Wilson T. Moon, state conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service in Iowa, says it costs 20 times as much to dredge silt out of impounded waters as it does to use conservation practices to keep it on the land.

The pressing need is for effective

erosion control to keep the soil where it belongs, says Moon. Row crops grown on sloping land may need contouring, terracing or stripcropping to hold down soil losses. Dams and permanent structures are often needed to stabilize gullies and streambanks.

"Soil conservation measures are also very effective in reducing sediment sources of pollution," says Moon. "The silt coming into a Fairfield, Iowa, city water supply reservoir was reduced 70 percent with conservation practices on the land draining into the reservoir."

Moon emphasized that there are 100 soil conservation districts in Iowa established to help farmers plan and apply effective soil and water management practices. There is technical, cost sharing, credit and other assistance available to farmers and others to help them protect their land through effective conservation measures. Iowans can also protect and develop the soil, water and other resources for community benefit by working together in watershed development programs, Moon said.

"We can and must improve the management of our natural resource heritage," he added.

Conservation News

Soil conservation plans for three farms were approved at the January meeting of the Fayette Soil Conservation district commissioners, reports Alfred Stewart, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Richard T. Trewin, Eden township; Robert Scott, Windsor township; and Drilling Brothers, Auburn township.

New cooperators with the district are: William H. Keig, Westfield and Union townships; Frank Miller, Bethel and Eden townships; Bud Christophersen, Bethel township; Donald Victor Barrett, Herman H. and Jean Peterman, Center township; Harold F. Oltrogge, Marion R. Donat, Harlan township; Mathew P. and Mabel H. Leyh, Banks township; Glenn Janssen, Smithfield township; and Alfred Turner, Fairfield township.

Conservation Plan Approved

"One soil conservation plan was approved at the April meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Alfred Stewart, district chairman.

The plan for Charles Langreck, Dover Township, was developed, with assistance from U.S. Soil Conservation Service technicians.

New cooperators with the district are Donald P. Winter, J. S. Crowe, J. Sidney Crowe, Dover Township; Lois Winter, Union Township; R. C. Hackmann, Pleasant Valley Township; Earl L. Lehmann, Illyria Township.

Soils Dinner Set Tonight At Fayette Catholic Church

Annual Soil Conservation dinner will be held at St. Francis church in Fayette at 7 p.m., tonight.

Rev. Andrew Olson, Strawberry Point, will speak on "Northeastern Parana State, Brazil," an area in which he has lived, and Pat Colvin, Hawkeye, winner of the 1967 Iowa State Soil Conservation Speech contest, will give her prize winning speech.

A director will be elected. Term of Chairman Alfred Stewart expires this year.

Tickets are on sale from the Commissioners or from the Soil office at West Union.

Local Conservation Speaker Places Third In Contest

Greg Glass, Dundee, representing Delaware County Soil Conservation district won the Regional Soil Conservation Speech contest held Thursday evening at the Kountry Manor, National. Tom Tauke, Dubuque county, and Lindsay Scott, West Union, and representing Fayette County Soil conservation district won second and third, respectively. This contest is sponsored annually by the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners and the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance company.

Attending from Fayette County Soil Conservation District were Chairman and Mr. Alfred Stewart, Commissioner and Mrs. Leslie Anderson, Commissioner Albert Bodensteiner, and Acting Work Unit Conservationist Howard K. Boyle. Also attending were Lindsay's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Scott, and his speech instructor, Mrs. Virginia Meskel.

Conservation News
Plans were developed with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Claude Hayes, Putnam Township; Wilson Patterson, Pleasant Valley Township; Donald Rodas, Fairfield Township; Laurence Schott, Clermont Township; Harry Arthur, Center Township; Edwin Gage, Illyria Township; Wayne Pape, Dover Township.
New cooperators with the district are Eugene Bodensteiner, Auburn Township; Norman W. Kilburn, Union Township; Carrol V. Houge, Scott Township; Wayne Pape, Dover Township.
Also approved were revised conservation plans for Robert Cowles, Herman Pape, Dover Township; Lyle Arthur, Fremont Township.

SCS News

Although much conservation has been accomplished in our country, the job is not by any means finished. Evidence of this was noted in January when 2.3 million acres were damaged by the dust storm in the Great Plains area. Not only soil damage but damage to power equipment, homes, hospitals and highways was felt.

In Ohio, air pollution experts checked the red cloud as it passed over Cincinnati and estimated dust fell on that city at the rate of 9 tons per acre.

Besides the fact that there was terrific soil loss out west, other hazards must be noted.

Dust, of course, is a good carrier of disease, but analysis showed this dust also contained residue from herbicides and pesticides both of which are poisonous under certain conditions.

"Conservation problems closer to home are of a somewhat different nature, but strangely enough, corrective practices are basically the same," stated Howard K. Boyle, U.S. Soil Conservation Service, West Union.

"The most important of these is good ground cover as much of the time as possible. If not possible, then practices such as contouring, strip cropping and terracing will be in order. Trees and hedgerows will prevent blowing of dust and, contrary to popular belief, do not rob crops of a great deal of moisture.

"In fact, the protection they afford helps keep fields from drying out when hot winds are blowing. They will catch and hold snow in winter which adds to the supply of ground water as it slowly thaws in spring."

"Conservation is not only the concern of landowners, it is the concern of each and every one of us. It is an investment now and for the future — our future and that of our children," Boyle concluded.

March 27, 1945

Mork Awarded Scholarship By County SCS

Leo Mork, Jr., West Union, was selected to receive the Fayette County Soil Conservation District's scholarship to attend the Iowa Teachers Conservation Camp reports Carl Lueder, district chairman.

The selection was made at the meeting of the district commissioners held Monday, April 12.

It was also announced that the district will sponsor one of the four soil conservation booths at the Iowa State Fair Aug. 20-29. Plans are being made for the design and construction of the display.

In other business, soil conservation plans for six farms were approved.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U.S. Soil Conservation Service technicians by the following farmers: Kenneth Askelsen, Union Township; Donald Leyh, Fremont Township; W. C. Llewellyn, Center Township; Charles Kerns, Oran Township; Ronald Glass, Harlan Township; Earl W. Main, Jefferson Township.

New cooperators with the district are Loren P. Nathem, Harlan Township; K. Ted Green, Clermont Township; Willis C. Ruff, Fremont Township; William L. Hogan, Putnam Township. Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Richard Bernhart, Jefferson and Scott Townships.

April 19, 1945

Hay Shortage Now Critical In NE Iowa

By Milt Nelson

COMBINED effects of a short hay crop last year because of drouth, winter-killed seedings and delayed pasture growth this spring have created an inelastic demand for hay among many northeast Iowa dairymen.

At a recent farm sale near Ossian in Winneshiek county good quality alfalfa hay was reported to have brought \$1.15 a bale, while poorer quality hay sold for 90 cents per bale.

Quotations of 70 cents per bale for good quality hay are commonplace. But an oft-heard complaint is that hay just isn't available at any price.

Grain-For-Hay Switch

Donald E. Voelker of Ames, Iowa State extension dairyman, reported Friday that extension dairymen from Iowa State, and the Universities of Minnesota and Wisconsin had decided recently to recommend less hay and more grain in order to maintain dairy cow production until adequate pasture and other forage becomes available.

Voelker pointed out that corn and soybean meal, at current price levels, are probably cheaper than hay which costs \$1.00 or more per bale.

Farmers who want to keep their cows' production from falling off will pay most any price for some hay, Voelker admitted.

But he pointed out that only six to eight pounds of dry forage per day for each cow is adequate to maintain butterfat production. Many dairy farmers have thought at least 15 pounds of hay per cow daily was necessary.

Winter-Kill Comments

Additional comments on the winter-kill situation were obtained Friday from agricultural leaders in Winneshiek and Fayette counties.

Everett J. Weigle, Winneshiek county extension director, reported from Decorah that many dairymen have already turned their cows out on pasture, even though the grass isn't ready to be grazed.

Weigle said he is recommending strip-grazing and heavy applications of nitrogen on bluegrass and brome-grass pastures to help alleviate a potential grazing shortage through the summer.

He estimated that 100 percent of the farms in his county were affected by winter-kill and that 70 to

75 percent of all legume acreage was lost.

Top-dressings of phosphate and potash last fall apparently saved some alfalfa fields, Weigle said.

Similar examples of alfalfa fields saved by adequate fertilization last fall were reported from Fayette county by Earl J. Kerker, work unit conservationist for the county soil conservation district office at West Union.

Late Cuttings

Another factor in the winter-kill was fairly lush stands of alfalfa hay in late fall, following a rainy spell, after a short crop during the regular season because of drouth.

Many farmers apparently couldn't resist the temptation to cut the crop for hay, thus leaving the alfalfa in poor condition for going through the winter.

Kerker reported one case where an alfalfa field had been green chopped until late in the season, except for a narrow strip down through the field. This strip, and a small border on each side, was the only part of the field which didn't get winter-killed, he said.

Both Kerker and Weigle reported that some farmers are planning to utilize their oats fields for grazing.

And many of them are hoping that the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service will ease the requirements on grazing acreage diverted to conserving uses under the feed grain program.

Weigle said that about 85 percent of the oat seeding is now completed in Winneshiek county.

May 19, 1945



—Photo by Earl Bardach, Oelwein

SOILS TOUR for ministers of Fayette county was conducted Tuesday by the county soil conservation district. Some of the participants are shown during a stop in a permanent pasture on the Michael Wiley farm near the southwest edge of West Union. They are (left to right): Earl J. Kerker, work unit conservationist for the district; the Rev. Thomas J. Currier, pastor of St. Peter's Catholic church at Clermont; Carl Lueder of Fayette, chairman of the county soil district commissioners, and the Rev. Paul T. Meyer, pastor of Zion Lutheran church at West Union. Other ministers taking part were from the Methodist and Lutheran churches at Arlington, First Methodist and Presbyterian churches at West Union and Lutheran churches at Elgin and Eldorado. Stream in background is an upper branch of Otter creek.

May 20, 1945

Soil Conservation Tour Planned For County Clergymen

"A tour of soil conservation practices for Fayette County clergymen will be held Tuesday, May 12," reports Carl Lueder, chairman of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District. The group will meet in West Union at the Soil Conservation Service office about 1:15.

The tour is being held to give clergymen a closer look at some of the soil conserving practices being used in the county. It will also provide background information which clergymen can use in preparing sermons for Soil Stewardship week, May 23-30.

All Fayette county clergymen are invited to attend.

May 13, 1945

Nation To Observe Soil Stewardship Week

"Challenges of Growth" is this year's theme for the annual observance throughout the nation for Soil Stewardship week, a hitherto rural activity that is going to town.

Special services in church of varying faiths in this area Sunday, May 23, will open the week. Other observances will take place on the following Sunday, May 30.

Chairman Carl Lueder of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Board explained that this year, more than ever, the responsibility of the town and city dweller is being emphasized in the annual observance.

