

Vinton Farmer Feeds Hogs to Market Weight on Alfalfa Hay, Cutting His Costs 50 to 70 Percent

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Bayard W. Scott, young Vinton farmer, is cutting his hog feeding costs 50 to 70 per cent by feeding grass instead of grain.

It takes more time, of course, but Scott finds that he hits the market about right in July or August and, as he points out, the idea is to put pounds on hogs as cheaply as you can and then get a good price.

Right now Scott has 100 September-farrowed pigs on hand that are alfalfa instead of corn-fed. They weigh around 100 pounds. He'll keep them on alfalfa-brome pasture. There they'll stay till the market is good in July or August, and then they'll go to market. Their weight will average around 270 or 275 pounds all things being equal.

Scott, who farms 315 acres 3 1/2 miles east of Vinton, got started experimenting with alfalfa feed a few years ago when he ran out of corn one spring and found the stuff selling for \$2.50 a bushel.

Split Up Drove

Right then and there he split up his drove of 80 head, selling off the top half which weighed around 200 pounds on the average anyway and sending the tail end out into an alfalfa pasture. He got 19 to 20 cents a pound for the ones he sold. In August he got \$29.90 per hundred for the tailenders that had spent the summer on alfalfa. That practically decided him.

Scott generally runs around 300 head of hogs a year. Last September he decided he'd see how 100 head made out through the winter and spring on alfalfa and little else. After being farrowed in open nests made by sows in a timber tract, the pigs were moved into an area with their mothers where movable houses were located. They were weaned there. Then Scott fed them the usual ground oats protein supplement and corn for about three weeks, or until they were 11 weeks old.

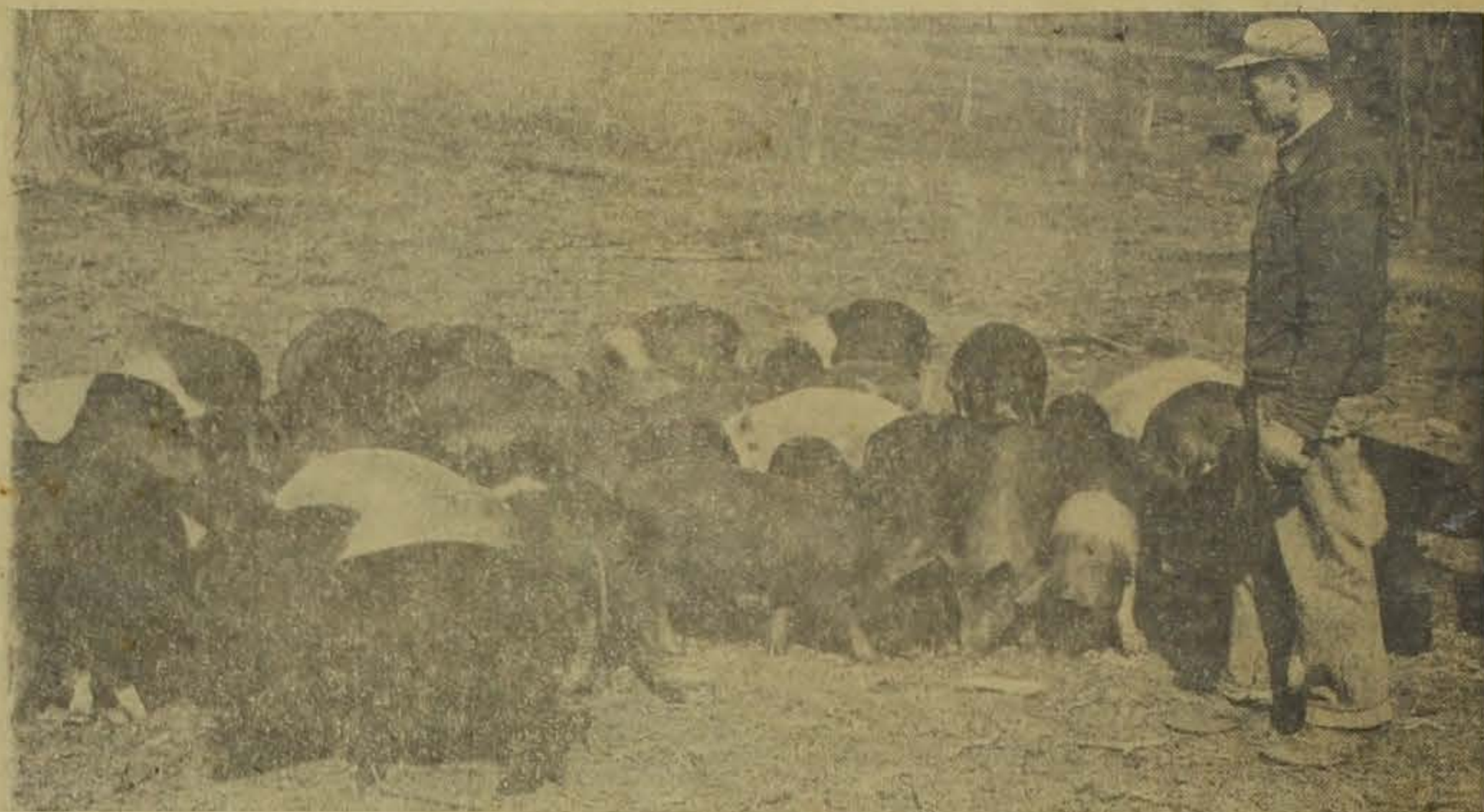
Switches Gradually

Then over a period of a week to ten days he switched them to ground alfalfa hay with a mere "trickle" of oats and about three bushels of ear corn. In place of alfalfa, from time to time, he has substituted pea vines this year.

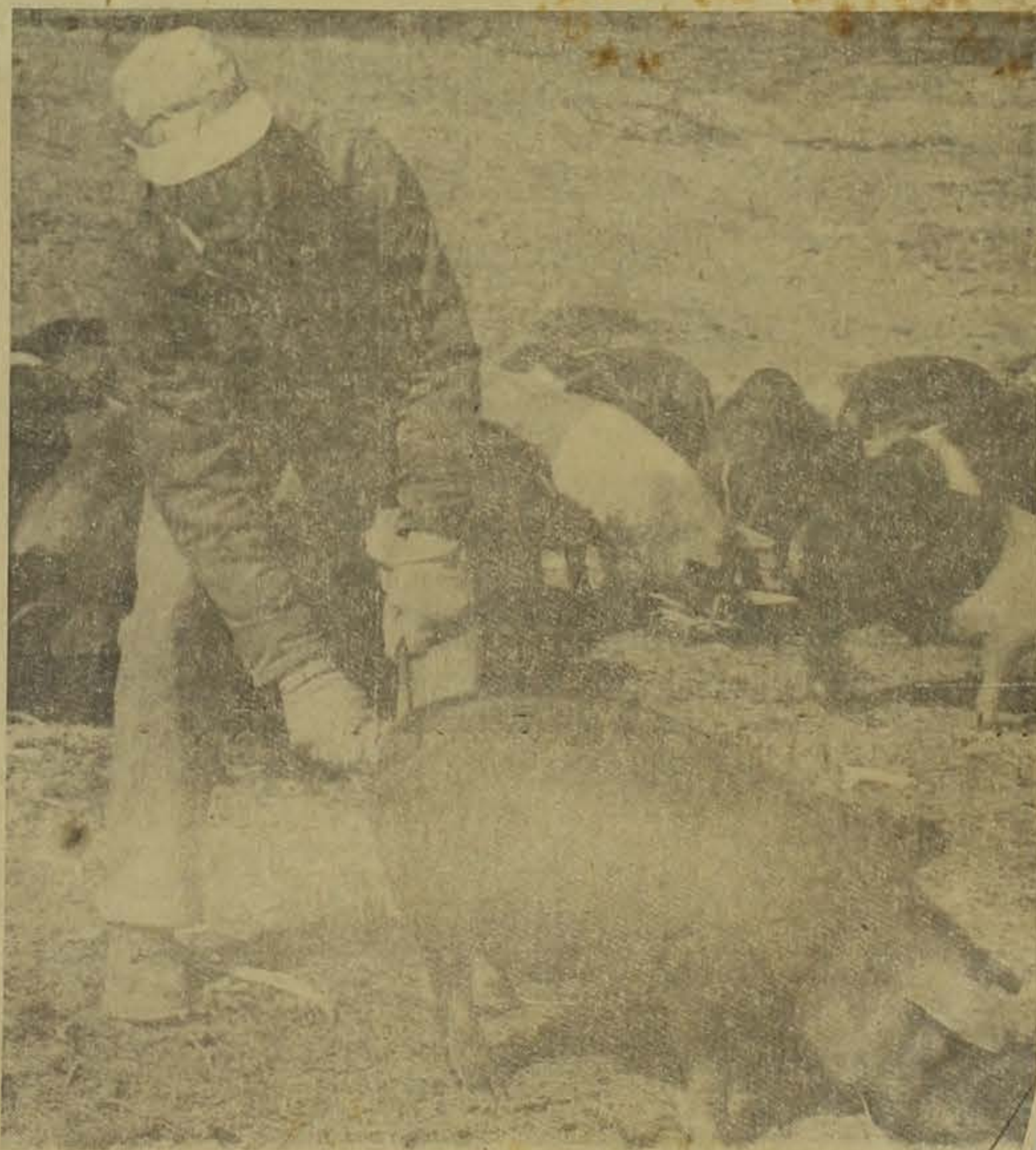
When the pigs were put on the alfalfa they weighed from 50 to 56 pounds on the average. Today they'll run around a hundred.

His costs have not only been more than halved, but his labor has been sharply reduced. In two hours one man can grind enough hay to last them a week. In fact, he gets enough hay from that two-hours' work to supply also the alfalfa needs of thirty gilts. They are fed from self-feeders.

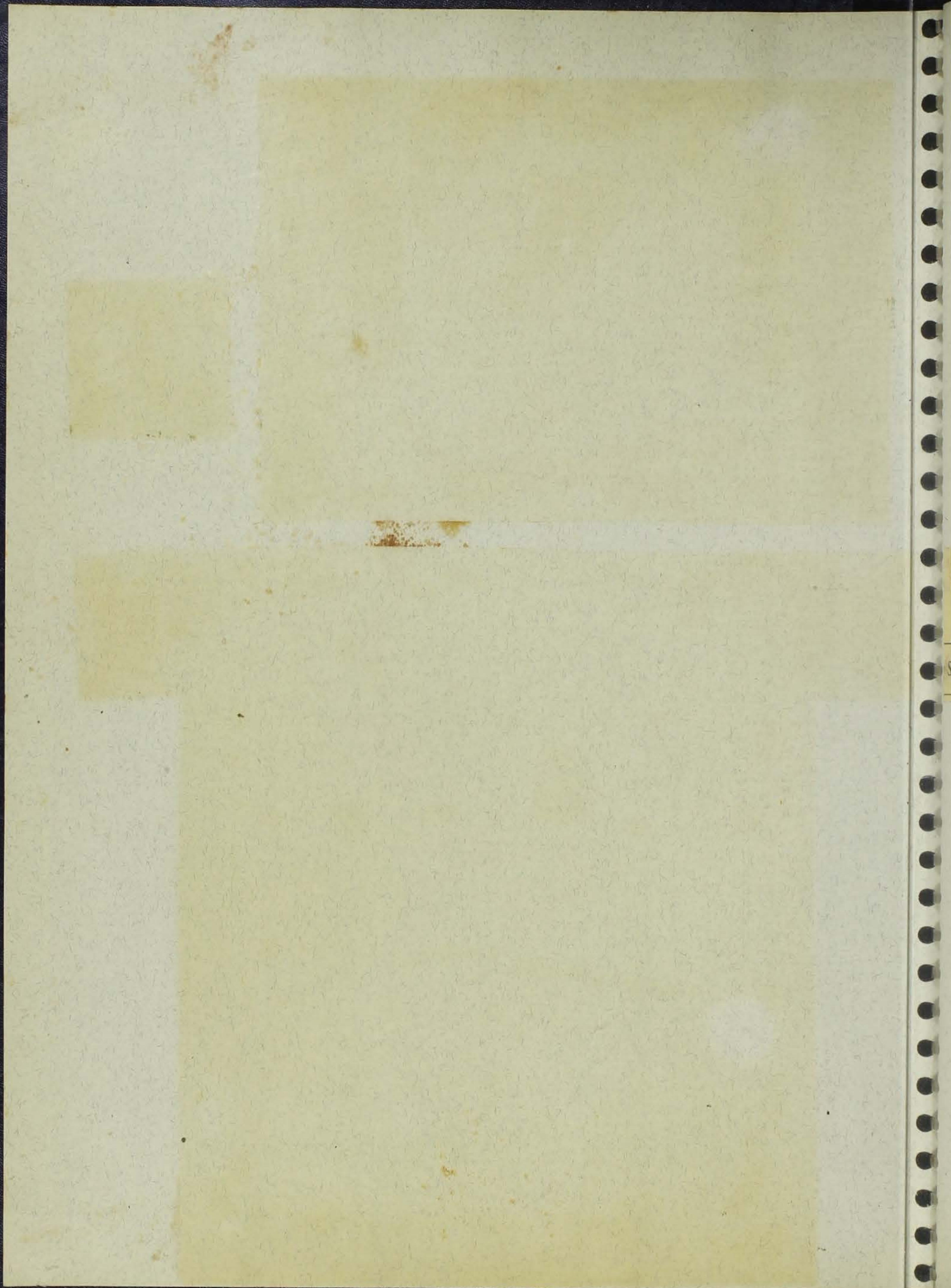
Scott is still raising spring pigs, too, but he is thinking seriously of changing over to a fall program exclusively. Why waste the grain when he can also hit those good late summer markets?