"It is not an idea for farming areas alone," he pointed out. "Our neighbors in town have a great stake in what happens to the land that sustains us, and it is a stake that will grow in importance as our national family grows and producing acreages become less."

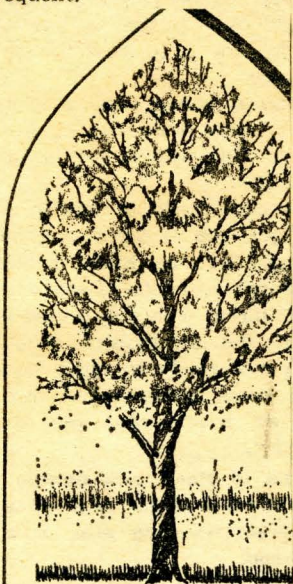
The present abundance in food and fiber is a blessing that we can't expect to last year after year but that conservative use of our resources now can mean a dependable agriculture for generations.

Booklets and other materials for the week's observance are being provided by the National Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

The association has the help of an advisory committee of churchmen representing various denominations in developing the materials.

Observance of Soil Stewardship week usually is in the form of sermons on mankind's divine obligation

tion in the use of the soil and related resources. However, by pastor groups and members of their congregation to see conservation work are becoming more frequent.



Challenges of Growth



SOIL STEWARDSHIP WEEK
MAY 23-30, 1965



—Gazette photos by Rex Conn

NEW CONSERVATION PRACTICES — When Mike Cunningham last year bought the tract of land across from his home place on the Clayton-Fayette county line four miles northeast of Arlington, he immediately called on Earl Kerker, Fayette county SCS work unit leader, to lay out conservation practices on his new land. The more sloping crop land now is being strip cropped and the gentler slopes are planted on the contour. Sod strips protect the waterways.

Cunningham Has Complete Soils Plan in Action

By Rex Conn

ARLINGTON—Mike Cunningham is sold on soil conservation. In 1952 he had Harvey Daniels, SCS work unit leader with the Clayton county soils district, lay out terraces and strip cropping on the home place on the Clayton-Fayette county line four miles northeast of Arlington.

Later Jim Barnes, now SCS work unit leader at Waukon and then at Fayette, also worked on the plan.

Last year he bought two nearby tracts and he called on Earl Kerker, SCS work unit leader for the Fayette county soils district, to work out a conservation program for his new land.

On a 64-acre tract with about 40 acres tillable, 30 acres were terraced this spring and the other ten acres is planted on the contour.

On the other tract of 140 acres, the more sloping areas are in strip cropping and the balance of the farm land has been planted on the contour.

"Mike has worn out three of us SCS men getting his plan into action," Kerker quipped.

Complete Program

Altogether the complete program has resulted in 40,245 feet of terraces on Cunningham's farm, plus 90 acres of strip cropping.

for the Cunninghams, for a herd of purebred Brown Swiss is their only livestock enterprise. The 70 cows in milk have a current rolling DHIA average of 471 pounds of butterfat, with many immature heifers in the milking string, Cunningham said.

Good sires have resulted in a high-producing herd of good-uddered Brown Swiss cows. Cunningham's former herd sire came from the Ralph Bright herd at Eldora. The two bulls in service in the herd now were bred by Bernard Monson of Gowrie and Gerald Steva of Postville.

Grade A milk is sold through the Maquoketa Valley co-op at Arlington.

Helping on the farm this summer is the Cunningham's son, John, 20, who will be a senior in farm operations at Iowa State in the fall.



FIELD CONFERENCE — Mike Cunningham last week told Melvin Wangsness, left, Fayette county extension director, and Earl Kerker that conservation practices have practically solved his soil erosion problems. All his crop land is terraced, strip cropped or planted on the contour, he said.

Stationed at

SCS News

Need To Repair Winter - Spring Damaged Soil Practices

If not already completed, now is a good time to repair damaged waterways, terraces and drainage systems.

Continued on page 15

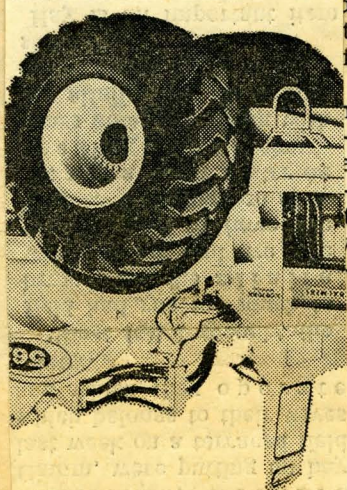
This statement was made by Carl Lueder, chairman of the Fayette Soil Conservation district.

Lueder said the pattern of late winter and spring storms and high water runoff were unusually hard on some soil and water conservation practices.

Earl J. Kerker, SCS Work Unit conservationist, reports that newly established grassed waterways sustained the most damage in the form of waterway "rills." Damage was caused by rapid melting of ice and snow while frost was still present in the ground. Several areas have also experienced heavy rains.

Timely repairs will save farmers dollars and time in their farming operations.

Tile intake structures should also be checked and all trash and debris removed.



Approve Soil Plans For Two County Farms

WEST UNION — "Soil conservation plans for two farms were approved at the June meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Carl Lueder, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: John A. Larson, Dover Township and Duane Pagel, Banks Township.

New cooperators with the dis-

trict are John A. Lenz, Jefferson township; Paul Schuchmann Jr., Kenneth Hammons, Fairfield township; Clarence Larson, Clermont township and Max Rueber, Fremont and Harlan townships.

In other business, plans were made to hold the Fayette County "Queen of Conservation" contest on July 29 at West Union.

May 22, 1965

June 20, 1965

June 5, 1965

June 21, 1965

Candidates Sought In Conservation Queen Contest Here July 19

An attractive Iowa farm girl will be crowned Iowa's "Queen of Conservation" this September, and she could be from the Fayette County Soil Conservation District. The young lady who will represent Fayette County will be selected July 29 in West Union.

The contest is open to all single Iowa farm girls between the ages of 16 and 21 who will not be over 21 by the time of the state contest. The queen will be chosen for her poise, personality, intelligence, ability to converse, and personal attractiveness. She will also be required to have a general knowledge of soil conservation, farmer cooperatives, and agricultural in general.

The state winner will receive a beautiful ladies' wrist watch and a check for \$250 to be used as she pleases. The 1965 queen's first official duty will be to serve as hostess for the Iowa Soil Conservation Districts' Field Day and State Contour Plowing Match which will be held northeast of Corning, on Sept. 9 and 10, 1965.

July 1, 1965

Conservation Service Approved on Two Farms

"Soil conservation plans for two farms were approved at the June meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Carl Lueder, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: John A. Larson, Dover township, Duane Pagel, Banks township.

New cooperators with the district are John A. Lenz, Jefferson township; Paul Schuchmann, jr., Kenneth Hammons, Fairfield township; Clarence Larson, Clermont township; Max Rueber, Fremont and Harlan townships.

In other business, plans were made to hold the Fayette county "Queen of Conservation" contest on July 29 at West Union.

July 1, 1965

Soil Commissioners Approve Two Plans

"Soil conservation plans for two farms were approved at the July meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Carl Lueder, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Nelson Converse, S. F. Joejgen, Banks township.

New cooperators with the district are Howard Meaney, Oran township; Harry Manweiler, Bethel township; Vern Frieden, Union township, and Edwin Begalske, Windsor township.

July 27, 1965

60 To Compete In SCS July Speech Contests

Over 60 Iowa junior and senior high school youths will compete in nine soil conservation speech contests to be held during July. These contestants will be the winners of similar contests held on the county level, and will be representing their local soil conservation district in the regional contest. Norman Kilburn, West Union, will represent Fayette County at the regional contest in Marchester July 19.

The contest is co-sponsored by the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company of Grinnell, Iowa, and the Ladies Auxiliary of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners. It is open to all junior and senior high school students in Iowa.

Winners of the regional contests will receive cash prizes of \$25, \$15, and \$10 for first, second, and third placings, respectively. First place winners will advance to the state contest which will be held at the Annual Conference for Soil Conservation District Commissioners on September 19, 1965 in Des Moines.

A cash award of \$100 plus a \$250 scholarship to any accredited college or junior college will be awarded the winner of the state contest. Second and third place winners will each receive \$75 cash awards. Winner of the 1964 state contest was Gary Roews, Laurens, Iowa. He is currently enrolled in Animal Science at Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa.

July 7, 1965

Conservation District Announces Choices For Queen Title

Two attractive farm girls, Shirley Tatro, Clermont, and Carolyn Porter, Fayette, were selected as 1965 "Queens of Conservation" for the Fayette County Soil Conservation District at a contest held at Humphry Dairy in West Union on Thursday evening, July 29.

They were selected from a total of seven farm girls from Fayette county in judging ceremonies attended by more than 30 persons. The district queens received sterling silver charm bracelets and will now compete with the winners of other district contests at the regional contest to be held at the Dubuque County Fair on Aug. 12.

The girl chosen as the State "Queen of Conservation" will be awarded \$250 prize money from this contest which is co-sponsored by the Farmers Grain Dealers Association of Iowa, (Cooperative) of Des Moines and the Soil Conservation Districts of Iowa.

Nine winners will be selected at regional contests held throughout the state during August and September and each will be awarded a beautiful ladies' wrist watch. The nine winners will then compete for the state crown on Sept. 9, 1965, at the Plowman's banquet to be held in Corning.

The "Queen of Conservation" will be the official hostess for the Iowa Soil Conservation Districts' Field Day and State Contour Plowing Match which will be held Sept. 9 and 10, on a site northeast of Corning.

Aug. 5, 1965

Seven Seek Queen Title Next Week

Seven attractive Fayette county farm girls will be competing for the title of "Queen of Conservation" at a contest to be held July 29 at Humphry Dairy, West Union.

Two winners will be chosen to represent the Fayette County Soil Conservation District in the regional contest to be held at Dubuque on Aug. 12. Each district winner will be awarded an engraved sterling silver "Queen of Conservation" charm bracelet.

The "Queen of Conservation" contest is co-sponsored by the Farmers Grain Dealers Association of Iowa, of Des Moines and Iowa's 100 soil conservation districts.

Judges will select the two winners on the basis of their poise, personality, intelligence,

ability to converse, and personal attractiveness. Contestants will also be judged on their knowledge of soil conservation, farmer cooperatives, and agriculture in general.

Prizes in regional and state competition include a ladies' wrist watch and cash prize of \$250 for being crowned Iowa's "Queen of Conservation." The state winner will serve as official hostess at the Iowa Soil Conservation Districts' Field Day and State Contour Plowing Match being held near Corning, on Sept. 9 and 10.

Candidates competing in the Fayette County Soil Conservation District contest are Eileen Reth, Delores Rau and Deana Brady, all of Arlington; Lavanda Wolfs, Elgin; Carolyn Porter and Rita Jellings, Fayette, and Shirley Tatro, Clermont.

Conservation Of Wildlife, Soil, Go Hand In Hand

"Conservation farming and conservation of wildlife go hand in hand", says Frank H. Mendell, State Conservationist of the U. S. Soil Conservation service.

"The conservation planned farm will furnish food and cover for locally important kinds of wildlife as well as providing for good farm crop production," he said. "In a very real sense," he added, "wildlife is also a farm crop because it definitely is a product of the land."

The recent severe winter has pointed up the need for good farmstead windbreaks. Pheasants caught in areas without good winter cover suffered severe losses. Good farmstead windbreaks where they existed, however, gave protection to people and pheasants alike.

Earl Kerker, local Work Unit conservationist, reports that farmers in Fayette County Soil Conservation district are showing increased interest in providing for the needs of wildlife on their farmlands.

He listed the following accomplishments in the district as evidence of this:

- 51 farm ponds constructed
- 45 farm ponds stocked with fish
- 3,722 feet hedgerow planting
- 140 acres farmstead and feed lot windbreaks
- 99 acres livestock exclusion
- 363 acres wildlife habitat development
- 99 acres wildlife habitat preservation
- 165 acres tree planting

470 conservation plans in district

Sylvan Runkel, Field Biologist with the U. S. Soil Conservation service in Des Moines, said that helping wildlife is not a one-way street. He cited the very great value to the farmer of all of the natural pest controls which are encouraged when planted and natural wildlife habitats are provided for. He listed the following as a few of the many helpers the farmer has when he provides for wildlife:

Song birds, woodpeckers swallows, nighthawk, martins—Insect pest controls.

Sparrows and finches, grosbeaks, larks and other birds—Weed seed and insect controls.

Hawks, owls, shrikes—rodent pest controls.

Fox, mink, skunks, shrews—rodent pest controls for field mice, meadow mice, gophers, rats, etc.

Bullsnakes, fox and king snakes—rodent controls.

Game birds and animals are frequently mentioned as being the chief reasons why farmers should provide for wildlife on their lands. However, Runkel explained the real important thing is to provide for natural communities where many kinds of wildlife can live and then the benefits to the farmer come back to him in many ways.

Outdoor recreation, nature study, esthetic values, improved natural biologic balance — all can be found on the farms where good planning for wildlife has been accomplished.

Conservation Queen Contest Set For Tonight

Seven candidates will be vying for the title of Fayette County "Queen of Conservation" at Humphry dairy tonight at 8 p.m.

They include Eileen Reth, Delores Rau and Deana Brady, all of Arlington; Carolyn Porter and Rita Jellings, Fayette; Lavanda Wolfs, Elgin, and Shirley Tatro, Clermont.

Two winners will be named to represent the Fayette County Soil Conservation district in the regional contest at Dubuque Aug. 12. In addition, each winner will be presented an engraved sterling silver "Queen of Conservation" bracelet.

Co-sponsors of the event are the Farmers Grain Dealers association of Iowa and the state's 100 soil conservation districts.

Judges of the Fayette county contest are Mary Jane Osland, County Extension Home Economist from Winneshiek county; Max Sauerbrei, extension director from Clayton county, and Mrs. Boyd Turner, Postville.

July 29, 1965

Aug. 5, 1965

Farm-City Week Set For Nov. 19-25

Farm-City Week, Nov. 19 to 25, merits special recognition in the United States because farmers and city-folk so greatly depend on one another. The American farmer's efficiency allows Mr. Average Citizen to feed his family with only 19 percent of his take-home pay, while the average Russian family spends half its income for food. Yet, the city laborers and manufacturers build the tractors and combines and process the fertilizers and seeds which make the American farmer efficient.

But even with all this production efficiency, much remains undone. Water pollution

from factory waste, household sewage, sediment, and leached soil poison many streams making them little better than open sewers. Soil erosion which produces sediment in our streams harms both rural and urban landowners. To the farmer, it means reduced yields and deep gullies to farm around. To the urbanite, it means silted reservoirs and muddy basements after floods. No less alarming is the needless destruction of our scenic countryside by poor highway planning, expanding urban developments, and careless landowners.

"All these problems demand cooperative efforts among rural and urban citizens," says Earl J. Kerker, Work Unit Conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service, West Union. "The SCS can provide technical assistance for these efforts," he stated. Kerker further pointed out

that urban officials can use soil survey information to chart desirable areas for residential growth, to determine areas best suited for recreation or industry, and to reserve best sites for municipal water storage. Farmers can use SCS assistance to plan terraces, farm ponds, stripcropping systems, and many other conservation practices which reduce soil erosion and stop floods before they start.

"Right now, during Farm-City Week, everyone should think about what he can do along these lines to maintain and increase our high standard of living," Kerker said.

"Only with efforts like these," said Kerker, can America maintain its abundance through the current population explosion."

Soil conservation plans approved for two farms

"Soil conservation plans for two farms were approved at the November meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Carl Lueder, District Chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Kenneth C. Wagner, and Mrs. E. J. Handy, Clermont, Township.

New Cooperators with the district are Charles Langreck, Dover Township; Richard E. Jensen, Pleasant Valley and Union Townships. Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Michael Cunningham, Fairfield Township.

Nov. 19, 1965

Soil conservation plan is approved

"One soil conservation plan was approved at the December meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Carl Lueder, district chairman.

Plan was developed, with assistance from U.S. Soil Conservation Service technicians by C. J. Ludwig-owner, Lawrence Barry-tenant, Bethel township.

New cooperators with the district are Jack Schatz, Auburn township; Edgar McDonough, Union and Westfield townships; Robert E. Toulouse, Westfield and Illyria townships. Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Bert Butikofer, Pleasant Valley township.

Dec. 15, 1965

Soil Commissioners Set Annual Meeting Date

"Soil conservation plans for four farms were approved at the January meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Carl Lueder, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Harold Spies, Dover township; Randolph Lehs, Center township; Leonard Knipper, Fairfield township, and John Lenz, Jefferson township.

New cooperatives with the district are Leo A. Franzen, Windsor township, and Elmer Kohls, Clermont township. Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Forrest Shaffer, Illyria township.

In other business, the commissioners made plans to hold the district's annual meeting at the Farm Bureau building in Fayette on March 28.

Jan. 13, 1966

Farmers Reminded To Place Orders For Trees

Farmers in Fayette county interested in tree planting this spring are reminded to place their orders as soon as possible, according to Earl Kerker, U.S. Soil Conservation Service, West Union. Orders for trees from the State Conservation Commission Nursery are filled on a first come, first served basis, so it is best to get orders in right away.

A number of varieties of trees and shrubs are available from the State Nursery, and range in price from \$16 to \$22 per thousand. These trees are to be used primarily for wildlife cover or erosion control.

Trees for windbreaks or ornamental plantings are available from private nurseries, Kerker said, and Kerker's office can assist with ordering these trees as well as ordering trees from the state nursery.

Farmers are reminded that cost-sharing is available through the ASCS office in Fayette on several types of tree plantings.

March 3, 1966

Nov. 18, 1965

County Farmers Build Ponds for Stock, Fish

Iowa soil conservation farmers are building a great potential recreation resource right here on Iowa farms, according to Earl Kerker of the U. S. Soil Conservation Service here in Fayette County Soil Conservation District.

He listed a few figures from recent accomplishment reports as proof of this. There are approximately 30,000 farm ponds for livestock water and structure ponds for erosion control in the state. Records show that over 17,000 of these ponds have been stocked with fish.

Here in the Fayette County Soil Conservation district, 51 farm ponds have been built and 45 farm ponds have been stocked with fish, mainly bass and bluegills.

Most of these ponds are not fished as hard as they could be, says Kerker. A great deal of first class fishing recreation is available here and it is not being used. Usually all that is necessary, in order to fish in a farm pond, is to request the permission of the owner. Most farmers, short on available time themselves, are glad to have responsible fishermen help in harvesting the fish produced in the farm ponds. The considerate fisherman, in turn, is glad to share his catch with the owner of the farm pond.

Conservation farmers hold the key to wildlife abundance because what they do to the land reflects directly on what

happens to wildlife, according to Kerker. To date, approximately 70,000 acres in the state have been improved specifically for wildlife. Conservation farmers are doing this at the approximate rate of about 5,000 acres each year. These wildlife areas are located on our farmland where approximately 90 per cent or more of the wildlife in Iowa is produced.

Wildlife area improvement consists of planting trees and consists of planting trees and forbs for the benefit of many forms of wildlife. Many existing good wildlife areas are merely protected and maintained, and these areas are also important to our Iowa wildlife.

Hedgerow planting on conservation farms in the state is reported to be approximately 500,000 rods, which is over 1,400 miles or an average of more than 15 miles for each soil conservation district in the state.

Here in the Fayette County Soil Conservation district, we have 3,722 feet planted to date according to Kerker.

Many hunters and wildlife can take some measure of comfort in seeing the return of these hedges. They benefit wildlife and at the same time fit in with a complete soil and water conservation farming pattern.

Erosion Retarded By Dense Vegetation

Maintenance of a dense vegetative cover is important in preventing erosion damage to waterways and structures, according to Earl Kerker, SCS Work Unit Conservationist.

Mr. Kerker offers the following suggestions in establishing and maintaining a protective cover of vegetation.

1. As soon as the area is seeded, it should be fenced to protect from livestock.

2. Keep livestock off the area the seeding year, and the following year. Clip the area once or twice each year.

3. Do not graze in the spring until the soil is firm and the grass is at least 6 inches high.

4. Always graze moderately. Stop grazing when height is down to 3 inches.

5. Do not graze or graze lightly between September 10 and October 15, in order to build up food reserves in the plants.

6. Clip at least once each year to control weeds and brush. If the area is not used for pasture, hay can be harvested, but not later than September 10.

7. Top dress with 30 pounds of nitrogen.

8. Repair rills and rodent damage. Reseed or sod as needed.

9. As soon as a structure is filled with water, tramp green canary grass hay along the water line. This will help control wave action along the berm of earth fills.

10. If you have questions or major damage occurs to the area, contact the local Soil Conservation District office.

Pond Management Information Offered

A fishpond is a delightful part of a farm or ranch. It adds beauty to the land and provides recreation for farmers, ranchers, and their friends and for paying guests. On a suitable site a pond makes good use of the land the impounded water has many uses.

A new bulletin, "Warm Water Ponds For Fishing" has just been issued by the Soil Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture that describes the use of warm water ponds for fishing. This publication points out the importance of site, erosion control, proper stocking, adequate fertility, and weed control. It explains how to manage a warm water pond for profitable fishing. By following these guides, you can be assured of a lasting

pond that can be fished many times a year.

According to Frank H. Mendell, Soil Conservation Service State Conservationist, a copy of this bulletin can be obtained from any county office of the Soil Conservation Service. These offices, says Mr. Mendell, provide professional help to land owners and operators in Iowa's 100 Soil Conservation Districts.

Mr. Mendell says ponds are extremely popular as conservation practices. "More than 27,000 ponds have been constructed in Iowa's soil conservation districts. Of these over 17,500 have been stocked with fish."

Teacher to Attend Fall Workshop

"Mrs. Hazel Tope, first grade teacher in the West Union Elementary School, will attend the Fall Workshop Conference for teachers to be held at the 4-H Camp near Luther, Iowa," Carl Lueder, Chairman of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District reports. "Mrs. Tope's attendance there is being sponsored by the First National Bank of West Union."