SCOTT LOOKS OVER part of a drove of 100 September-farr-owed pigs that are being carried through to market weights on practically nothing but alfalfa hay. —Daily Times Photo-Engraving



THE SIX-MONTH-OLD PORKERS look sleek and sturdy. They are a triple-cross. Next he plans to start feeding all his pigs on grass in lieu of grain. Scott holds the hog by leg and —Daily Times Photo-Engraving



Benton Soil Commissioners Work Through The Winter



WINTER MEANS NO SLACKENING off for Benton county's soil conservation district commissioners who are kept busy the year round checking and approving new farm plans and spreading the word about the importance of soil saving. The commissioners are shown above at a recent meeting. Left to right they are, Henry Grunewald, Jr., of Bluffs, Graydon McQuilken of La Porte city (associate commissioner), Kenneth Kramer of Vinton (secretary), Herman Franzenburg of Keystone, Earl Wallace of Vinton (chairman), George Raabe of Belle Plaine (associate commissioner) and U. S. Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady.

Earl Wallace New Conservation Head

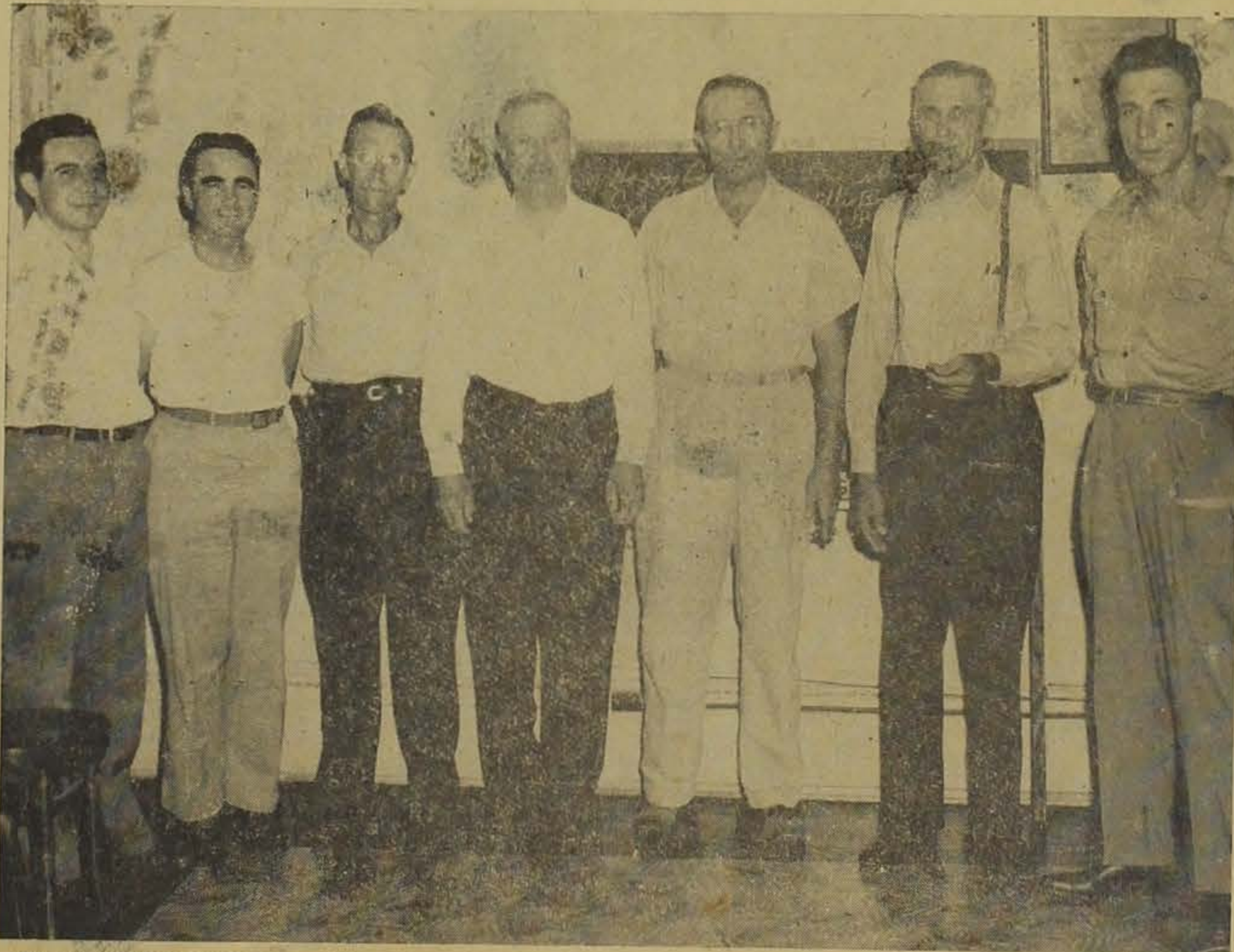
BENTON COUNTY NEWS
Earl Wallace of Vinton was elected chairman of Benton county's soil conservation district commission last night at an organizational meeting. He succeeds Herman Franzenburg of Keystone. Kenneth Kramer, county extension director, was re-elected secretary. Graydon McQuilken of La Porte City was elected treasurer.

Cedar Valley Times Farmer

VINTON, IOWA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1947

Section Devoted Exclusively to News By, For and About The Farmers of the Cedar Valley—The W

FRANZENBURG IS NEW CHAIRMAN SOIL COMMISSION



HERE IS THE BENTON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT Commission which has approved applications for scientific farm plans for thousands of acres of farmland in the county. Hard-working, conscientious, the commission holds official meetings once a month, reviews in detail the applications sent in by forward-looking growers anxious to preserve their soil and at the same time enjoy the benefits of conservation agriculture. Not shown in the above photo is the retiring chairman, Harold Miller, under whose guidance the commission made tremendous strides during the year. Miller's term recently expired. He was succeeded by Herman Franzenburg, well-known Keystone farmer, second from the right. In the usual order are: Benton Extension Director Kenneth Kramer, Soil Conservationist Glenn F. Heady, Arvid Shogren of Polk township, Horace Thompson of Vinton, George Raabe of Belle Plaine, Chairman Franzenburg and Emerson Wolfe, district

MONTHLY SCHEDULE FOR DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

February 23, 1951

REGULAR ITEMS OF BUSINESS

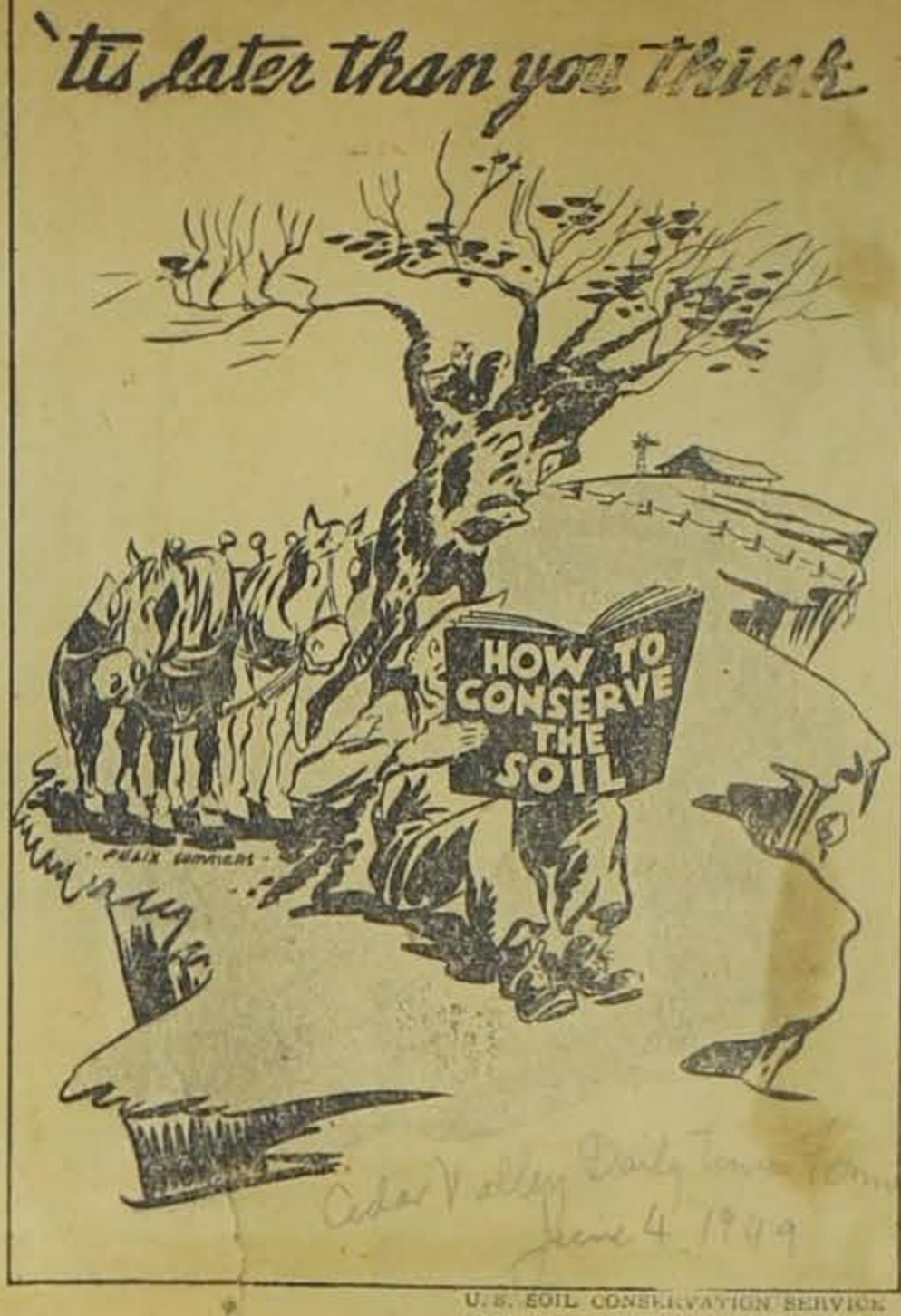
1. Approve farm plans
2. Reports
 - District Conservationist
 - Extension Director
 - District Commissioners' activities
3. Check Goodyear Chart
- 4.
- 5.

SPECIAL ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. New group in Newhall area
2. Set a date for Goodyear Chart meeting
3. Letter received about appropriations for state aids
4. Possible Field Days
5. Essay and Scrapbook Contest
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

SPECIAL ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. Discuss Annual Cooperators' meeting
2. Scrapbook contest
3. More discussion of 4 county meeting on December 7.
4. Discuss monthly schedule
5. Office Clerk's salary
6. Discuss Multiflora roses
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.



BENTON GETS \$3,990 SOIL SAVINGS FUNDS

State Aid Requests Will
Be Increased for the
New Biennium.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
The Benton county soil conservation district received a total of \$3,990 in state aid during the past year and is operating under a \$4,000 budget currently, according to Earl Wallace, chairman.

The state aid was made available by the 53rd general assembly. The funds are used to help all soil conservation districts in Iowa. Wallace reported that the local district expanded its funds for clerical help, technical assistance and for such needed equipment as a transit level and office furnishings. Wallace and the other commissioners pointed out that the aid has increased the speed of conservation practices layouts in Benton county by about one third. Also, it has developed many new cooperator contacts.

A total of \$169,476 was allocated to Iowa's various soil conservation districts on a need basis during the 1949-50 fiscal year. Of this \$26,865 was allocated for commissioners' expenses, office supplies and demonstrational material.

Benton's commissioners serve without salary in the interests of soil conservation. Besides Wallace, they are Henry Grunewald, Jr., of Blairstown, Herman Franzenburg of Keystone, Grayden McQuilken of La Porte City and George Raabe of Belle Plaine.

The soil conservation districts in Iowa are asking \$450,000 for each year of the 1951-53 biennium. If this appropriation is granted by the new legislature, it will make possible additional technical and clerical assistance for all of the 99 districts in the state. Both Wallace and soil conservationist Glenn Heady asserted that this assistance is greatly needed in this county.

Times Farmer

SEPTEMBER 10, 1949

About the Farmers of the Cedar Valley—The World's Best.