"Effective Conservation Teaching—How to Do It" is the subject of this year's workshop which is sponsored by the Iowa Conservation Education Council, State De-

partment of Public Instruction, Iowa Conservation Commission, and Soil Conservation Districts of Iowa.

R. Wesley Carlson, Superintendent of the North Fayette County Community School District stated, "We feel that Mrs. Tope will be able to bring back information that will also help other teachers in our district."

Soil plans for 3 Fayette farms

"Soil conservation plans for three farms were approved at the October meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Carl Lueder, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Raymond Brockway, Windsor Township; Wes Ashby, Westfield Township; Glenn Eurington, Union Township. New cooperators with the district are Lynn Leslie Silka, Scott Township; Gary Albert, Harry Reicks, Auburn Township; Forest Robinson, Pleasant Valley Township; Robert G. Scott, Windsor Township.

Conservation Group Approves Farm Plans

Soil conservation plans for three farms were approved at the August meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners, according to Carl Lueder, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Max Jansen, jr., John Lennon, Fremont township, and James F. Gaffey, Putnam township.

New cooperators with the district are Charles Bahr, jr., Bethel township; Clifford Schlumbohm, Scott township, and Marvin E. Lemke, Banks township. Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Michael Wiley, Union township.

Plans were made to man the State Fair booths Aug. 20 and 21.

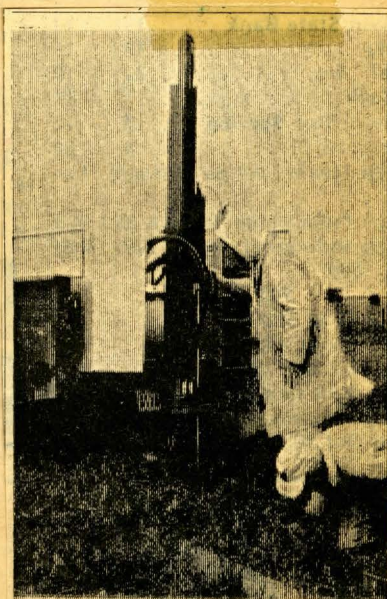
Conservation tour Sept. 15

A tour of conservation practices is being sponsored Sept. 15 by agricultural agencies serving Fayette county. Points of interest have been selected in the south central and south west parts of the county.

The group will visit a recently completed tile job; wildlife pond and tree planting on the Delbert Leverington farm; recently completed grassed waterway on the Ronald Glass farm; contour strip-cropping on the Victor Steege farm and terraces on the Richard Stubenrauch farm.

Sponsoring organizations are Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Services, Extension Service, Farmers Home Administration, Fayette County Soil Conservation District and Soil Conservation Service.

All persons interested are invited to attend. The group will meet at the ASCS parking lot in Fayette at 10 a.m.



Kenneth Kittleson, Decorah, and William Fouts, Independence, Soil Scientists with the U. S. Soil Conservation Service recently completed taking soil samples in Fayette County for laboratory analysis. One of the uses of the results will be suitability of various soils for road construction. Using a hydraulically operated drill rig, Kittleson and Fouts took four inch diameter soil cores from a number of locations in the county.

Farm-City Week Set For Nov. 19-25

Farm-City Week, Nov. 19 to 25, merits special recognition in the United States because farmers and city-folk so greatly depend on one another. The American farmer's efficiency allows Mr. Average Citizen to feed his family with only 19 percent of his take-home pay, while the average Russian family spends half its income for food. Yet, the city laborers and manufacturers build the tractors and combines and process the fertilizers and seeds which make the American farmer efficient.

But even with all this production efficiency, much remains undone. Water pollution

from factory waste, household sewage, sediment, and leached soil poison many streams making them little better than open sewers. Soil erosion which produces sediment in our streams harms both rural and urban landowners. To the farmer, it means reduced yields and deep gullies to farm around. To the urbanite, it means silted reservoirs and muddy basements after floods. No less alarming is the needless destruction of our scenic countryside by poor highway planning, expanding urban developments, and careless landowners.

"All these problems demand cooperative efforts among rural and urban citizens," says Earl J. Kerker, Work Unit Conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service, West Union. "The SCS can provide technical assistance for these efforts," he stated. Kerker further pointed out

that urban officials can use soil survey information to chart desirable areas for residential growth, to determine areas best suited for recreation or industry, and to reserve best sites for municipal water storage. Farmers can use SCS assistance to plan terraces, farm ponds, stripcropping systems, and many other conservation practices which reduce soil erosion and stop floods before they start.

"Right now, during Farm-City Week, everyone should think about what he can do along these lines to maintain and increase our high standard of living," Kerker said.

"Only with efforts like these," said Kerker, can America maintain its abundance through the current population explosion."

Soil conservation plans approved for two farms

"Soil conservation plans for two farms were approved at the November meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Carl Lueder, District Chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Kenneth C. Wagner, and Mrs. E. J. Handy, Clermont Township.

New Cooperators with the district are Charles Langreck, Dover Township; Richard E. Jensen, Pleasant Valley and Union Townships. Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Michael Cunningham, Fairfield Township.

Nov. 16, 1965

Soil conservation plan is approved

"One soil conservation plan was approved at the December meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Carl Lueder, district chairman.

Plan was developed, with assistance from U.S. Soil Conservation Service technicians by C. J. Ludwig-owner, Lawrence Barry-tenant, Bethel township.

New cooperators with the district are Jack Schatz, Auburn township; Edgar McDonough, Union and Westfield townships; Robert E. Toulouse, Westfield and Illyria townships. Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Bert Butikofer, Pleasant Valley township.

Dec. 15, 1965

Soil Commissioners Set Annual Meeting Date

"Soil conservation plans for four farms were approved at the January meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Carl Lueder, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Harold Spies, Dover township; Randolph Lehs, Center township; Leonard Knipper, Fairfield township, and John Lenz, Jefferson township.

New cooperatives with the district are Leo A. Franzen, Windsor township, and Elmer Kohls, Clermont township. Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Forrest Shaffer, Illyria township.

In other business, the commissioners made plans to hold the district's annual meeting at the Farm Bureau building in Fayette on March 28.

Jan. 13, 1966

Farmers Reminded To Place Orders For Trees

Farmers in Fayette county interested in tree planting this spring are reminded to place their orders as soon as possible, according to Earl Kerker, U.S. Soil Conservation Service, West Union. Orders for trees from the State Conservation Commission Nursery are filled on a first come, first served basis, so it is best to get orders in right away.

A number of varieties of trees and shrubs are available from the State Nursery, and range in price from \$16 to \$22 per thousand. These trees are to be used primarily for wildlife cover or erosion control.

Trees for windbreaks or ornamental plantings are available from private nurseries, Kerker said, and Kerker's office can assist with ordering these trees as well as ordering trees from the state nursery.

Farmers are reminded that cost-sharing is available through the ASCS office in Fayette on several types of tree plantings.

March 3, 1966

Nov. 18, 1965

Conservation Speech Contest Announced

"Water Conservation — Vital to ALL" is the topic for the 1966 Soil Conservation speech contest to be co-sponsored by the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners and the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company of Grinnell, Iowa.

Entry in the contest is open to all junior and senior high school students living in Iowa. Contest information is available at the Fayette County Soil Conservation District office located at West Union.

Norman Kilburn, West Union, was the winner of the 1965 district contest. He received \$10 as the district winner and rep-

resented the Fayette County Soil Conservation District in the regional contest.

Regional prizes in the 1966 contest will be furnished by the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance company. Regional prizes will be \$25, \$15, and \$10 for first, second and third places, respectively.

A \$250 scholarship to any ac-

SCD speech contest set for Tuesday

WEST UNION — Tuesday, April 19, has been set as the date for the Speech Contest sponsored by the Fayette County Soil Conservation District. The contest will be held at North High School in West Union, starting at 7:30 p.m. The contest is open to all Junior and Senior High School students in the county. Students will speak on the subject "Water Conservation — Vital to All."

credited university, college, or junior college, plus \$100 in cash will be won by the winner of state contest. Second prize in the state contest is \$75 in cash and third prize is \$50 in cash. Over

North High junior wins speech contest

WEST UNION (Special) — Pat Colvin, a junior at North High school in West Union, has been named the winner of the 1966 Soil Conservation Speech contest.

First place prize is \$10.

Keith Perrell, sophomore at West Central of Maynard, took second place and won a prize of \$7.50.

Topic for the contest was "Water Conservation, Vital to All."

The contest was co-sponsored by the Fayette County Soil Conservation District, Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Co., Grinnell; German-Mutual Insurance Co., West Union and the Mutual Insurance Co. of Fayette.

6

FAYETTE COUNTY UNION
Thursday, March 3, 1966

380 contestants participated in the 1965 contest.

SCS News

A soil conservation plan for Allen Grimes, Pleasant Valley township, was approved at the May meeting of the Fayette county soil conservation district commissioners, reports Alfred Stewart, district chairman.

The plan was developed with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians.

New cooperators with the district are Harry Arthur, Center township; Alanson D. Gibson, Pleasant Valley; Wm. Bradford, Banks; and Leo Schmitz, Union.

May 21, 1966

March 3, 1966

April 13, 1966

April 20, 1966

Lake project to be topic At SCS annual meeting

The proposed Fayette Lake project will be discussed at the Fayette County Soil Conservation district annual dinner meeting Monday night, March 28, at the Farm Bureau building in Fayette.

The Rev. Lawrence Nelson, a member of the State Conservation Commission, will be guest speaker. Also attending the meeting and available to answer questions will be Mike Hill, superintendent of engineering and construction for the

Conservation Commission.

Earl Kerker, Fayette County SCS conservationist, and Carl Lueder, SCS chairman, will also be present.

A brochure on development of the Fayette County Volga River Impoundment project has been issued by promoters of the program.

It lists geographical advantages, multiple usage advantages, local support and economic factors.

Under geographic, it points out that N.E. Iowa is one of the most scenically attractive parts of the state, that the area is strategically located near the juncture of four states and that N.E. Iowa does not have a major lake which can compete with similar attractions in bordering states, that its central location would attract tourists from a population area of 700,000 people.

Multiple usage advantages include the lake itself and various benefits it would provide including

improved fishing conditions, Big Rock Country and Golf Club, Summer Stock Theater program, campground and winter sports area. Two of the projects, the golf course and summer theatre are already operating at no cost to taxpayers.

Economic advantages show that the cost of the lake project should be comparatively small because most of the land which will be required is of low productivity and costs of the multiple usage factor would be minimal.

Community support statement points out that major cities in N.E. Iowa have given full backing to the project, 15 Jaycee organizations have petitioned the Commission indicating their support and 90 per cent local support.

SCS district commissioner to be elected

An election to select a commissioner of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District will be held in the Farm Bureau Building in Fayette, Monday, March 28. Polls will be open from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Candidates are Leslie Anderson, Clermont Township, and Frank Thyer, Center Township. The successful candidate will replace Carl Lueder, Windsor Township, whose term expires in April.

Anderson has served as an assistant commissioner two years. He owns and operates a 240 acre dairy farm 5 miles northwest of Clermont. He and his wife are the parents of two boys and two girls. Anderson's conservation work includes contour strip-cropping all of his cropland, waterway construction, three acres of tree planting and three farm ponds.

Thyer owns and operates a 257 acre dairy and hog farm about 4 miles northwest of Fayette. Mr. and Mrs. Thyer have one son and one daughter. The Thyer farm has been operated according to a conservation plan which includes field arrangement, tile, and grassed waterways. Thyer owns a tiling machine and has installed about 30,000 feet of tile with it.

All landowners and operators in Fayette County are eligible to vote at the election, which is being held in conjunction with the district's annual meeting.

March 22, 1966

Clermont Farmer Named Soil Commissioner

Leslie Anderson, Clermont township, was elected Monday to a six-year term as a commissioner for the Fayette County Soil Conservation District. Anderson replaces Carl Lueder, Windsor township, who did not seek reelection.

The election was held in conjunction with the districts' annual meeting at which the Rev. Lawrence Nelson, Bellevue, was the featured speaker. Also appearing on the program was Mike Hill, chief of the engineering section, Iowa Conservation Commission, who discussed the proposed lake on the Volga River near Fayette.

March 31, 1966

SCS News

"America, the Beautiful," an outstanding collection of color photographs of soil and water conservation practices throughout the United States, will be on display in the windows of Bealmers Department Store in West Union during the latter part of May and

early June, reports Earl Kerker, U. S. Soil Conservation Service, West Union.

The 18 by 24 inch photographs show not only the more common conservation practices such as strip cropping, terracing and farm ponds, but also orchards and nurseries where plantings are made on the contour.

The collection consists of one scene from each of the 50 states. An accompanying legend gives the location of each picture and a description of the conservation practice shown.

June 4, 1966

This Is Soil Stewardship Week

"Crisis In The Countryside" is this year's theme for the traditional annual observance of Soil Stewardship week throughout the nation.

Special services in churches throughout the land representing many faiths were held May 15, which opened the week. Other observances will take place on Sunday, May 22.

Chairman Stewart of the Fayette Soil Conservation district board explained this year's theme has special meaning. "We have become, predominantly, a nation of city dwellers," he pointed out. "In their preoccupation with urban needs, there is risk that a majority of Americans will lose sight of the vital function of the countryside and overlook the necessity of soil stewardship," Stewart said.

The stores of soil and water entrusted to us must sustain us for all time and all of us must share the responsibilities of stewardship. He further added, "As Americans concentrate in towns and cities, the tasks are compounded for those who remain close to the land and who acknowledge their soil stewardship obligations."

"Booklets and other materials for the week's observance are being provided by the National Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts," Stewart said.

May 21, 1966

Conservationist Cites Gains In FFA Practices

Today's Future Farmers know more about the principles of soil and water conservation than any generation of agriculture students in history, Frank H. Mendell, State Conservationist, USDA, Soil Conservation Service, said today. His remarks prefaced the observance of National FFA Week which runs from February 19 through 26.

Earl J. Kerker, Work Unit Conservationist, U.S. Soil Conservation Service, pointed out "Conservation emphasis in modern agriculture teaching has made the word 'conserve' as important as the word 'produce' to today's youth. Fayette County's agriculture students have been privileged to see the increased use of terraces, stripcropping, and other conservation practices on their dad's farm and other land in the county and have learned to do by doing. For many of them, the conservation way is the only way they know."

The swelling ranks of Future Farmers will be much in evidence this coming week in Fayette County as the boys make a point of

wearing their striking FFA jackets with white shirts and blue or gold ties. It will be a week of special activities carried out with the help of state and local FFA advisors. Most prominent will be the goodwill tours to local businesses to meet the many friends of FFA. Newspapers, radio stations, bankers' associations, Soil Conservation District Boards, and many others are included.

With the new national emphasis on community-type watershed developments beauty of the countryside, pollution abatement, and farm-based outdoor recreation for public use, Future Farmers of American members now find more opportunities to actually shape the destiny of their local communities, Kerker, Work Unit Conservationist, believes. An alert advisor, with the help of the Soil Conservation Service staff, will find many opportunities to put willing hands to work.

There are 250 Future Farmers in Fayette County; 10,108 in Iowa; 450,000 in the Nation according to the latest count.

Mar. 10, 1947

To Select Queen Of Conservation

An announcement was made today by Alfred Stewart, Oelwein, president of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District commissioners, and Wendall Pellett, Atlantic, chairman of the State Soil Conservation committee, that the association, committee, and soil conservation districts of Iowa will co-sponsor the 1966 Queen of Conservation contest. This will mark the seventh consecutive year a queen of conservation contest has been held in Iowa.

The crowning of the state winner will be the culmination of district and regional contests as Iowa's 100 soil conservation districts search for the girl that will reign as state queen. The state contest will be held Sept. 8 in Jefferson during the Plowmen's banquet, an event planned in connection with the National Soil Conservation Districts' Field Day and Plowing matches being held east of Jefferson Sept. 8 and 9.

The Conservation Field Days event is one of the largest outdoor farm events planned to be held in Iowa in 1966. The queen of conservation will reign over the field days and will also appear at many other soil conservation meetings and agricultural occasions during the year.

A total of 411 girls entered the statewide contest in 1965 and Mrs. Donna Wilson, the former Donna Chandler, Marengo, was named state winner. Contestants are first selected on a district basis at which time two winners are selected to advance to regional competition. A total of nine regional winners are selected for state competition.

Contestants are judged on personal attractiveness, personality ability to converse, and general knowledge of agriculture and soil

conservation. To be eligible to enter the contest a girl must be single, reside on a farm and be between 16 and 21 years of age.

Prospective candidates may secure information regarding the contest at local soil conservation district offices.

Area Farmers Receive Farm Plan Approval

WEST UNION (Special)—"Soil conservation plans for eight farms were approved at the March meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," Alfred Stewart, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U.S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by farmers, Paul D. and Noel I. Smith, Union Township; Harlan Koester, Dover Township; Charles Hamlet, Putnam Township; Alanson D. Gibson, Pleasant Valley Township; Milford Nabholz, Windsor and Auburn Township; Lee Hoeger, Banks Township; Richard Smith, Westfield Township; Richard Jensen, Pleasant Valley and Union Townships.

New cooperators with the district are Arlin Knief and John Ingels of Harlan Township. Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Al Steinlage of Auburn Township.

Mar. 18, 1947

SCS News

Soil conservation plans for two farms were approved at the April meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners, reports Alfred Stewart, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Lynn L. Silka,

Scott township; and Andrew Stensland, Auburn township.

New cooperators with the district are Paul G. Krebs, Westfield township; Clarence E. Cannon, Union township; and Germaine and Robert Hemesath, Auburn township.

Apr. 22, 1947

Soil Week Stewardship Observed

WEST UNION (Speial)—"Private citizens own three-quarters of the Nation's land and must assume major responsibility for its sound management," said Alfred Stewart, Chairman of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District in announcing the 1967 Soil Stewardship Week observance. This year's theme is "Three-Fourths of Our Land." The week of April 30-May 7 was set aside for the annual program.

"As the pressures of higher living standards, increased population, and world influence mount, the landowning citizen must be more careful of his stewardship of God's possessions," Stewart added. Soil Stewardship Week is a time for us to re-evaluate our responsibility and purpose, and to re-declare our allegiance.

Soil Stewardship Week is an out-

growth of Rogation Sunday and Rural Life Week. This is the 13th consecutive year that the observance has been held under the sponsorship of the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts.

The abundance of good food and clean water we enjoy can not be taken for granted. The wise use of land and water to meet increasing human demands is becoming more urgent each year.

June 4, 1966

May 5, 1967

WU man develops unique terrace plan

New Type Terraces Being Built in Fayette County

WEST UNION—Grassed backslope terraces with underground conduits are being built on the Robert Scott farm four miles west of West Union on highway 18.

These are the latest design in terrace construction, according to Earl Kerker, SCS work unit leader with the Fayette county soils district.

Earth is moved upward from the lower side of the terrace ridge to build the terrace. This tends to level out the area immediately below the terrace and over a period of years, the slope on the interval between terraces will be reduced.

"These terraces are being constructed on 12 and 16 percent slopes," Kerker said. "Through normal farming operations, these will 'bench' and become 7 and 10 percent slopes.

"Building terraces from the upper side has a tendency to steepen slightly the interval between terraces so grassed backslopes overcome that objection."

Underground Conduits

The use of underground conduits eliminates the need to maintain grassed waterways to carry surplus water to the bottom of the slope.

The conduits consists of a

metal pipe riser used as an intake and a line of tile to carry the water to a safe discharge point. By using this system, the terrace system can be laid out to eliminate some relatively sharp turns which might otherwise be necessary.

Using this system, there is no need for the farmer to take equipment out of the ground to cross grassed waterways. Also, with the increased use of herbicides, the grass in waterways is sometimes damaged and would not be dense enough to prevent minor gullyng.

Grassed backslope terraces can also be built using grassed waterways as outlets. If topography in the field is not too irregular, this type of terrace works well and offers all the advantages of the underground conduit type except that grassed waterways must be maintained.

The first grassed backslope terraces built in Fayette county used waterways as outlets. These terraces were built last summer on the Robert Cowles farm in Dover township.

"We have designed grassed backslope terraces for the Melvin Molokken farm in Dover township and the Dennis Meyer farm in Pleasant Valley township," reported Kerker. "Weather permitting, these jobs will be completed yet this fall.

"Standard terraces have been built on the Kenneth Baldwin farm in Illyria township, the Myron Shepperd farm in Westfield township and the James Stewart farm in Jefferson township."

Cost-sharing is available through the ACP for terrace construction, as well as other conservation practices.

Topic Announced For 1967 Conservation Speech Contest

"Water Conservation - Vital to ALL" is the topic for the 1967 Soil Conservation Speech Contest to be co-sponsored by the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners and the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company of Grinnell, Iowa.

Entry in the contest is open to all junior and senior high school students living in Iowa. Contest information is available at the Fayette County Soil Conservation District office located at West Union.

The district contest will start at 7:30 p.m. on March 13 at the West Central High school in Maynard.

Patricia Colvin, Hawkeye, was the winner of the 1966 district contest. She received ten dollars as the district winner and represented the Fayette County Soil Conservation District in the regional contest where she was second place winner.

Regional prizes in the 1967 contest will be furnished by the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company. Regional prizes will be \$25, \$15, and \$10 for first, second, and third places, respectively.

A \$250 scholarship to any accredited university, college, or junior college, plus \$100 in cash will be won by the winner of the state contest. Second prize in the state contest is \$75 in cash and third prize is \$50 in cash.

Over 280 contestants participated in the 1966 contest. State contest winner was Douglas Buol, LaPorte City; second place honors went to Charles Hoist, Clare, and Margaret Hamilton, Audubon, placed third.