Keystone, Blairstown Hooked Rug Farms



BENTON COUNTY NEWS

The checkerboards are fast disappearing from Benton county's crop fields—from the air, that is. They are being replaced mostly by hooked rugs, several of which are shown above, caused by contouring and strip cropping operations on the rolling countryside. Conservation farming has brought the change, and the gentle rolls and waves, the circles and arcs have lent new bird's-eye beauty to farms in the county. More than that, however, is the significance of the change: Farmers everywhere are joining up to save the soil—the only tangible heritage America has. Without it there would be nothing.

Farms Identified

At the upper left is the farm of Hiram Lanam near Blairstown. At the upper right is that of Merle Ohde of Keystone. At the lower left is Everett Wayman's 160 acres, also near Keystone, and at the lower right is the farm of Clyde Merchant of Vinton. The photos were taken at an altitude of 500 feet with a 35-millimeter camera by Emerson Wolfe, district soil conservationist.

Lanam's farm consists of 160 acres, 139 of which are operated on a rotation of corn-corn-oats and three years of meadow. The meadow crops are alfalfa and brome. Forty-four acres on the place are stripcropped and the rest are on the contour. While Lanam has been contouring for four years, this is the first year he has done any stripcropping. He carries enough livestock on the place to consume all the crops he raises.

First Conservation Year

The Ohde farm consists of 120 acres. Seventy-six acres of the

cropland are farmed to a rotation of corn-corn-oats and two years of meadow. This is the Keystone's first year of conservation farming. He has 48 acres that are stripcropped; the rest are contoured. Ohde plans on building up to about 25 head of dairy stock and 150 head of hogs as he becomes established in agriculture.

Wayman, who was named as one of Benton county's outstanding conservation farmers of the year at a recent meeting of the soil conservation commission, operates 160 acres. One hundred and twenty-four acres of the cropland, which is 100 per cent stripcropped, are farmed to a rotation of corn-oats-corn-oats and two years of alfalfa-brome meadow. The first year of oats in the rotation will have a seeding of sweet clover with it.

Likes Bigger Harvests

Wayman called on the district commissioners and SCS technicians for a farm plan as soon as the first technicians arrived in the county and before their office equipment was installed in Vinton. He began stripcropping his first year on a 28-acre field. He has repeatedly called on technicians for more stripcrop layouts until the last field was finished this spring. The steepest slope on his farm is only six per cent with an average of about four per cent over the fields. Through his experiences with conservation farming he has become a strong advocate of soil erosion control. He explains that what he likes best about the methods he is using is the increased yields he enjoys.

Wayman's entire corn acreage is in the production of hybrid seed corn. He also substitutes some of

Don't Just Talk About
Soil Conservation:
Try Practicing
It Once!

Benton Strip-Crop Field Believed to Be Iowa's Biggest

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Garrison, May 21.—The largest single field in the state of Iowa that has been strip-cropped to date is believed to be on the Walter Heineman farm, three miles northwest of Garrison. The field consists of 160 acres and was laid out last fall. It is planted to corn and oats with an alfalfa brome seeding.

Strip Cropping Ideal for Slopes

Uniform Widths May be
Terraced to Hold Water.

Strip cropping is a soil conservation practice best adapted to long slopes.

A field cropped in this way has alternate strips of close growing and intertilled crops. Thus every other strip may be in corn or soybeans and those between in hay or small grain.

The strips are laid out on the contour and the field also may be terraced. As a result of this combination runoff is checked by the terraces, the contour rows and the close growing crops.

Planned Rotations

By carefully planning the rotation it is possible to have an entire field in either meadow or small grain some of the years. This frequently permits late summer pasturing of the entire field.

Strip cropping differs from buffer strips. A strip cropped field is laid out in uniform widths. Each of the crops grown on a strip cropped field will be of about the same acreage.

Buffer Strips

Buffer strips are narrow bands of meadow or close growing crops left in the field to check break-overs and runoff. They usually are a rod or more wide. Buffers are often used to take up irregularities in contoured fields.

A buffer strip cuts out point rows and makes a place to turn if some point rows occur.

Most operators harvest the buffers for hay. Others leave the grass grow and graze it off in the fall after corn is harvested.

his oats acreage for the production of peas for the Minnesota-Valley Canning Co.

One of the large radio networks recently called on Wayman for a recorded interview on his conservation farming. It is to be released over a national hookup some time this fall.

Fences Changed

Wayman has changed most of the fences on his farm since he began conservation farming. Operations are easier without so many corners, he has found. Most of the fence changes have been those that added to his farm ground.

The Merchant farm, near Vinton consists of 100 acres. Eighty-three of the cropland acres are farmed to a rotation of corn-corn-oats and two years of alfalfa-brome meadow. This is Merchant's first year on the place. He formerly farmed the Paul Raymond farm east of Garrison. It was all stripcropped.

Merchant has been contouring and stripcropping for eight years in Benton county. He is planning on about 25 head of dairy cattle and 120 head of hogs.

Merchant assisted the PMA and soil conservation district in a cooperative project this spring in laying contour and stripcrop lines for other farmers.

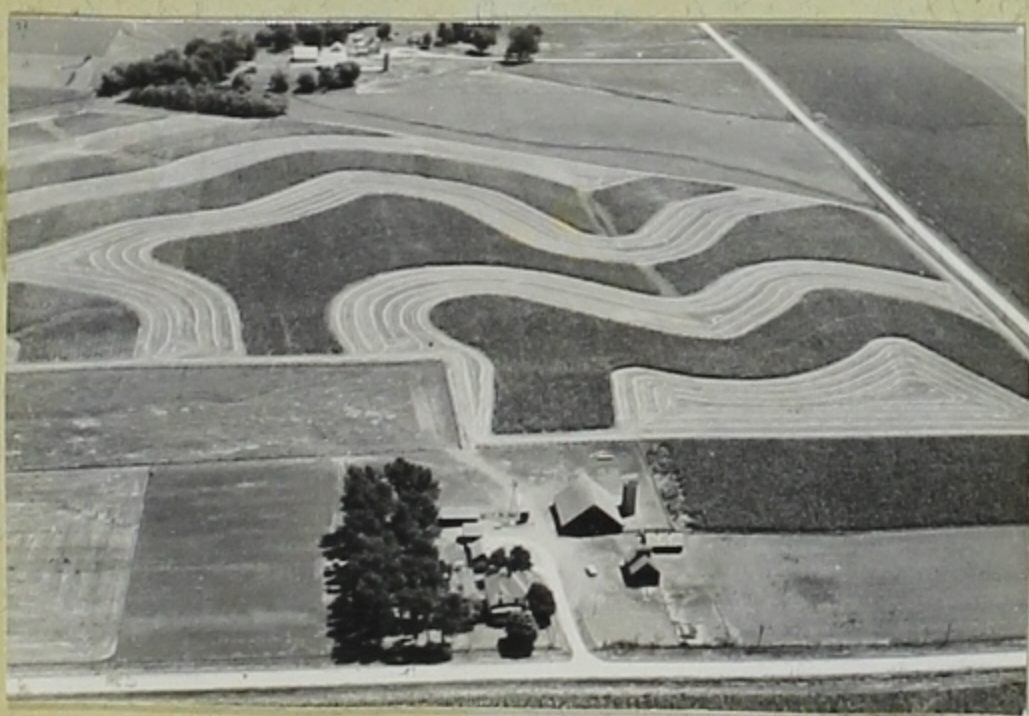
The number of turkeys produced for February through May, 1949, was up 62 percent over that period's total for last year. Fifty-eight percent more turkey eggs were in incubators on June 1, 1949, than on the same date last year. With increasing numbers slated for market, turkey prices will be higher in September and October than later on, says Ralph Baker, Iowa State college economist.

Contoured Strips Add New Design to Landscape



Air Photos by Lee Schwanz

SOIL CONSERVATION is a problem best viewed from the air. There, the raw scars of erosion lie unmasked for all to see. The spots of thin soil show in vivid contrast to the darker hue of fertile fields. Pictured here are two farms near Shellsburg where the pleasing lines of contoured strips cross the slope of the hills and check the eroding force of running water. Above is the farm of W. I. Maynard with shocks of oats dotted between the strips of corn. The faint lines of two soil saving terraces lie left of the point of trees. At right is the farm of Walter Knutsen with oat harvest just under way. Beyond his farm the contours of a neighbor also are visible. When whole communities present this picture of contoured beauty, a permanent agriculture will be within our grasp.



Harold McLennan Has a Field of "Succotash"



YES THIS FIELD MAY LOOK CRAZY, but so did contouring when it first started. This picture shows a field planted 2 rows of corn alternated with 2 rows of soy beans on the Harold McLennan farm, 1 1/2 miles

north of Hartwick. It is something new and may be the fore-runner of a new farming practice, just as contouring and strip cropping were on this same farm 15 years ago. —UNION photo.

Harold McLennan Tries Alternating Corn and Soy Beans

You are sure to blink once. You may blink twice if you happen down the road past the Harold McLennan place a mile and a half north of Hartwick. The reason that you will probably do some blinking is that in fields north and south of his house you will find them planted with two rows of corn alternated with two rows of soybeans. Most farmers plant an entire field to one crop or the other, but never so far as we know has any farmer in this community alternated the rows in this manner.

Mr. McLennan conceived the idea after reading one of the popular farm journals. In one of the articles it was stated that tests have shown that corn usually yields best on the outside rows. That was reason No. 1.

Reason No. 2 was that everybody knows that beans keep the soil loosened up more than does corn, and therefore, make it more subject to washing than a field of corn, even when it is planted on the contour.

With these two ideas in mind—giving all the corn more sunlight and helping to hold the soil on his contoured fields, plus a third one—reducing his corn acreage under the AAA—he planted two fields this spring in the manner described above—of two rows of corn and two rows of soybeans. The two fields total approximately 35 acres, giving him about 17 1/2 acres devoted to each crop.

Asked about the corn shading the soybeans, McLennan was of the opinion that by the time the corn has reached that stage, the soybeans will almost have reached their maximum height and that such lack of sunshine as they might receive, will not do any harm.

About Harvesting

Then The Union's reporter asked another question. That was: How are you going to harvest one crop or the other, without tramping down the one that still stands, since both crops are harvested at about the same time? Well, he had a good answer to that one, too. It was that he has a self-propelled combine that will take two rows of beans at a time, so that it wouldn't make any difference what kind of a corn picker he used. On the other hand, if he decided to harvest the corn first, he also has a two row mounted type corn picker. He is setting alright either way.

Mr. McLennan isn't making any prediction on the outcome of the experiment, but is simply trying it to see first-hand whether the idea works, and what the final outcome is, before he decides to continue or enlarge the practice next year.

Pioneers at Contouring

He does point out, however, that it was on this same farm some 15 years ago that his father Waldo McLennan was the first in the community to try contouring. Not only was it proved successful

for them as a farming practice, but likewise saved much of their soil—a very important matter to a farm as rolling as his. Furthermore, a few years later when the CCC came to Belle Plaine and with it the Soil Conservation specialists, contouring was the very thing they advocated then and are still advocating. On rolling farms the practice is almost universally accepted now by the better farmers.

Such may or may not be the case with alternating beans and corn. Corn yields, bean yields, amount of soil will tell the tale. At any rate McLennan is going to find out first hand.

It Holds Back the Water!



THE WHIRLWIND TERRACER really does the job for soil conservation! It piles up the dirt about 15 inches high. When it rains the mound, which is on the land's contour, holds back the water and thus holds land erosion to a minimum. This picture was taken in October of 1947 on the Paul Raabe farm east of Belle Plaine. —UNION photo.

Terraces Aid In Controlling Soil Erosion

Local Farmers Listed For Conservation Work; Two Principles Told.

During the past year the soil conservation technicians of Benton county have laid out a total of 5,040 feet of terraces for construction in Benton county. Among the farmers who did a considerable amount of terracing on their farms were Dick Schild, Robert Allers, and Walter Boehmke of Belle Plaine, Howard McLeod of Elberton, W. A. Drake of Blairtown and Franklin Jacobi of Watkins.

Other farmers who are successfully using terrace systems on their farms in the south part of the county are H. L. McLennan and son, Charles L. F. Koep and son, Stan, John Schild and Donald Junge, all of Belle Plaine.

Many more miles of terracing is planned for Benton county besides the 60 miles of terraces now in use.

Success in stopping water erosion on cultivated land usually depends on a combination of a number of practices.

Ranking high on the list is a system of well-constructed terraces. These barriers to erosion may be constructed by a number of different methods. They may be

of different types and they may be level or have varying degrees of fall. But their purpose is the same—to turn flowing water from its downhill sweep and carry it slowly across the slope to a waterway where it can be safely allowed to find its way to lower levels.

Skill Required

Terrace layout is a job that requires some skill. The spacing between terraces varies with the steepness of slope. It's necessary that terraces be laid so there are no pockets to hold water or lay places which will result in break-throughs.

Size of the terraces depends upon the area which it drains and the length.