Motorists traveling west of West Union on Highway 18 are able to view a terrace construction job which is the first of its kind in Fayette County. Grassed backslope terraces with underground conduits are being built on the Robert Scott farm about 4 miles west of West Union.

"This is the latest design in terrace construction," reports Earl Kerker, U.S. Soil Conservation Service. "This type of terrace adds to the convenience of farming sloping fields and provides the maximum erosion control for the production of row crops."

Earth is moved upward from the lower side of the terrace ridge to build the terrace. This tends to level out the area immediately below the terrace and over a period of years, the slope on the interval between terraces will be reduced.

"These terraces are being constructed on 12 and 16 percent slopes," Kerker continued. "Through normal farming operations, these terraces will 'bench' and become 7 and 10 percent slopes.

Building terraces from the upslope has a tendency to steepen slightly the interval between terraces so grassed backslopes overcome that objection."

The use of underground conduits eliminates the need to maintain grassed waterways to carry surplus water to the bottom.

The conduit consists of a metal pipe riser used as an intake and a line of tile to carry the water to a safe discharge point. By using this system, the terrace system can be laid out to eliminate some relatively sharp turns which might otherwise be necessary. Using this system, there is no need for the farmer to take equipment out of the ground to cross grassed waterways. Also, with the increased use of herbicides, the grass in waterways is sometimes damaged and would not be dense enough to prevent minor gullyng.

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"We have designed grassed backslope terraces for the Melvin Molokken farm in Dover Township and the Dennis Meyer farm in Pleasant Valley Township," reported Kerker. "Weather permitting, these jobs will be completed yet this fall. Standard terraces have been built on the Kenneth Baldwin farm in Illyria Township, the Myron Shepperd farm in Jefferson Township."

Cost-sharing is available through the ACP for terrace construction, as well as other conservation practices.

Conservation Commissioners Approve Area Soil Plans

Soil conservation plans for five farms were approved at the February meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners, reports Alfred Stewart, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Reuben Steffens, Dover and Clermont townships; Herman Larson, jr., Illyria township; H. H. Gallows, Banks township; Loren Nathem and Bernard Spratt, Harlan township.

New cooperators with the district are Eugene Thorson, Clermont township; Don L. Buxton, Jefferson township; Duane A. Grimm, Center township; Francis Wurzer, Auburn township. Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Linus Putz-owner, Adria Nelson-tenant, Pleasant Valley and Clermont townships.

community-type watershed developments, beauty of the countryside, pollution abatement, and farm-based outdoor recreation for public use. Future Farmers of America members now find more opportunities to actually shape the destiny of their local communities, Kerker, Work Unit Conservationist, believes. An alert advisor, with the help of the Soil Conservation Service Staff, will find many opportunities to put willing hands to work.

There are 250 Future Farmers in Fayette County; 10,108 in Iowa; 450,000 in the nation, according to the latest count.

Patricia Colvin Wins

Soil Speech Contest *Mar. '67*

Patricia Colvin, a senior at North Fayette County Community School, West Union, was the first place winner in the Soil Conservation Speech Contest held Monday, March 13, at West Central School, Maynard. Miss Colvin, from Hawkeye, will represent Fayette county in the regional contest.

The contest was co-sponsored by the Fayette County Soil Conservation District and the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance company and its affiliate companies. German Mutual Insurance Company of West Union and Farmers Mutual Insurance Association of Fayette furnished prizes for the contestants.

Jerry Eitel, Hawkeye, a student of West Central School, was second place winner.

Soil Conservation Plans Approved For Eight Farms *Mar. 1967*

Soil conservation plans for eight farms were approved at the March meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners, reports Alfred Stewart, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U.S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Paul D. and Noel I. Smith, Union township; Harlan Koester, Dover township; Charles Hamlett, Putnam township; Alanson D. Gibson, Pleasant Valley township; Milford Nabholz, Windsor and Auburn townships; Lee Hoeger, Banks township; Richard Smith, Westfield township; Richard Jensen, Pleasant Valley and Union townships.

New cooperators with the district are Arlin Knief and John Ingels of Harlan township. Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Al Steinlage of Auburn township.

SCS Officer Sees Trend For More Terracing Soon

"The 'fewers and mores' statement appears to be a good reason for farmers to use terraces on their cropland," stated Earl Kerker, U.S. Soil Conservation Service, when discussing terraces recently.

and James Stewart.

"If anyone is interested in terraces, they are welcome to stop at the office in West Union for more information," Kerker concluded.

"The trend is toward fewer farmers on fewer farms with more land, using bigger equipment, raising more food for more people through more intensive production."

Present day terraces are designed to aid the farmer by controlling erosion, increasing farmability, and improving topography.

"All of these factors are important to the farmers who are considering the use of terraces," Kerker continued. "I have talked to 12 or 14 farmers who are thinking of building terraces this year. In most cases, they are interested

per acre should be used as a nurse crop and five or six pounds of trefoil seeded. Oats should be clipped or pastured when they reach 10 inches in height to reduce competition for the trefoil.

Because it is a long lived legume, trefoil should provide good pasture for many years after it becomes established, if it is managed properly. An application of phosphate fertilizer every other year will help maintain a good stand.

Birdshoot Trefoil Well Suited To Fayette County Soil

Birdsfoot trefoil is a long lived perennial legume that is well suited to the pastures of Fayette county," said Earl Kerker, U.S. Soil Conservation Service. "Properly handled, trefoil is a hardy pasture plant that will of permanent pastures."

Although it is slow to become established, trefoil is a hardy pasture plant that will last many years. Because of this, trefoil is not recommended for use in rotation seedings, but should be used in areas that will remain in pasture for a number of years.

To establish trefoil, the ground should be shallow plowed on the contour in the late fall or early spring. About $\frac{3}{4}$ bushel of oats

125 bushels per acre based on number two corn corrected to 15.5 per cent moisture.

The project is a cooperative venture of the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, U. S. Soil Conservation Service, and Cooperative Extension Service and will run 10 years. Included in the study are data on stand levels and yields, weather and corn maturity comparisons, average yields to date of the various soil types, and fertility management practices as well as other information regarding production.

Three sites in each of the 20 townships in Fayette county were chosen when the study was started in 1961. Several of these sites were later dropped because of inaccessibility or for other reasons so that now about 55 potential sites remain. An average of 22 sites per year has been used for the study.

KENNETH KITTLESON, SCS soil scientist collected soil samples on each of the sites to provide full information on fertility levels and soil types. This material will also be used when the project is completed for statistical analysis to show the productivity potential of various soils.

Each time the sample area is in corn, the farmer supplies information on past management, tillage, planting, and cultivation methods, amounts of fertilizer, herbicide, and insecticides applied, damage by hail and other information pertinent to production. During the growing season, Experiment Station and SCS personnel check the plant population, dates of emergence and siling, weed infestation, insect or disease damage and finally hand pick each of the plots and calculate yields. About 30 rain gauges are located throughout the county and cooperating farmers keep a record of rainfall during April through October.

Average yields for Fayette county range from 78 bushels per acre in 1962 to 123 bushels in 1966. Ranges of the 21 sites for the past year were from 57 bushels to 160 bushels per acre. Plant population varied from 11,800 to 25,000 stalks per acre.

ALL OF THE PLOTS received fertilizer ranging from four pounds of nitrogen, 15 pounds of P205 and 15 pounds of K20 per acre to 151 pounds of nitrogen, 106 pounds of P205 and 77 pounds of K20 plus 14 tons of manure. Sixty six percent of these plots were treated with a herbicide and 24 per cent had insecticides applied.

"Yields, based on hand harvested plots, are 10 to 15 per cent higher than field averages," Lloyd Dumenil, project leader from State University stated in the progress report. "An additional bias in the results



PAUL SCHUCHMANN, assistant Fayette County Soil Conservation commissioner, and member of the Fayette County Fair board, is currently tiling 11 acres of low lying land on his 640 acres near Arlington. Schuchmann wants to contour the land as an experiment, but not until he has tiled, he said.

Designate March 19-25 National Wildlife Week

Soil conservation districts in Iowa and the Soil Conservation Service and other agencies assisting them are joining other organizations in the observance of National Wildlife Week, March 19-25, 1967. Theme for this year's promotion is "This Is Your Land."

"Every citizen is part-owner in local, county, state, and federal lands, and should be interested in their conservation use and treatment," said Frank H. Mendell, State Conservationist of the U.S. Soil Conservation Service. This year's National Wildlife Week program is designed to call the citizen's attention to the benefits from development of these tax-free lands.

"As the demand for space for recreation, hunting, and other activities continues to grow, we must plan carefully for the conservation management of our lands, both public and private, to meet these needs," Mendell said. Nearly a fourth of the land in the United States is public owned.

All of Iowa's 100 soil conservation districts are providing technical help in planning and applying wildlife conservation measures. These practices include provision for wildlife habitat and recreation. Small watershed projects through Public Law 566 are being developed for multi-purpose benefits to in-

clude fish and wildlife and recreation where feasible.

Soil Conservation Service technicians assisting the Fayette County Soil Conservation District have helped with the design and construction of 60 farm ponds in Fayette County. About 50 of these have been stocked with fish.

"These ponds not only provide fishing but also provide areas for other types of wildlife," stated Earl Kerker, local SCS technician. "Deer, as well as other animals, are attracted by the water, and many ponds are used by ducks during spring and fall migrations."

In addition to the ponds, Fayette County farmers have planted nearly 4,000 feet of hedgerow beneficial to wildlife as well as maintaining or improving nearly 500 acres of odd areas set aside for wildlife shelter.

The 1967 National Wildlife Week observance in Iowa is under the direction of Clarence Christensen, Stuart, Iowa, Chairman.

SCS News

Today's Future Farmers know more about the principles of soil and water conservation than any generation of agriculture students in history, Frank H. Mendell, state conservationist, USDA, Soil Conservation Service, said recently. His remarks prefaced the observance of National FFA week which runs from Feb. 19 through 26.

Earl J. Kerker, work unit conservationist, U. S. Soil Conservation Service, pointed out "Conservation emphasis in modern agriculture teaching has made the word 'conserve' as important as the word 'produce' to today's youth. Fayette county's agriculture students have been privileged to see the increased use of terraces, stripcropping and other conservation practices on their dad's farm and other land in the county and have learned to do by doing. For many of them, the conservation way is the only way they know."

The swelling ranks of Future Farmers will be much in evidence this coming week in Fayette county as the boys make a point of wearing their striking FFA jackets with white shirts and blue or gold ties. It will be a week of special activities carried out with the help of state and local FFA advisors.

Most prominent will be the good will tours to local businesses to meet the many friends of FFA. Newspapers, radio stations, bankers' associations, Soil Conservation District boards, and many others are included.

With the new national emphasis on community-type watershed developments, beauty of the countryside, pollution abatement, and farm-based outdoor recreation for public use, Future Farmers of America members now find more opportunities to actually shape the destiny of their local communities, Kerker, work unit conservationist, believes.