Regardless of other factors there are no two basic principles to terrace construction! A terrace system must always start at the top of the slope and work down. With graded terraces there must be an adequate outlet for excess water which often flow from the terrace. Unless this outlet is provided serious gullying may occur.

Terraces often may empty on a permanent pasture or into a wooded area. They may come out to a well sodded waterway. If they don't it is necessary to provide an outlet. This outlet should be well sodded and have a broad flat channel.

Need Outlets

Most farmers who are successfully using terraces provide the needed outlets before the terraces are built. This may mean planning ahead a year or two in order to get them shaped and sodded.

Farming must follow the contour when terraces are used. The terrace ridges are usually used as guide lines for planting intertilled crops and other fields.

Plowing terraces fields on the contour will keep the terrace built up if back furrows are thrown to the ridges. Plowing in any other manner will only tear them down.

Likewise, other field operations will destroy the terraces if they are not done parallel to the terrace.

Because terraces can be built with an ordinary two bottom tractor plow almost every farmer now has the equipment to do the job. Equally good results are being obtained with several different types of disk plows. Also satisfactory is a large blade—the machine most frequently used in early terrace construction.



Tractor in field



Tractor in field

Tractor in field



Shellsburg Grower Increases Corn & Oats Yields 60 to 70 Bushels More Per Acre As Result of Farm Plan That Works Miracles

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Shellsburg, Oct. 7.—Ten years ago when Harry Carr bought a 120-acre farm half a mile north of here even the former owner told Carr he would starve to death in a year.

"Later I told him he didn't know how close he came to being right," Carr said. "It was run down as bad as a farm can get."

Corn yields ran 10 to 20 bushels per acre, oats weren't even worth combining and hay, well, hay was just a big laugh. Also a laugh was the flock of sheep Carr bought. He thought that everyone who moved into the hills should have sheep, so he bought some. "They really laughed at my lamb program," he said, "because of the stinging I got."

Things Have Changed.

Today, four years after he signed up for a farm plan with U. S. Conservationist Glenn Heady and the Benton county soil conservation district commission, Carr gets 80-bushel corn, 80-bushel oats and his sheep command premiums for their wool on the Cedar Rapids market.

How did he do it? With the farm plan—the first, incidentally, in Benton county—and "with hard work." "Don't forget the hard work," Carr said, that he and his wife did during the years.

In addition to paying off the \$5,700 Carr gave for the farm, his crop and livestock program have also enabled him to erect a big new dairy barn on the place, a new cement silo, put a full basement under the house and build an addition on the back and landscape the premises. The last is a job now being completed.

The farm hadn't been fertilized or limed or fenced when the Carrs took over and some of the land had a 20 per cent slope. Gullies literally covered the cropland, making extremely short corn rows, and every time it rained and rained hard more topsoil went tumbling off the Fayette slopes.

His farm plan called for terracing, establishment of waterways, strip-cropping and the proper use of fertilizers. "Don't forget that 'proper use,'" Carr cautioned. "There is nothing in the world more badly used on farms today than fertilizer."

Mammoth Clover First.

Carr used 4-12-8 and limed the fields at the same time. The first year he planted mammoth clover, similar to red clover only it grows higher and stronger. He put that on 20 acres and plowed it under. The next year he limed and fertilized and sowed oats. As a result he got 80 bushels to the acre. A neighbor, Carl Wilt, who does custom combining, said the Carr oats came out of the combine faster than any oats he had ever harvested. The variety was Clinton.

The third year he seeded to alfalfa-brome and he is now on a three-year hay program on that particular field. Carr's program is corn, oats and then three years



HARRY CARR STANDS IN a field that four years ago was producing around 10 to 20 bushels of corn to the acre. Last year it hit 80 bushels per. This year looks like another 80-bushels. Oats fields now return him 60 to 80 bushels and his hay crop is phenomenal on land that previously just didn't raise hay.

piece and next year 30 of the acres will be built up with terracing and corn will be planted.

Of course, it's a small operation, as Carr points out, but in four years the changes that have occurred are almost unbelievable. All waterways are grassed now so that you can't find a gully on the place; crops are big; the stock program is thriving; the farm is paid for and new buildings have been added.

"It Can Be Done."

"This is my passion," the 49-year-old grower explained. "It just shows that it can be done," that is, something can be created from virtually nothing.

Until 10 years ago, Carr had been a renter all his life in the Shellsburg area. He decided he wanted a place of his own, and he ended up with the 120 acres he now has. He and his wife are rightfully proud of it. They continue to read all the farm improvement literature they can get their hands on and they continue to plan betterments for their own place. "But don't forget," Carr added, "it took a lot of hard work."

The Shellsburg grower explained that his philosophy of life was built around this quotation: "The impossible is accomplished only by those who don't believe it's impossible."



CARR'S WOOL PRODUCTION is the envy of many sheep raisers. Good land generally means good stock. Here he holds up a 300-pound ewe from the flock which commands premium wool prices at Cedar Rapids markets.

FARMERS FIND TERRACES PAY

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

The fact that terraces constructed on the cropping fields pay their way was attested to by many farmers in Benton county this past week when the heavy rains came on the already saturated soil.

After looking over their fields following the heavy rains Dick Pippert and George Reed of Garrison and Gus Pardun of Brandon all said, in effect, that although terrace construction with the mold board plow and tractor seemed like a long and tedious job that they were well paid for the effort. In constructing his 5400 feet of terraces Pardun figured he drove his tractor and plow 200 miles. The other men who used tractors and plows drove a comparable distance to construct their terraces.

During the past spring an additional 18 miles of terraces were added to the 45 miles of terraces that had already been in use. Those farmers who finished more terraces on their farms this spring included Glenn Christy, Rommann Gardner and Walter Heineman of Garrison, Bob Baldrige, Everett Yerkes, Maurice Caldwell, Max Gleason, Benton County Home, Rudolph Halva, and Charles Sauer of Vinton, W. A. Drake Farms of Blainstown, H. S. Lames of Dysart, McQuillen Brothers of La Porte City, Robert Allers and Dick Schild of Belle Plaine, Howard McLeod of Elberon, Franklin Jacobi of Norway, Fay Pardun of Brandon, and Charles Zieser of Walker.

Terraces are a very successful means of controlling water erosion on the land and for the most part they are more appreciated by men who farm with them as time continues. They are the most successful mechanical means of soil erosion control used by farmers followed closely by strip cropping to save the soil.

On All Makes of Radios
EXPERT SERVICE
OSCAR PRESCOTT
RADIO
Blainstown, Ia. Phone 721
By Appointment
X-Ray and Neurological
CHIROPRACTOR
DR. W. F. IRMITER
CHIROPRACTORS
Memorials & Markers
Builders of Family
Authorized "Rock of Ages" Dealer
Rep. of Iowa Memorial Co.
Newhall, Iowa
CHESTER TUTTLE
MEMORIALS
Office Phone 112, Res. Phone 167
Office 405 A Ave.
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON
L. W. KOONTZ, M. D.



RUDY HALVA, shown above cultivating corn on his river bottom field, is one of the men in the Brandon area who realize the need for conservation of the soil, and takes the time to improve the land with the use of good farming practices.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Rudy Halva, while he was a

renter on the E. F. Halva farm, built the land in 1946, and plowed. When he had considerable experience in conservation farming that experience the manager of the farm.

Much of his in the flat river the cultivated land is contoured and has some renovation is planted to grass and terraces.

His annual markets about and 125 hogs.

Rudy has a woodworking shop where he uses acres of native woods he built, consists of three sons, Carroll, is at Iowa State, other two attend school.

Strip Cropping Ups Yields for Clarence Olson

**Corn Harvest Raised
From 36 to 100 Bushels
On Parts of One Field**

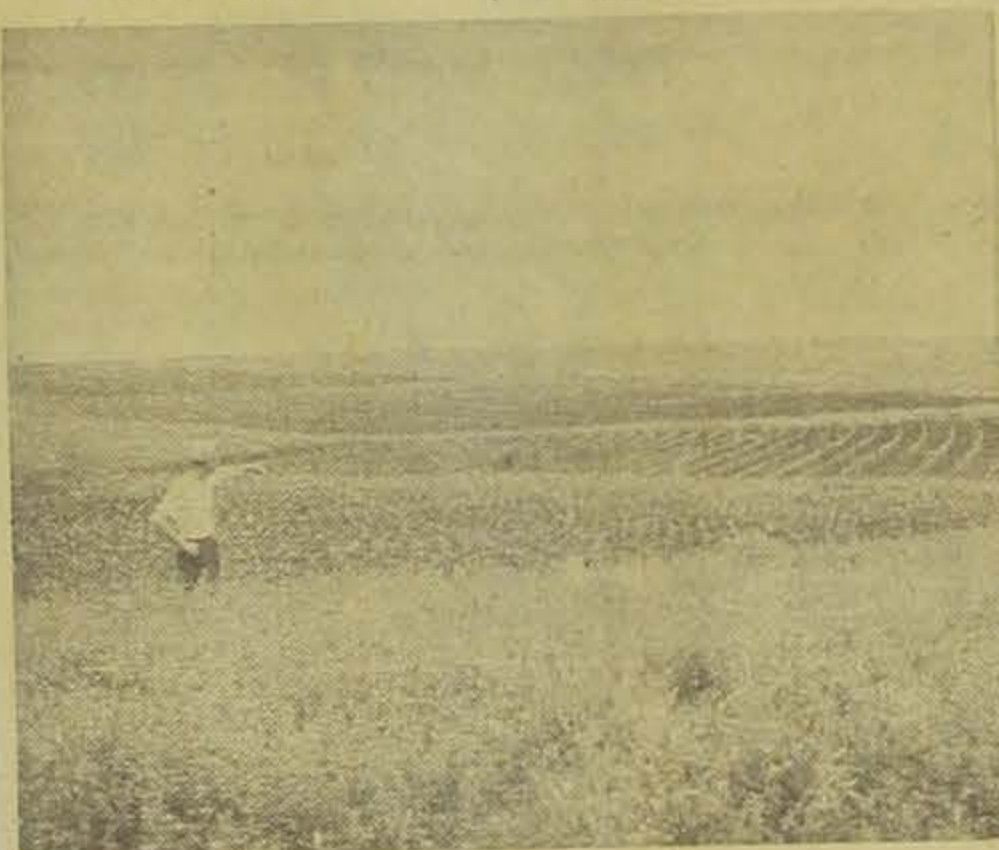
KEYSTONE — When Clarence Olson began farming on his present farm he could not get more than 36 bushels to the acre on parts of this field. He put the 76-acre field under strip cropping with a rotation of corn-oats-meadow.

Last year there were no sections of the field on which the yield was less than 100 bushels to the acre.

Clarence says, "I'm getting to really like strip crop farming. I don't have one short row when I plant, and I know it helps hold the plant nutrients in the field." The field shows very little erosion, though it is quite steep in places.

Clarence has a gully on his farm that has been filled in by dozers. He seeded the waterway in grass and it is stabilizing very well.

Mr. Olson has been very active in telling neighboring farmers about the good results he has derived from strip cropping, contouring, and other conservation measures.



CLARENCE OLSON, pictured above on a strip cropped field on his 260-acre farm near Keystone, points to a corn area that has had the yield tripled since he began conservation farming seven years ago.



GLEN PARDUN, pictured above near a terrace, informed us it was about 11 years ago he got the idea to construct terraces on his land. He had visited, with other local farmers, a terraced field on the Charles Sauer farm on a Field Day demonstration. One week later after Glen had freshly seeded his field a hard rain occurred and 10 inches of topsoil washed down to the outlet of the field. The same rain caused very little soil erosion on Sauer's terraced field. So that made a "believer" of Glen, and he immediately began a terracing program on his own farm. At present Glen Pardun has 10.17 miles of terraces on his land and is very satisfied with the soil stabilizing job they perform.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Glen, who farms 275 acres south of Brandon, is father, Fay Pardun, has all the land that is cultivated.

he paid out only \$135 help, and he claims the land takes too much you couldn't prove

Glen is feeding 70 hogs, and 270 spring

an has been a conservation farmer for 10 years. The first terraces on the farm were built with a tractor 100 miles these first terraces.

Glen terraced a field into a road ditch. had to have the silt of it three times in 8 years. "However, faced the field I feel the problem is solved. I see no eroded silt ditch bottom after spring rains," he says. been married for 14 years. The Parduns have two boys. They enjoy and ponies and take rural activities.



HARRY ZIMMER, who farms on the Leland Fry place near Brandon, is shown holding the leaves from two stalks of the ten Giant Sweet corn, which, according to George Carlson, is the "tallest sweet corn the Great American company has planted this year." Zimmer gives credit for the tall corn to the fact it was planted on the contour.

Paul Gahan Starts Terracing In 1951 To Control Erosion

Monroe Township of Benton County, Iowa, is among the very top in the state in the use of terracing as a means of controlling erosion on cropland. Benton County itself is excelled only by a few counties in Western Iowa in miles of terraces on the cropland.

It was Paul Gahan, living one mile east of Dysart, who started the "ball rolling" in the use of terraces as a conservation practice back in 1951. These were the first to be constructed in Monroe Township, and were built by R. W. Hall of Vinton. Since then the earth moving companies of Grau Brothers of Garrison, McQuilken of La Porte City, and Kramer Brothers of Urbana have continued to add many miles of

terraces to the farms of Monroe Township.

The northeastern farms of Monroe Township have on the average the greatest acreage of terraced land. However, terraced fields can also be found on the farms of Herb Schroeder, Willard Ohde, Peter Lamprecht, and Charles Fisher, as well as on the farm of Paul Gahan. Other farms with terraced cropland fields in the township include those of Mrs. Bernice Glime, Mrs. Thelma Reed, Vinton Popcorn Company, Green Giant Company, W. E. Burd, Arthur Sears, Lester Noe, Robert Sawyer, J. Raymond Stock, Leland Ashley, Walter Heineman, and Ralph Underwood.

Cuts Hog Production Costs Fifty Per Cent



Daily Times Photo Engraving

ABOVE IS PART OF THE DROVE of fall pigs raised by Walter E. Boehmke of Iowa township on brome-alfalfa pasture and nothing else. From 15 sows he got 135 husky pigs. In addition, earlier this year he put 150 pounds on 60 spring pigs by turning them into more brome-alfalfa. Boehmke figures each brome-alfalfa acre has been worth \$200 to him this year, and his pork production costs out in half. Boehmke is shown below with two of the market hogs that received grass for feed.



Daily Times Photo Engraving

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Several years ago Walter E. Boehmke, young Iowa township conservation farmer, heard of a hog producer who fattened porkers without corn. He just turned them out into a brome-alfalfa field and, except for water, forgot about them till market time. As it did to other Benton farmers who heard of this experiment, it seemed crazy to Boehmke. But this year he decided to try it. As a result, he found his brome-alfalfa fields to be worth at least \$200 an acre to him and much of the labor involved in pork production has been cut to a minimum.

In September Boehmke, who farms 160 acres three miles north of Belle Plaine, marketed 60 hogs, farrowed March 10 at an average weight of 193 pounds. From farrowing time till they were brought in from a three-acre brome-alfalfa field to be finished off on corn they had had no feed save the grasses, and they weighed a sturdy 150 pounds apiece. They were fed for three weeks in the feedlot on corn to give them the added weight. Meanwhile, Boehmke had taken 65 bales of hay from the three acres at the first cutting.

Production Costs Clipped

His spring pig production costs, he figured, were cut 50 per cent by the alfalfa-brome grazing.

Having such success with the spring crop, the young farmer decided to try the brome-alfalfa technique out with his fall schedule. Accordingly, he turned 15 sows out on another acre and a half of brome-alfalfa at breeding time. They got no grain whatsoever, and they farrowed 135 hus-

Alfalfa Brome Produces Low Cost Pig Crop

BELLE PLAINE—It didn't take much grain, to get fall pigs off to a good start on Walter Boehmke's farm north of Belle Plaine. Sows were kept on good alfalfa-brome pasture throughout the summer with no grain at all. Two weeks before farrowing they got a little oats and no corn was fed.

Boehmke decided to try keeping his sows on a pasture ration after hearing the system advocated in a grassland conference in Cedar Rapids two years ago. He wasn't sure it would work but decided to give it a try anyway.

Gilts Put on Pasture

On May 10 he put 17 fall gilts on alfalfa brome and forgot them. Water was supplied automatically and the rest of their feed came from the legumes, including all protein needs.

The results were good; Fifteen gilts farrowed 135 live pigs. The gilts were in fair condition and pigs were active and able to look after themselves.

The second gilt to farrow had no milk for her litter. That gave Boehmke an uneasy day or two. But the remainder of the sows had a good supply for their pigs.

The Benton county farmer figures his alfalfa brome pasture slashed feed costs for the sows by 60 percent. It resulted in good pigs produced at a fraction of the cost of corn feeding.

Boehmke devoted about five acres of alfalfa-brome to his hog enterprise this year. Two acres went to the sows bred for fall farrowing and the rest was assigned to 60 spring pigs.

Pigs Did Well

The pigs did about as well as the sows in making good use of roughage. They received only a bushel of corn and a bushel of oats per day from weaning time until the first of September. In

fact, they got just 62 bushels of corn in all.

In September, Boehmke put them on full feed. As this feed began, the pigs weighed 140 to 150 pounds. Three weeks later the top cut was put on the market weighing 193 pounds.

The use of alfalfa brome pasture has enabled Boehmke to keep his production costs down. At the same time, he got a good return from the acres devoted to the soil building legume and grass mixture. Counting his feed saving on spring pigs and low cost fall farrowing, his pasture acres probably made a return of nearly \$200 per acre.

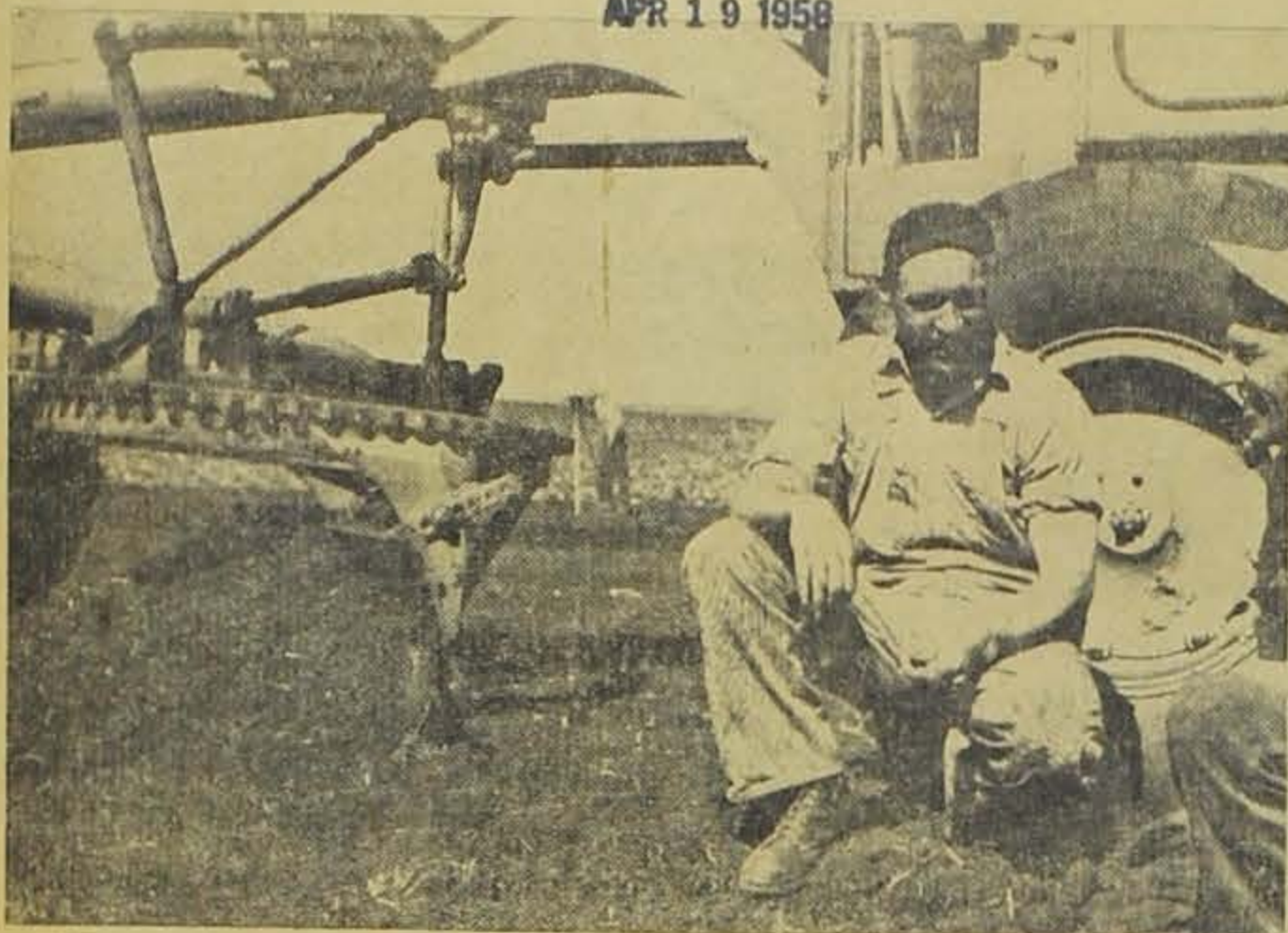


Gazette photo

LOW COST PIGS — These husky pigs were farrowed on Walter Boehmke's farm near Belle Plaine by sows that received no corn during gestation. They were placed on good alfalfa-brome pasture in May and received only a small amount of oats in the last two weeks before farrowing. Fifteen sows farrowed 135 pigs for an average of nine per litter.

Terrace Land, Plant Trees in Farm Conservation

APR 19 1958



TERRACE CONSTRUCTION equipment forms the background in the top picture of Parmater, Bruce township farmer, and Henry Grau, his contractor. Grau has been co-planting 21,000 feet of terrace on this farm, which is owned by Ray Parmater (not shown) and his son, Robert. Barely visible in the background is Russell Adams, a technician of the State Soil Conservation service, who laid out the terraces on the Parmater farm. The more than 50 percent of the farmers who are applying terraces this year already began programs in past years indicates that they appreciate the results of terracing, according to Hedy, work unit conservationist of the SCS. The lower picture shows Robert Konicek, township, at right, explaining to his wife how the tree planting machine placed trees in the Marvin Phelps, sitting on the planter, at left, kept the trees in readiness for the plant than 30,000 trees and shrubs were planted on 24 farms in Benton county this spring. reported.



The Leland Goodells (right) with their landlord, Mrs. Jess St. Clair, and her son, Clyde.

Tenant and Landlord Both Profit From Soils Work

1957 Soil Conservation Achievement Awards

VINTON, IA.

INCREASED CROP YIELDS and highly productive pastures are the direct result of conservation farming on the 184-acre farm owned by Mrs. Jess St. Clair, a widow, and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Leland A. Goodell.

The St. Clair farm, two miles southwest of Vinton, was selected as the state winner in the landlord-tenant operated farms division of the Soil Conservation Achievement Awards program because of close co-operation between owner and operator in conservation work.

Conservation practices installed on the farm include nine miles of terrace, three miles of grassed waterways, an erosion control structure, 10,000 feet of drain tile, establishment of a five-year crop rotation, and planting and growing all crops on the contour.

Goodell, 39, a World War II veteran, got his first experience with conservation farming when he and his wife, Margie, moved onto the St. Clair farm early in 1952.

"I farmed up and down hill before we moved here," he

said recently. "Farming around the hills is a lot different than farming with straight rows, but I'm convinced it's the only proper way to farm and save your soil and water."

GOODELL PRAISED Mrs. St. Clair and her son, Clyde, Vinton business man who manages the farm, for their close co-operation and their sympathetic understanding of a tenant's problems.

The St. Clairs give Goodell a relatively free hand in cropping plans and livestock operations. If he needs something, he buys it and sends the bill to the St. Clairs.

"Goodell's a good farmer, knows what he's doing, and that's the kind of an operator we want," Clyde said in discussing their landlord-tenant working relationship.

The St. Clairs and Goodell have a 50-50 share lease on everything. All feed and hay grown on the farm is fed to livestock, and additional corn and oats are purchased.

The livestock program consists of raising around 375 market pigs a year and maintaining a 20-cow Angus herd to produce feeder calves. With bigger yields and more

hay, the plan is to double the size of the cow herd.

Annual gross income from the farm has ranged from \$13,000 to \$19,000 in the six years Goodell has operated the farm. The annual net has been \$3,000 to \$5,000 each for landlord and tenant.

"The St. Clairs have been very good to us," Goodell said. "When we moved here we put in a bathroom, septic tank and pressure water system and they bought everything needed to make the improvements. When we put in an electric range, the St. Clairs paid for the wiring."

CROPS THIS YEAR include 68 acres of corn which neighbors believe will yield 100 bushels per acre. (Goodell's estimate is 90.) His oats yielded 60 bushels per acre.

Indicative of Goodell's conservatism is his statement that "if it was all my business, I'd probably take more risks. But the way it is, I've got to look out for the landlord's interest and I want to keep them happy."

The terraces, built with a road maintenance machine, have virtually stopped water runoff and erosion.

Water control structure in a grassed waterway on the St. Clair land.





ANGUS HEIFERS shown above are part of 50 bought recently by Henry J. Grunewald of near Blairstown. Mr. Grunewald has been a cattle feeder for half a century, but started this year, for the first time, to raise his own calves. The heifers will be bred to calve on grass next May. He has a total of 63 Angus heifers and may later increase the herd to 100.

Grunewald's New System Will Utilize Surplus Feed

By the Associate Farm Editor.

BLAIRSTOWN—After 50 years of buying feeder cattle, Henry J. Grunewald is getting ready to produce his own calves for the first time.