An alert advisor, with the help of the Soil Conservation Service staff, will find many opportunities to put willing hands to work.

There are 250 Future Farmers in Fayette county, 10,108 in Iowa

and 450,000 in the nation according to the latest count.

Services Combine During Corn Yield Studies

"Results of the 1966 Corn Yield Study for Fayette County have recently been released," reports Earl Kerker, U.S. Soil Conservation Service. "Average yield for the 21 sites was 123 bushels per acre based on number two corn corrected to 15.5% moisture."

The project is a cooperative venture of the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, U.S. Soil Conservation Service, and Cooperative Extension Service and will run 10 years. Included in the study are data on stand levels and yields, weather and corn maturity comparisons, average yields to date of the various soil types, and fertility management practices as well as other information regarding production.

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Kenneth Kittleson, SCS soil scientist collected soil samples on each of the sites to provide full information on fertility levels and soil types. This material will also be used when the project is completed for statistical analysis to show the productivity potential of various soils.

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in corn, the farmer supplies information on past management, tillage, planting, and cultivation methods, amounts of fertilizer, herbicide, and insecticides applied, damage by hail and other information pertinent to production. During the growing season, Experiment Station and SCS personnel check the plant population, dates of emergence and silting, weed infestation, insect or disease damage and finally hand pick each of the plots and calculate yields. About 30 rain gauges are located throughout the county and cooperating farmers keep a record of rainfall during April through October.

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All of the plots received fertilizer ranging from 4 pounds of nitrogen, 15 pounds of P205 and 15 pounds of K20 per acre to 151 pounds of nitrogen, 106 pounds of P205 and 77 pounds of K20 plus 14 tons of manure. Sixty six percent of the plots were treated with a herbicide and 24% had insecticides applied.

"Yields, based on hand harvested plots, are 10 to 15% higher than field averages," Lloyd Dumezil, project leader from Iowa State University stated in the

progress report. "An additional bias in the results appears several years because we influence some of our cooperators to increase their management level."

Farmers Urged To Contact Conservation Service Early

"Farmers who will want contour or strip crop guide lines laid out this spring are urged to contact our office well ahead of the time they want the work done," stated Earl Kerker, Soil Conservation Service, West Union. "By calling for an appointment several days to a week ahead of time, farmers can be assured of having the work done when they want it."

Local SCS technicians are anticipating a heavier than normal spring load this year. Because of the dry weather last fall, less layout for fall plowing was done.

Several large strip cropping jobs are planned for this spring by Fayette County farmers. Two terrace jobs are also planned for spring construction.

"Several terrace jobs are planned for this summer but they won't be started till well after corn planting," Kerker concluded.

Farmers who have planned to establish strip cropping this spring include Archie Bowers, Jr., Rueben Steffens, Alanson Gibson, Dale Pape, Harlan Koester, Richard Jensen, Paul Schuchmann and Al Steinlage.

Terrace construction is planned on the farms of Dennis Meyer, Cleve and Bill Bennett, Hugh Galloway, Chester Adams and Melvin Molokken.

Kerker Discusses New Cropland Terrace Trends

"The 'fewers and mores' statement appears to be a good reason for farmers to use terraces on their cropland," stated Earl Kerker, U. S. Soil Conservation Service, when discussing terraces recently. "The trend is toward fewer farmers on fewer farms with more land, using bigger equipment, raising more food for more people through more intensive production."

Present day terraces are designed to aid the farmer by controlling erosion, increasing farmability, and improving topography.

"All of these factors are important to the farmers who are considering the use of terraces," Kerker continued. "I have talked to 12 or 14 farmers, who are thinking of building terraces this year. In most cases, they are interested in building grassed backslope terraces with underground outlets. Erosion control is the main reason these people are considering terraces. As corn production is increased, erosion becomes more of a problem and terraces offer the best erosion control."

Over 12,000 feet of terraces were built in Fayette County last fall. These were built on the Robert Scott, Robert Cowles, Myron Shepperd, Kenneth Baldwin, and James Stewart farms.

"Anyone is interested in terraces, are welcome to stop at the office in West Union for more information," Kerker concluded.

Soil Plans Are Approved For Fayette Farms

WEST UNION (Special) — "Soil conservation plans for two farms were approved at the April meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners," reports Alfred Stewart, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Lynn L. Silka, Scott Township; Andrew Stensland, Auburn Township.

New cooperators with the district are Paul G. Kreb, Westfield Township; Clarence E. Cannon, Union Township; Germaine and Robert Hemesath, Auburn Township. Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Carl Lueder of Windsor Township.

Soil Conservation Plans Approved For Farmers

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Soil Stewardship Week Set April 30 - May 7

"Private citizens own three-quarters of the Nation's land and must assume major responsibility for its sound management," said Alfred Stewart, Chairman of the Fayette County Soil Conservation district in announcing the 1967 Soil Stewardship week observance. This year's theme is "Three-Fourths of Our Land." The week of April 30 - May 7 has been set aside for the annual program.

"As the pressures of higher living standards, increased population, and world influence mount, the landowning citizen must be more careful of his stewardship of God's possessions," Stewart added. Soil Stewardship week is a time for us to re-evaluate our responsibility and purpose, and to redeclare our allegiance.

Soil Stewardship week in an outgrowth This is the 13th consecutive year that the observance has been held under the of Rogation Sunday and Rural Life week. sponsorship of the National Association of Soil Conservation districts.

The abundance of good food and clean water we enjoy can not be taken for granted. The wise use of land and water to meet increasing human demands is becoming more urgent each year.

"We urge all citizens to pause for an examination of their stewardship accounting during this special season," Chairman Stewart said.

Soil Conservation Plans Approved For Dale Page

One soil conservation plan was approved at the May meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation Commissioners, reports Alfred Stewart, district chairman.

The plan for Dale Pape, Dover township, was developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians.

Pape established 35 acres of strip cropping this year and plans to continue application of strips. Several small gullies were also converted to grassed waterways.

Pape also plans to renovate pasture and do further gully control work in the future.

New cooperators with the district are Edwin L. Molokken, Kenneth H. Grimes, Dover township; Edwin R. Gage, Illyria township, and Mike Franzen, Auburn township.

Spotlight On Agriculture

by Herb Plambeck



SOIL STEWARDSHIP WEEK is now under way all across the nation. Nowhere has soil stewardship been taken more seriously than in this area of Iowa. Rich bottomland soils are often the result of erosion from hillsides. Overflow silting frequently ruins crops on the fertile lowlands while the "hill farms" are further denuded.

THE NATION-WIDE OBSERVANCE this week calls attention to our obligation as stewards of the soil and the water. It is sponsored by the National Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts and is supported by virtually all religious organizations. Rural Life Sunday often opens or closes the annual observance.

"THREE-FOURTHS OF THE Land" is the theme for the 1967 Soil Stewardship Week activities. This refers to the fact that 3/4ths of the land in the national picture is privately owned—and, therefore, farmers and other private owners must bear at least 75% of the nation's conservation responsibility.

IOWA'S SOILS are more than 90% privately owned. Moreover, Iowa boasts no less than 25% of the nation's total Grade A land area. Therefore, Iowa farmers have a major soil stewardship obligation.

HAWKEYE FARMERS have accepted the challenge in commendable manner. All 99 of Iowa's counties have had organized conservation districts for many years. Iowa was the first state to be 100% organized.

FRANK MENDELL, veteran state conservationists, reports that 61,000 or more Iowa farmers have complete soil conservation plans on their farms. This represents far more than half of Iowa's total farmland acreage now being farmed with the benefit of conservation practices.

FAYETTE COUNTY'S RECORD in soil and water conservation efforts is one of many accomplishments; both in 1966 and for all previous years since the Soils District was organized several years ago. A listing of the past year's accomplishments is shown in the attractive annual report issued by the commissioners.

ACHIEVEMENTS INCLUDE the following: New co-operators, 44; Farm plans written, 31; Plans re-

vised, 7; Additional acres contoured, 1,593; Farm ponds built, 2; Windbreaks planted, 14; Acres of grassed waterways, 40; Open drains, none feet; and feet of tile drains laid, 787,126.

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS For Fayette County are chairman Alfred Stewart, Rt. 2, Oelwein; Albert Bodenstener, Rt. 2, West Union; and Leslie Anderson, Rt. 1, Castalia.

STAFF MEMBERS include Earl Kerker, West Union Work Unit Conservationist; Leon Foderberg, Elkader, Area Conservationist; and Miss Lois Heick, West Union, clerk.

HIGHLIGHT ACCOMPLISHMENTS by the Fayette SCD last year cannot all be enumerated. Major achievements include issuing 28 news stories and 31 radio releases, an annual banquet, issuing of soil stewardship week materials, naming of Vernon Vanderveer, Patricia Colvin and Keith Terrell as speech contest winners; and selection of Gloria Wells as conservation "Queen."

HOW GREAT IS SOIL LOSS?

We can't seem to find any authentic figures, but the Cherokee county Soil Commissioners give us a guesstimate. The Northwest Iowa SCD officials say the average Cherokee County farm loses 1,350 TONS of topsoil per year. You can figure it out on any farm in the state. Average loss per acre per year is seven tons. Better soil stewardship will save some of that previous soil.

COLD AND SNOWY WEATHER over much of the central Corn Belt this past week put quite a crimp in plans for early corn plantings. Hard frost struck many Iowa and Illinois areas, resulting in deep concern to fruit producers. Up to three inches of snow in parts of Iowa brought real frustration to those farmers who wanted to get all their corn in during the last week of April.

EARLY PLANTING is being advocated more and more by Agricultural College leaders and by hybrid seed firms. Over the past several years yield results tend to show an advantage for late April and early May plantings. Congressman Neal Smith, of Altoona, himself a farm operator, has compared early and late plantings for some 12



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U. S. Soil Conservation Service soil scientists are working in Smithfield, Harlan and Center townships in Fayette county this year, reports Earl Kerker of the Soil Conservation Service, West Union.

Kenneth Kittleson, Decorah, William Fouts and Lyle Jackson, Independence, are working toward the completion of a standard soil survey for Fayette county. These men walk over the land and record on aerial photographs the type of soil, percent of slope and amount of topsoil remaining.

This information will later be assembled and printed as a written report to show the soil resources of the county.

Field mapping has been completed in Clermont, Dover, Union, Pleasant Valley, Westfield and Illyria townships.

"The area selected for mapping this year includes much of the Volga River watershed," Kerker continued. "With soil surveys available, we will be in a better position to help farmers plan erosion control to reduce silting when the lake becomes a reality."

SCS News

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strip cropping this year and plans to continue application of strips.

Several small gullies were also converted to grassed waterways. Pape's farm is located in Dover township. He also plans to renovate pasture and do further gully control work in the future.

New cooperators with the dis-

FCSC District Commissioners Set September Meeting

WEST UNION (Special) — The Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners at their meeting Friday, Aug. 11, voted to have a tour of conservation practices in September.