For their new venture, Mr. Grunewald and his sons, John and Hank, chose Angus cattle. They have 63 heifers and an Angus bull in pastures now, and plan to purchase another bull soon. The heifers will be bred to calve next May on grass.

"Angus are dehorned the day they are born," Hank said, "and there seems to be less trouble when the heifers have their first calves."

Will Utilize Hay, Pasture

Mr. Grunewald explained that they began the new plan to utilize the surplus hay and pasture land. They have purchased a 320-acre farm southwest of Blairstown that will all be in brome and alfalfa eventually.

"We think we can raise calves almost as cheap as we can buy them, and at the same time use up our hay and pasture," Mr. Grunewald pointed out. "And it will also make our cattle business a year-round proposition. An old cow can consume a tremendous amount of roughage, and we have lots of it. We've sold a thousand bales of hay this year and have between six and seven thousand bales left now. We plan to feed the poorer hay to the cows and use the good hay for the calves."

Big Cattle Valuable

Hank used a drove of Hereford steers that they turned into corn fields last fall as an example of the value of having big cattle around.

"We got those steers about September 20, from Texas and their range weight was 750 pounds," he explained. "We turned them into the stalks until the first of December and they weighed 860 pounds then. That's over a hundred pounds of gain for each steer that we feel was practically given to us."

The big steers are on full feed in a feedlot now at another of the Grunewalds' farms on the outskirts of Blairstown. They weigh about 1,200 pounds now and will be marketed some time this summer, Hank said.

May Increase Herd

Mr. Grunewald said that they may increase their Angus herd to around 100 cows, but they won't stop buying feeder stock.

"Our aim," he said, "is to have enough cattle each year to consume all the feed we produce."

In addition to the big steers, the Grunewalds have 100 smaller Hereford calves on pasture at the home place northwest of Blairstown. They bought the calves last November and fed them grass silage supplemented with grain through the winter. Hank said that he figures the steers have put on between 280 and 290 pounds, or around two pounds per head for each day.

Looking back over his half-century of feeding cattle, Mr. Grunewald said that he still likes it and that "the first 20 years were the hardest."

"We carried all the feed on our shoulders then, and wore hip boots in the feed lots," he said. "Then we began paying the feedlots and got wagons that turn shorter. It's a lot easier to feed cattle now."



MR. GRUNEWALD looks over one of the purebred bulls he'll use to produce his own feeding stock. The herd will help to utilize the hay and pasture on Grunewald's farms. He has a 320-acre place southwest of Blairstown that will eventually all be in brome and alfalfa.

Blairstown Pasture Is A Gold Mine

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Blairstown, Sept. 23.—Though it was only a pasture-renovation project, the results sound like a small gold mine on the H. J. Grunewald farm just northwest of Blairstown.

Two years ago Grunewalds renovated a 55-acre pasture. Last year it was used for hay ground; this year it was a pasture carrying about 66 head of Angus heifers and 150 head of Duroc hogs.

The tract was credited with putting 200 pounds per head on the heifers. At \$30 per hundredweight that figures to a neat \$3,960. The pasture was also credit with 100 pounds per hog for a total of 15,000 pounds of pork. Figuring hogs at \$20 per hundredweight, that would add \$3,000 to the value of the pasture.

Totalling the beef and the pork, the 55 acres kicked out \$6,960, or \$126 per acre for the pasture.

The land is Fayette silt loam. Its dollars and cents return is probably better than any Tama silt loam land—the best in the county—will do this year growing corn or beans. And, of course, it was done without cost of cultivation, plowing, tending the crop or harvesting it.

CHEAP LAND COMEBACK

Some of the Midwest's steep land of timber origin, when put under proper pasture management, has paid out \$126 an acre in livestock returns in a single season for Henry J. Grunewald and his two sons, John and Henry, Jr., near Blairstown, Benton County, Iowa. This is nearly three times the \$47 an acre they paid for the 55-acre pasture four years ago.

Glenn Heady, U. S. soil conservationist for the county, who was in on the pasture-renovation program, said, "Such land under proper management will kick out almost as much cash as the finest Tama silt loam. In fact the Grunewalds' yield in dollars per acre is probably better than any Tama silt loam in Benton County did this year growing corn or soybeans, and it was done without cost of cultivation."

The Grunewald pasture is Fayette silt loam with a slope averaging 12 to 14 per cent. When they acquired it in 1946 it was in thin bluegrass and had been in bluegrass for years. In the spring of 1948 the ground was plowed, worked up thoroughly and seeded to a mixture of 2 bushels of oats, 10 pounds of alfalfa and 8 pounds of brome grass an acre. Three hundred pounds per acre of 0-20-0 were applied. One crop of the 1948 seeding was put up for hay last year; the second crop, very heavy, was left for grazing. This year the 55 acres carried 66 Angus heifers and 150 Duroc hogs. The Grunewalds credited the pasture with putting 200 pounds per head on the heifers and 100 pounds per head on the hogs. Figuring the heifers at \$30 a hundredweight, the return on the beef was \$3,960. The hogs figured at \$20 a hundredweight gave a pork return of \$3,000. This made a total of \$6,960 or an average of \$126 an acre.

—BERTRAM H. KRUSE.

BROME PROFITS AT VAN HORNE & BLAIRSTOWN

Farmers Get Unusually
High Returns From
Acres in Grass.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Among the Benton county farmers who this year have profited from producing grass seed, especially brome grass seed, are William H. Reinberg Sr. of Blairstown and Bernard Smith of Van Horne.

Smith will take about \$225 per acre from 25 acres of brome this year, minus about \$4 an acre for nitrogen fertilizer and \$8 an acre for combining.

Reinberg will take about \$112 per acre, figuring brome grass seed at \$45 per hundred pounds, from seven acres. His farm is located in the hills about 3½ miles southwest of Blairstown.

Smith, who farms 2¼ miles northwest of Van Horne, got about 10,000 pounds of brome grass seed from 25 acres. The land is Tama silt loam. It ran to about 500 pounds per acre. Bob Allers of Belle Plaine did the combining.

Neither Smith nor Reinberg nor any other Benton farmers producing brome grass, however, are selling this fall. At Cedar Rapids inquiry showed that \$10 and \$12 per hundred pounds was the offer. The price will shoot up next spring, which is when the Benton seed will be sold. Bentonians paid between \$55 and \$60 for seed last spring.



BILL REINBERG

—Daily Times Photo Engraving

Reinberg also made his land pay off well this year by raising alfalfa seed. He got three to four bushels per acre from around 12 acres. Valuing the seed at \$32, his return would run to better than \$136 an acre. And for 30 days earlier this year the alfalfa was pastured by 42 head of Angus cattle.

Reinberg farms 200 acres, of which about 90 are in pasture. He grows little corn. Three years ago he started seeding both brome grass and alfalfa.

118 Attend Soils Commissioners Banquet Jan. 31

Note Soil Conservation Week

Going All Out for Conservation on The Old Family Farm

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
Don Weichman, Alvin Block installs 5 miles of terraces on the Narber Estate.

W. I. Maynard a Vet Conservation Farmer In Shellsburg Area

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
When W. I. Maynard first attended organized meetings on conservation farming about 10 years ago, he was very willing to comply and put into use the practices recommended to save soil nutrients and on the Tama water on the land. He invited the Glenn Heady, the Benton County conservationist, to look over his farm and asked him, "Where do I start?" Since that date he has established terraces on 75 acres of his farm and still farms and strip cropping on 60 acres. He feels that the effects of these practices have increased the land's productivity by 25 percent, which helps him farm his land takes no and erosion and is a belief longer than it did before. Mike raises shorthorn beef cattle and owns about 50 head of better farming a building breeding stock. In addition he has a major part about a hundred hogs a year. One of Mike's favorite conservation projects is his farm pond. Since a high state Alvin has in addition to providing good stock water it furnishes a nice place for his family and friends.

Brome Grass Makes Tremendously Heavy Pasture



CLARENCE HUPFELD AND DICK CHRISTY, Garrison farmers, look over a second year stand of brome-alfalfa on the Glenn Christy place. Located a mile and a half west of Garrison, the 10-acre field is so high it half-hides grazing Herefords. Christy has 50 acres of brome-alfalfa, is almost as much of a brome enthusiast over the mixture as Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady. Ten pounds of alfalfa and five pounds of brome were seeded to the acre three years ago. Below along a road, Conservationist Heady shows the big difference between blue grass and brome. The blue grass is dwarfed by the brome on the right. As Heady points out, the blue grass has just about reached its height, too, while the brome has several more inches to grow. For pasture, he says, blue grass cannot hold a candle to brome.



Most of the Money Spent by Benton Farmers For Alfalfa, Brome and Red Clover Seed Is Wasted Every Year, According to Tests Made

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
Most Benton county farmers are throwing a lot of money away every year by their manner of seeding alfalfa, red clover and brome grass, among other forage crops, according to data provided this week in Vinton by Ralph Krenzin, Iowa State college extension agronomist.

Speaking at the Benton county soil conservation district commission's cooperators' day that attracted about 175 farm men and women to the Vinton Legion hall, Krenzin declared that tests show that when alfalfa seed is disked in to a depth of two inches, a mere seven per cent of the seeds comes up in plants.

A show of hands in the hall indicated that most farmers put alfalfa in with a disk, the rest with a drill.

\$93 Out of \$100 Wasted!

In other words, Krenzin pointed out, for every \$100 worth of alfalfa seed planted two inches



REED CANARY GRASS seeded in a low area on KaDel farm near Vinton picture for Urice Brothers' purebred Shorthorns. Lying between two hills, the area surface water following heavy rains. The reed canary grass has effectively halted erosion.

Reed Canary Is Good Crop for Low-Lying Land

By Harold Cleal.

Reed canary grass has found another place in our farm picture. Tests show that this grass, which is well adapted to wet, poorly drained soil, is successful for gully control and grassed waterways. Reed canary grass has the ability to seed up shoots from the nodes on the stalk when the grass is chopped into four and six-inch lengths and dished into the waterways or gully banks.

For use in gully control the recommended practice is to establish a small area of canary grass, then remove sod pieces for planting in eroded areas. The grass spreads rapidly and soon forms a heavy sod. By using a small sod nursery you have a continuous supply of new plants for checking any gullies or low spots that may develop.

In Iowa, forced canary grass is the recommended variety. This new variety has been developed by crossing 10 of the best varieties to form this new variety. Some of the characteristics that were stressed in breeding forced were leafiness, high production and good seed yield.

Limited amounts of forced canary grass seed may be obtained from Iowa State college. If you are interested in this grass contact your county extension director for more information.

should receive one ounce of the drug plus the one to three ounces of water that is added to it. Last year's lambs should receive one-half the amount given mature sheep. It is not necessary to treat spring lambs. Sheep should be held off feed before dosing.

In drenching, the sheep should be crowded into a small pen, McDonald says to hold the head so that the nostrils are not higher than the eyes. A higher position of the head makes swallowing so difficult that the drench may go to the lungs and produce a fatal pneumonia.

Phenothiazine can also be given by mixing it in the feed. However, this method is not as sure of getting good results as drenching.

Reeds Canary Grass Helpful in Waterways

Reeds Canary grass, although a native of this section of Iowa at one time, was almost extinct until a few years ago. When it was discovered that the grass did well on waterways and wet areas it was re-introduced.

The Civilian Conservation corps which was located at Belle Plaine played a great part in the Reeds Canary grass planted in this area. Small areas of it are found on a number of farms surrounding Belle Plaine, according to Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady. Largest areas are on the George Radeke farm east of here, and the John Tatge place northeast of here.



LADINO CLOVER IN BENTON COUNTY — Howard Knupp, left, and Glen Heady of the Benton soils office found a good growth of ladino when they inspected Knupp's new seeding last week. His five acres is one of the first plots in the county. Seeded at the rate of one-half pound to the acre, the thick stand averages six inches in height and has runners up to 18 inches long with roots in several places.

Knupp Ladino Seeding Makes Thick Stand

By Lee Schwanz.

VINTON—One of Benton county's first plots of ladino clover on the Howard Knupp farm six miles southeast of Vinton will take a thick, vigorous growth into the winter.

Knupp's five acres was seeded last spring. Using an endgate seeder, about one-half pound of the seed was spread per acre. It was mixed with alfalfa and timothy seed. Oats served as a nurse crop.

When inspected last week, the ladino appeared in much better condition than either the alfalfa or the timothy. It is growing in a thick stand averaging six inches in height. Runners up to 18 inches long are shooting out from the roots. Most of these are rooted every inch or so.

Work Unit Conservationist Glen Heady, of the Benton district, says runners will sprout from these roots next year and many will project 10 to 18 feet.

Knupp plans to use his ladino for hog pasture. Portable houses will be moved to the field next spring and sows and litters turned out to take advantage of the high protein forage.

His seed came from Wisconsin at a cost of \$3 per pound. At the half pound per acre rate, his seed cost was \$1.50 per acre.

The Wisconsin seed should be well adapted to Benton county climate, Knupp believes, and will stand the winter in good shape. Since it is a perennial, he expects to have good pasture from the seeding for several years.

Reeds Canary Grass



GLENN F. HEADY, soils conservationist for Benton county, is shown here measuring the height of Reeds Canary grass growing on the highway next to the George Radeke farm east of Belle Plaine.



—Daily Times Photo-Engraving

SOIL CONSERVATION PLAYS an important part today in the vocational curriculum, and one of the keystones of conservation is preventing good topsoil from washing away. Grassed waterways in fields are the answer to much of this erosion, and every farmer in the county who cares a hang for his land today has waterways or is building them. The best plants for waterways have been studied with care by the Vinton ag students. Reed's Canary grass, came out first, of course, with brome second. Other grasses sometimes used are shown above on the board. These specimens were taken from Vinton fields. A square foot of sod six inches deep was dug and then all the soil washed away to show the best root systems for halting waterflow. On the board above, besides Reed's, are timothy, alfalfa, ladino clover, alfalfa (one of the poorest for holding qualities) and orchard grass. Instructor McAlexander points out Reed's to the senior students.

Brome-Alfalfa or Blue Grass for Pasture?



ALFALFA-BROME OR BLUE-GRASS advantages for pasture should be quite evident in these two pictures, both taken on the Howard McLeod farm, six miles north of here. Notice how high the bluegrass comes on the cattle's legs compared to the alfalfa-brome surrounding the men in the picture at right. Howard uses the alfalfa-brome for a night pasture for his dairy herd. According to conservation men alfalfa-brome grass is the coming pasture. Advantages: helps build soil; builds up tonnage of forage feed per acre; has a good root system; when plowed under it adds texture to soil; give four times more and higher quality grass; it is nutritious and succulent. Men in the picture left to right: Glen Heady, soil conservation officer of Benton county Howard McLeod, Earl Wallace, Vinton, district soils commissioner; Herman Franzburg, chairman of district soils commission, and Kenneth Kramer, extension director of Benton county. Henry J. Grunewald, Jr., Blairtown, third member of the commission was not present the day this picture was taken. —UNION photo.



Not a Northern Lake . . . an Iowa Farm Pond



JOHN SCHILD, northeast of here three miles, has a true beauty spot on his farm. This picture shows the recently completed pond nestled in among the hills in the timber. It is about one-eighth of a mile away from the house but not visible from the road. Water draining from the hills keeps the pond filled. Mr. and Mrs. Schild have a picnic bench on the small hill in the center of this picture. The overflow is at the left of the small tree. —UNION photo.

Herm Stettler Entertains Isaac Walton Leaguers



THIS PICTURE TAKEN BESIDE JOHN SCHILD'S POND SHOWS PART OF THE 75 or more men and boys who were entertained by Herman Stettler and his trained dogs recently. At the lower left of the picture one of the dogs is shown retrieving a duck for Stettler who stands at the right. In the background are the men and boys sitting in the shade. —UNION photo.

George Raabe - Dean of Conservation Farmers

Dean of the conservation farmers of Benton county, George Raabe became a conservation farmer in 1937 when the CCC camp moved into Belle Plaine to set up a demonstration project. After investigation to determine his interests and learning of his belief in following the latest scientific methods of farming, George was selected as Benton county's first soils commissioner.

Mr. Raabe served as farmer-advisor to the technical staff, who started many Belle Plaine farmers to farming around the slopes. After the CCC camp project was disrupted George later became assistant district commissioner advising the regularly elected commissioners in their duties for many years.

George is now retired and lives on the 320 acre farm which he and his son, Paul, operate in partnership.

Mr. Raabe is a real believer in saving the topsoil where the crop growing nutrients of the land are contained. He says, "Most of our farmers would feel they had suffered a great loss if the lightning from a storm killed one of their steers, or cows in a pasture. But the value of plant food nutrients lost by erosion in that same storm may far exceed the value of a steer or cow, and the farmer would think nothing of it."

Recollections

Mr. Raabe has many interesting recollections of the past. He was the first farmer in Benton county to use lime to fertilize his soil, and to neutralize the acidity of the land. In 1919 coarse lime could be purchased from rock quarries by just paying the shipping costs. George had a piece of "poor" land which didn't seem to raise corn, so he ordered some lime, and while he was hauling it to his farm the bouncing of the wagon caused the coarser rocks to shift to the top of the load.

When his father saw him with the load he remarked, "We just get done cleaning the rocks off the fields, and now you want to spread them back on."

He lined the field against the advice of his neighbors, and sowed the field in sweet clover. Sweet clover was a new crop at the time and the neighboring farmers were afraid it would spread like a weed and become a real problem. One farmer threatened to serve an injunction on George if he planted this new crop.

Never-the-less, Mr. Raabe went head with his plan, and plowed the clover under to add humus and nitrogen to the soil. The following year George raised a bumper corn crop on this land, and the neighbors quieted down.



GEORGE RAABE and some of the many beautiful flowers growing around his home, is a retired farmer who did much to pioneer modern farming in the Belle Plaine area.

Two More Farm Ponds Laid Out in Benton

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

The number of farm ponds in Benton county will soon total ten, it was noted today as new ponds on the Elmer James place in Iowa township and the H. J. Grunewald & Sons farm near Blairstown were laid out.

Other Bentonians who have previously built ponds are Vernon Alden of Shellsburg, John Schild and Walter Boehmke of Belle Plaine, Swede Cantonwine, Leland Cantonwine and Clarence Stratton, all of Vinton, and Wayne Raabe and William Reinburg, both of Blairstown.

Farm ponds are used for water supplies, fire protection, fishing and swimming and for picnic areas. One of the most beautiful in the county is that of John Schild north of Belle Plaine.

Practice Soil Conservation

Farm Ponds Stop Erosion, Provide Water for Stock

Poetry and literature are filled with reference to the old swimming hole. Yet hundreds of Iowa farm boys have no swimming hole — nor a place to fish.

The memories of many of the older generation of Iowa's citizens are filled with visions of streams that flowed crystal clear throughout the summer. Streams where they fished and swam. The streams where livestock found a cooling drink at will.

Creeks Are Dry

Many of the creeks these people remember now are only a dry stream bed or at the most a miserable trickle during much of the summer. At other times they are a raging torrent — when heavy rains fall on unprotected fields.

Back of these changes is the intensive cropping of Iowa's land. The sod which formerly held back the rains is gone. Now the rain finds its way. Instead of being given forth as springs it is drained by tile to get the land dry so man may farm it.

Now man-made farm ponds are being built. They are man's answer to a violated nature. They are an attempt to provide an alternative for that which man destroyed. And they are doing their work well.

Ponds Store Water

At the head of a gully they stop erosion. They store the water from winter snows and summer rains. They provide a source of livestock water. Stocked with fish they provide sport, recreation and valuable food. For the boy who never had a swimming hole they provide a place for a quick dip at the end of day.

Several Ways to Make Ponds Hold Water

Iowa farmers with ponds that don't hold water might well follow several suggestions made by Dale Hull, extension agricultural engineer at Iowa State college.

If ponds lose water because the soil won't puddle, Hull suggests disk in 1 pound of soda ash for every 20 square feet of soil. This will force puddling in soils which have at least 25 percent clay, he says.

Bentonite, a fine clay with the ability to absorb moisture and expand, has proved very effective in many cases. This material can either be disked in at the rate of one-half to 2 pounds per square foot of surface soil, or the coarse bentonite can be scattered over the water and allowed to settle to the bottom, filling the openings through which the

Four acres drained into a farm pond will put in about 100,000 gallons of water in a year, or enough for 68 head of cattle 4 or 125 days.

Mt. Auburn Man to Head Tree-Planting Program in Benton

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

The Benton county Fish and Game club held a board of directors meeting last night at the RNA hall. Because the icy conditions of the roads cut into the attendance a special board meeting was called by Pres. Kenneth Register, to take the place of the regular board meeting which lacked a quorum.

Register named Lloyd Selk of Mt. Auburn to take charge of the tree-planting program this year. Date of the event will be announced later. Last year the club planted 38,500 trees throughout Benton county with help from Boy Scout organizations.

No figure has been set for the number of trees to be planted this year. It was expected the figure would be arrived at during a meeting of the club to be held Tuesday evening at 7:30, in the Benton County Bank and Trust Co., lobby. The club will also start organization of its annual membership drive at this meeting.

At last night's meeting Bud Gallup was named by the president to serve as publicity manager for the club. The Benton County Fish and Game club, with more than 1,000 members, rates the third largest organization in the county. They have been influential since their organization in all forms of conservation practices.

MAY 16 1958 Conservation Booklets of 18 Named Best

The conservation booklets of 18 upper elementary students in Benton county schools have been judged best in the county, Supt. Don Southard announced today.

The winning booklets were submitted by the following students:

Grade 6: Diana Waldorf, Vinton, Rt. 3, Lincoln Junior high, Agnes Svoboda, teacher; Janice Auestad, 1010 C Avenue, Vinton, Lincoln Junior high, Agnes Svoboda, teacher; Thomas McLaughlin, Vinton, Rt. 3, Lincoln Junior high, Agnes Svoboda, teacher; Nancy Sue Keegan, Blairtown consolidated, Margaret DeSotel, teacher; Connie Jean Fullmer, Belle Plaine, Iowa No. 8 rural, Pauline Suchy, teacher; Carmen E. Berg, Norway consolidated, Karen Tweeten, teacher;

Grade 7: Jacquelyn Wehrman, Belle Plaine, Iowa No. 8 rural, Pauline Suchy, teacher; Jo Ann Beatty, Shellsburg consolidated, Hugh Boswell, teacher; Lindley Arthur Jans, Belle Plaine, Iowa No. 8 rural, Pauline Suchy, teacher; Ellen Cantwell, Keystone consolidated, Ellogene Dunning, teacher; Harold E. Goodrich, Norway consolidated, Esther Meredith, Steve Thorman, Blairtown consolidated, Doug Doerzman, teacher;

Grade 8: Delores Mackey, Palo, Shellsburg consolidated, Hugh Boswell, teacher; Shona Thompson, Luzerne, Blairtown consolidated, Duane Hagensick, teacher; Steve King, Keystone consolidated, Ellogene Dunning, teacher; Eileen Janis Holst, Belle Plaine, Keystone consolidated, Ellogene Dunning, teacher; Emma Coleen Hudson, Blairtown consolidated, Duane Hagensick, teacher; Judith Karen Sindt, Keystone consolidated, Ellogene Dunning, teacher;

Last fall the Benton county Fish and Game club supplied all of the public and parochial schools of Benton county with booklets called "Conservation Activities". Grades 6, 7 and 8 used them as a basis for conservation study during the school year.

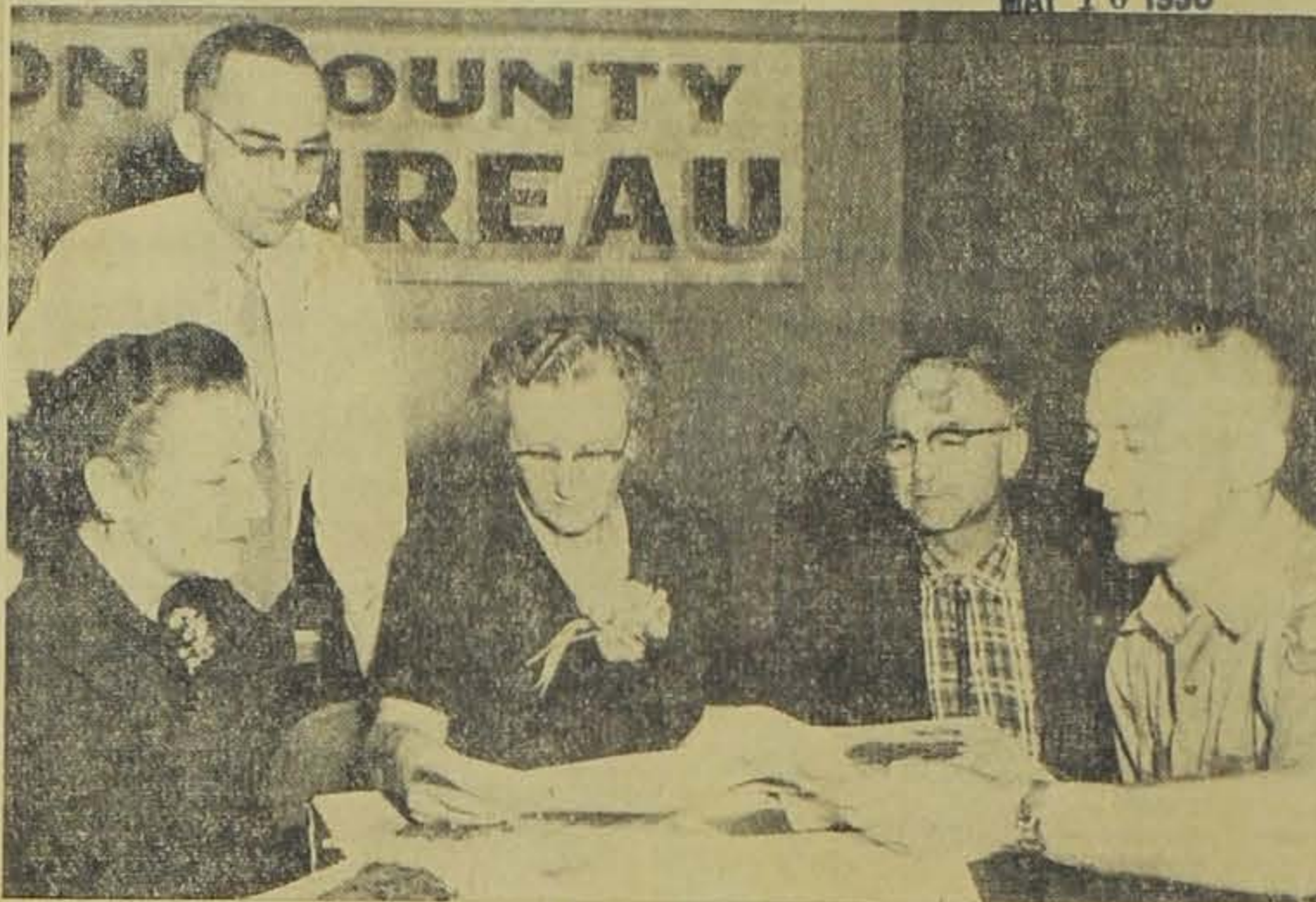
The booklets from each school were judged by a committee. A certificate furnished by the Fish and Game club was awarded to each school for the best booklets. One certificate was given for each ten or fewer booklets.