The commissioners approved the following new cooperators: Sarah D. Lopez, Virgil Pickar, Bethel Township; Crayton Ash, Pleasant Valley Township; Donald R. Rodas, Fairfield Township.

Aug 19, 1967

SCS plans Iowa safety speech contest

By Earl J. Kerker
(Soil Conservation Service)

All students in grades 7 through 12, who attend schools located in Fayette county, are eligible to enter the "Iowa Safety Speech" contest.

"How Safe Living Affects My Future" is the 1967 contest title. Contest information is available at the Fayette County Soil Conservation District office located at West Union.

Aug 19, 1967

Soil Conservation Plan Is Approved

One Soil Conservation plan was approved at the November meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners, reports Alfred Stewart, district chairman.

The plan for Richard A. Hinsel, Brock, Clermont Township, was developed with assistance from U.S. Soil Conservation Service technicians.

New cooperators with the district are Kenneth Ney and Stanley Ney of Dover Township.

Nov. 1967

SOIL AWARD TO HAWKEYE GIRL

By James McGuire

Patricia Colvin, 18, an Iowa State University freshman from Hawkeye, was named winner of the State Soil Conservation Speech Contest Sunday at the opening session of the twenty-first annual conference of soil conservation district commissioners at Hotel Fort Des Moines.

Valorie Doden, 18, of Woden was runner-up and Marvin Ball, 18, of Ackworth was third. The winners were selected from nine finalists at the state level.

Over 375 Iowa youths participated in this year's contest, which is sponsored by the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Co. of Grinnell, in co-operation with the ladies auxiliary of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners.

Miss Colvin received a \$250 college scholarship and \$100 in cash. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Colvin.

While a student at North High School of West Union she was active in the National Honor Society, speech and music activities and the Science Club. She is majoring in home economics education.

She represented the Fayette County Soil Conservation District in the contest.

Miss Doden, a daughter of the Frank Dodens, is preparing for a career in law at the University of Iowa, Iowa City. As second place winner, she received \$75 in cash. She was sponsored by the Winnebago County Soil Conservation District.

Ball is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ivyl Ball. He is a senior at Indianola High School and has won the F.F.A. Foundation's soil and water management award. Ball received \$50 in cash. He was sponsored by the Warren County Soil Conservation District.

The meeting of soil district commissioners will continue until Tuesday afternoon.

Sept. 18, 1967

Leading Soil Conservationists To be Feted at Banquet

Outstanding soil conservation farmers and the outstanding conservation teacher from northeast Iowa will be honored at an awards banquet to be held Nov. 16 at the Maryville cafe, south of Arlington. The banquet, being sponsored by the Fayette County Soil Conservation District, will recognize regional winners in the Iowa Soil Conservation Achievement Awards Program.

These winners are Michael Cunningham, Arlington, sweepstakes winner and owner-operator farm division winner; Erlin Lomen, owner, and Robert Sersland, operator, both of Decorah, winners in the landlord-tenant division, and Wayne Meyer, Preston, winner in the division for farmers who have just recently started using soil conserving practices.

A new feature of the Awards Program recognizes elementary school teachers who do an outstanding job of teaching conservation. The regional winner in this contest was William Lang, Elkader.

Nov. 9, 1967

Soil Commissioners Approve Plans For Two More Farms

Soil conservation plans for two farms were approved at the October meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioners, according to Alfred Stewart, district chairman.

Plans were developed with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians by Eugene Torson, Dover township; and Robert D. Reeder, Pleasant Valley township.

New cooperators with the district are Paul D. and Noel I. Smith, Union township; Kent Nydegger, Westfield township; Fred Nydegger, Illyria township; Elmer Weger, Putnam township, and Albin W. Massman, Dover township.

Oct 13, 1967

Civil Defense Survival Workshops Conducted

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The Department of Public Instruction, Civil Defense Section, began a series of "Personal and Family Survival" workshops with an all-day session Tuesday at Heiserman Memorial Library in West Union.

Two all-day workshops were scheduled in each merged area.

Oct 5, 1967

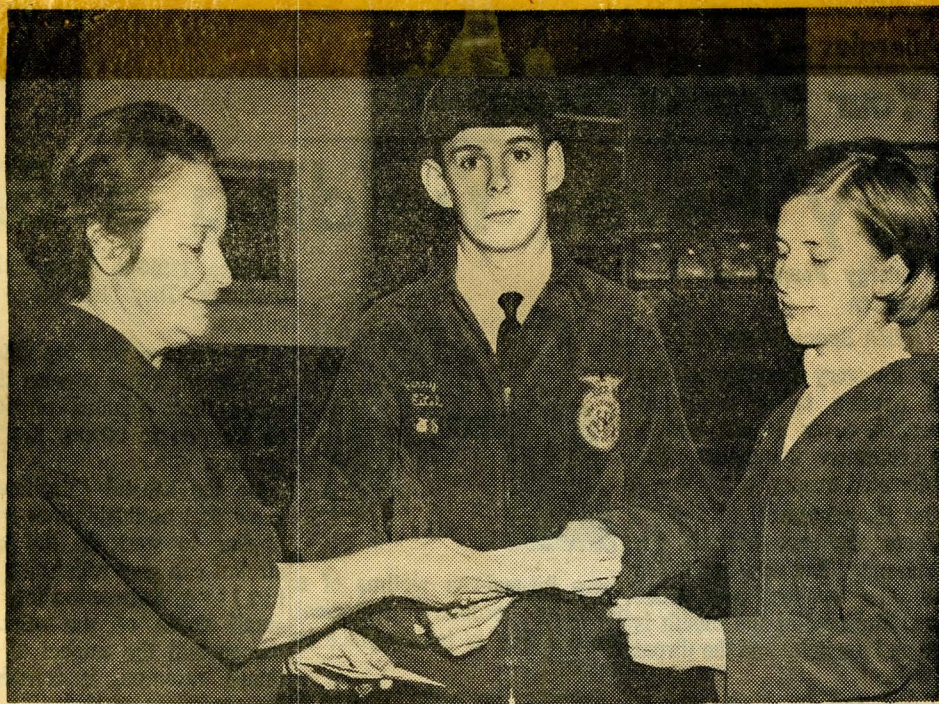
Soil Plans Completed For Three Union-Land Farms

"Soil conservation plans for three farms were approved at the November meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District commissioners," reports Alfred Stewart, district chairman.

Plans were developed, with assistance from U. S. Soil Conservation Service technicians, by the following farmers: Emory Christensen, Windsor Township; Dennis Meyer, Pleasant Valley Township; Herman Pape, Dover Township.

New cooperators with the district are Ernest M. Peterson, Union and Dover Townships; Elmer Geistkemper, Scott Township; Dennis Meyer, Pleasant Valley Township; Carl Hyman, Bethel Township. Also approved was a revised conservation plan for Willet Miller, Clermont and Pleasant Valley Townships.

Nov. 7, 1967



—Photo by Earl Bardach, Oelwein

Speech Winner Repeats

Patricia Colvin, 18, of Hawkeye (right) was named winner for the second consecutive year of the Fayette county soil conservation district's speech contest Monday night in the West Central community school at Maynard. Runner-up was Jerry Eitel, also of Hawkeye (center), a student at West Central. Presenting awards is Mrs. Alfred Stewart of Oelwein, wife of the chairman of the Fayette district soils commissioners.

March 17, 1967

Soil Survey Underway To Map Volga Watershed

U. S. Soil Conservation Service soil scientists are working in Smithfield, Harlan and Center townships of Fayette county this year, reports Earl Kerker, Soil Conservation Service, West Union.

Kenneth Kittleson, Decorah, William Fouts and Lyle Jackson, Independence, are working toward the completion of a standard soil survey for Fayette county. These men walk over the land and record

on aerial photographs the type of soil, percent of slope and amount of topsoil remaining. This information will later be assembled and printed as a written report to show the soil resources of the county.

Field mapping has been completed in Clermont, Dover, Union, Pleasant Valley, Westfield and Illyria townships.

"The area selected for mapping this year includes much of the Volga River

watershed," Kerker said. "With soil surveys available, we will be in a better position to help farmers plan erosion control to reduce silting when the lake becomes a reality."

SCS News

The Michael Cunningham farm in Fairfield township has been selected as the Fayette county winner in the 1967 Register and Tribune Conservation Achievement Awards program.

In making the announcement, Alfred Stewart, chairman of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District, stated that the Cunningham farm would be judged with others from northeast Iowa to select a regional winner.

Soil Conservation Service technicians have worked with the Cunninghams since 1952 when about a mile of terraces were built by Cunningham.

Since then, an additional 34,375 feet of terraces have been built. Strip cropping has been established on 122 acres and all remaining cropland is worked on the contour.

Cunningham has used a two-way plow several years and feels that this aids contour farming operations.

Other accomplishments include a pond for livestock water, 8,990 feet of tile drains installed, and several grassed waterways established.

The Cunninghams have a son, John, who is a student at Iowa State University at Ames.

Fayette County Teachers Slated For Conference

"Three Fayette County teachers will attend the Iowa Conservation Education Conference for teachers on Oct. 6-7," reports Alfred Stewart, chairman of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District. The conference will be held at the 4-H Camp near Luther.

The teachers attending the conference are Mrs. Eileen Baldwin, North Fayette County Community School, West Union; Mrs. Helen Philipp, Arlington School, Arlington; Mrs. Beverly Brockman, Harlan School, Oelwein.

Mrs. Baldwin's attendance is sponsored by First National Bank, West Union; Mrs. Helen Philipp, Arlington Bank, Arlington; Mrs. Brockman, First National Bank, Oelwein.

"Effective Conservation Teaching—Why and How" is the subject of this year's workshop which is sponsored by the Iowa Conservation Education Council, the State Department of Public Instruction, and the State Conservation Commission.

Outstanding Soil Conservation Awards Scheduled

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These winners are Michael Cunningham, Arlington, Sweepstakes winner and owner-operated farm division winner; Erlin Lomen, owner, and Robert Sersland, oper-

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A new feature of the Awards Program recognizes elementary school teachers who do an outstanding job of teaching conservation.

The regional winner in this contest was William Lang of Elkader.

Tour Of Soil Conservation Areas Planned

A tour of soil conservation practices will be held in Fayette County Wednesday, Sept. 13, starting at 9:30 a.m. The group will leave from the northwest corner on the court house square in West Union. Everyone interested is invited to attend.

Included in the tour will be grassed backslope terraces on the Robert Scott farm, a steel toe wall structure, grassed waterway, and tiling on the Virgil Picker farm, concrete gully control structures on the Leslie Lauer farm and diversion terraces on the Vagts

Brothers farm. Also to be viewed will be a concrete structure, contour strip cropping, and terraces on the Robert Cowles farm, a pond used for gully control on the Earnie Peterson farm, and an earthen gully control structure on the Kenneth Blockhus farm.

The tour is sponsored by Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Services, Extension Service, Farmers Home Administration, Fayette County Soil Conservation District and Soil Conservation Service.

September 4, 1967

Fayette County Union
May 18

September 2, 1967

October 4, 1967

November 7, 1967