Those booklets which were bases for certificates were sent to the county superintendent. A committee made up of Mrs. Berniece Harmon of the county superintendent's office, Glenn Heady of the Soil Conservation office, Glen Angell, conservation officer, Mrs. Glenn Gordon of the Izaak Walton league, and Kenneth Shirley of the Benton county Fish and Game club, served as judges.

Eighteen booklets finally were chosen by the committee as the best. The pupils who made these booklets will be taken on a trip sponsored by the Soil Conservation service for Benton county during the first week in June. On the trip, conservation practices will be pointed out. A picnic dinner was planned for those participating.

Select Students' Conservation Booklets

MAY 10 1958



THE GROUP SHOWN HERE represents various organizations in Benton county. They were selected by the District Soil Conservation Commissioners and the Benton County Fish and Game club to determine the best conservation booklets completed by the students of the 6, 7, and 8 grades in Benton county. Left to right in the picture are: Martha Gordon, Izaak Walton league; Ken Shirley, Benton County Fish & Game club; chairman of the group, Berniece Harmon, representing the County Superintendent's office; Glenn Heady, soil conservation service; and Glen Angell, County Conservation officer. This group spent Friday afternoon judging the books, which are put in the schools by the Benton County Fish & Game club to select winners from the various classes submitted.

Fix Shellsburg Sand Blowout



TWO YEARS AGO THE ABOVE AREA ON THE JAY NABHOLZ FARM, two and a half miles north of Shellsburg, was two and a half acres of sand. Today, as a result of putting a soil conservation plan into practice, the sand knoll, with a blowout on top, is covered with a dense growth of 2,500 black locust and oak trees. Rapid runoff and wind erosion have been stopped, and a good wildlife refuge has been provided. Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady is shown measuring one of the many locusts in the area that have shot up ten feet in two years. He said it was one of the most amazing transformations he had ever seen. Since the first of the year, the trees, which were planted as foot-high seedlings, have grown about two feet. The place was once heavily populated by oaks and other trees. In fact, as a boy Nabholz helped cut timber there. The refuge is known in the Shellsburg area as an old Indian camp. Flint arrow heads are still found in the sand from time to time. Heady said the project was a good example of what other Benton farmers could do with sand blowouts that are causing them trouble.

Tree Planting Day Planned in Benton County

VINTON — Gully control and wildlife shelter are the joint objectives of a large scale tree planting operation planned this spring in Benton county. The Benton soils district and the state conservation commission plan to cooperate with more than 50 farmers in setting out trees sometime in April.

Glenn Heady, work unit conservationist for the county, said last week that the trees will be set out on farms with small areas that are an erosion problem. Farm plans prepared by the district already designate the odd corners and eroded gulleys that need tree plantings.

Orders Urged.

Last week letters were sent to farmers urging them to order the necessary trees from the state conservation commission nursery in Ames immediately. The letter suggested that about 2,500 trees are needed for each acre if they are planted at four foot intervals.

The state nursery makes a nominal charge for the trees. Elm, ash, black locust, and walnut are the common varieties. The cost is around \$2 for 250 trees or from \$5 to \$7.50 for 1,000 trees. White pine and red pine are more expensive. Their price tag is \$5 for 250 and \$15 for 1,000. Order blanks will be sent to interested farmers, Heady stated, and will be forwarded by the farmers to the state nursery.

Heady said considerable planting was completed last year. His estimate in late winter was 20,000. Actual plantings were around 40,000, he believes. His estimate for 1949 is 50,000 and hopes it will again be exceeded.

Club Will Help.

The Benton county Fish and Game club plans to help with tree purchase and with planting. The club recognizes the value of trees as shelter for wildlife and wants to encourage reforestation as much as possible.

The organization has appropriated \$250 toward the cost of the trees. That sum will be prorated to farmers on the basis of the number of trees planted, Heady stated.

The club also hopes to expand its school planting program this year. Last year several one-acre abandoned school yards were planted with trees and multi-flora rose as wild life shelters.

Heady, conservation commission representatives and members of the Fish and Game club hope to organize a tree planting day in April. The actual date will depend upon the weather. On that date they hope to get boy scout, schools and other organizations to participate in the county-wide tree planting event.

Over 38,000 Trees Set Out In Benton Co.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

One hundred and 48 boys and 47 men planted more than 38,000 trees and shrubs on 13 farms in the county as part of the cooperative wildlife and soil erosion prevention program of the Benton County Fish & Game club, farmers, boy scouts and the SCS, it was announced today by Art Beard, chairman of the club's tree planting committee.

Beard noted that the boys—boy scouts, FFA members and 4-Hers—put in 475 hours in the planting and the men 168 hours. Figures for the men were incomplete.

As chairman of the committee Beard today publicly thanked both boy and men planters for their work which started Sunday afternoon, April 16.

"Further statistics from our check on the planting of wildlife habitat and erosion control areas show that the group put in 643 hours on the project which was certainly gratifying to our organization, the State Conservation Commission and to the Soil Conservation District," Beard said.

Trees were planted on the farms of the following: Larry Becker, Harry Horak, Howard Knupp, Bill Reinburg, Elmer Jones, Walter Boehmke, Walter Heineman, Carl Shogren, Louis Coberly, Abdo Omar, Vernon Crow, Francis Kueny and Loren Eichmeyer. The farms are located in all parts of the county.

Greatest number of trees was planted at the Howard Knupp farm in Eden township where 5,000 were put in by men and boys. Second largest planting was at the Abdo Omar farm in Big Grove township where 4,500 trees were planted.

LIVING FENCE IS DOING WELL

Knupp's Multiflora Roses 3 to 4 Ft. High.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

The stems of the multiflora rose plantings made last spring by Howard Knupp as an experiment on his farm southeast of Vinton are now around three to four feet high and some are up as much as seven feet. Knupp put in 5,000 plants for use as a future field boundary on the contour.

Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady reported that many Benton farmers have been wondering how soon multiflora roses would make living fences. He said that Knupp's is an outstanding planting. "It does not show up in a big way yet because the rose stems lay more or less prostrate for the first year or two, after which they straighten and stand high," Heady said.

Recent inspections of most other plantings in Benton county show nearly 100 per cent survival. Evergreen plantings have also done well this year in the county.

Benton Fifth in Multiflora Roses

Permanent Fencing is Newcomer to Iowa.

Benton county ranked fifth place in multi-flora rose plantings as a means of developing future living fences this spring when the sportsmen and farmers cooperatively planted 37,000 plants this spring.

Other counties that ranked above Benton county in plantings were Pottawattamie, Cass, Warren and Poweshiek. Plantings over the entire state amounted to 1,545,360 plants which were set out to provide living fences on the farms and as wild flowers.

Permanent Fence

Because multi-flora rose is a relative newcomer to Iowa there are no mature plantings in Benton county. Among the 20 some farmers of Benton who planted rose fences this spring were Elmer Jones and Walter Boehmke of Belle Plaine, Loren Eichmeyer of Elberon and William Reinburg and W. A. Drake of Blainstown.

Multi-flora rose is giving farm game a new outlook on life. It is one of the best wild life and erosion control crops and gives great promise for the future if it will stand the winters this far north. Although Benton county is considered within the adaptable area there has been some winter killing to the north of us. However, there were only two counties in the state that did not make rose plantings this year.

Being a thorny type shrub which grows six to eight feet tall and approximately the same width, it makes an ideal livestock fence and at the same time does not hamper the growth of field crops growing next to it. It is a sight to behold in the spring when the plants are in full bloom.

SHOULD PLANT 600 TREES AN ACRE IN 1950

Heady Tells Farmers With Wildlife and Woodlot Areas.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Forty-three Benton county farmers who have planned wildlife habitats and woodlot areas on their places this week were advised by Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady to plant about 600 trees per acre this year. Most of them, he said, should be broadleaf and evergreen trees.

Heady said that it would be good practice to order the trees immediately from the Iowa state conservation commission at 914 Grand Ave., Des Moines. He suggested that wild life species as well as broadleaf and evergreens be obtained.

Service Last Year

Last year, it was pointed out, the Boy Scouts and the Benton County Fish & Game club planted all trees that farmers ordered and the State Conservation commission refunded farmers for the cost of the trees. "If you wish for this service on your plantings" this year, Heady told the growers, "contact your nearest Fish & Game club director and the Boy Scout master."

Multiflora rose will also

Phone 98
Vinton

NICK'S APPLANCE

dependability,
in quality and
ice-unmelted
PLETE gas serv-
and more COM-

Conservationists Build Game Refuge



CONSERVATION IS BIG BUSINESS! Not only does it include saving our prized top soil, but the game of this area of Iowa. This picture shows a group planting trees and shrubs on the site of old Big Grove No. 7 rural school. In all, 800 trees and shrubs were planted

here. The conservation measure was sponsored by the Benton County Fish and Game club. Close to 40 men, women and children participated Sunday, May 7, 1948, with this large scale planting.—UNION photo.



SECOND ANNUAL WILD LIFE SCHOOL VINTON, IOWA

The second annual wildlife school sponsored by the Iowa Division of the Isaac Walton League of America was held at Vinton, Iowa, June 23-24-25, with 61 men and boys representing 18 Iowa chapters as well as representatives from the Nebraska, Minnesota, and Illinois divisions.

The school was directed by Harry E. Rector, Executive Secretary of the Iowa Division.

The following Iowa chapters were present: Dubuque, Anamosa, Wapsiketa chapter of

slide under the instructions of Glen Heady U. S. Soil Conservationist of Vinton, Iowa who informed those present that the very basis of all conservation was the soil, and he pointed to the fact that throughout the entire school those present would become conscious of the need for conserving our land. He pointed to the tremendous damage done by heavy rains, not only to the soil, but to fish and upland game as well. Never was the lesson so forcibly brought to the attention of such



Most people don't realize that Iowa is a fur producing state. The annual income often exceeds that of Alaska. The students are examining the many species of fur taken in Iowa and to add to the scene is our State President, Murray Russell of Newton, holding a fawn found abandoned in Benton County this spring.

Waltonians Had Great Time in South Benton

Saw Soil Conservation
And Lack of It As Well
As Fine Dog Show.

Regardless of the rest of the three-day session held in this county by the Isaac Walton league, the one day spent in the Belle Plaine vicinity (Saturday) proved to be a grand affair.

First of all, following a downpour the night before, it showed that soil conservation and wildlife preservation go hand in hand, and secondly the 75 or so men and boys were entertained at a dog training show staged in the open by Herm Stettler that is better than they could possibly see on any stage.

Camped at the fair grounds at Vinton, the group consisting of leaguers, soil and game conservation officers and boys, drove to this section of the county past fields that very definitely showed better than books can tell what soil conservation means, for the rain of the night and early morning showed fields that were badly eroded and others where the loss was kept to a minimum by reason of contouring, terracing, strip cropping and other soil conservation methods. Some of the places visited on the way down were the Walter Boehmke place, the Uch place and finally the John Schild farm.

At the Schild place there is a man-made lake, the result of throwing up a dam between two hills. Here Mr. Schild has stocked the pond with fish and set out picnic tables. It was there the group had their noon day lunch.

Following lunch soil and game conservation officers went into a discussion with Mr. Schild which brought out the cost of building, the benefits he derives from it, the benefits he offers to fishermen and picnickers, as well as the value of the pond as a means of preserving wild life. It was sort of a round table discussion with the experts on hand to supply the answers.

Next on the program came Mr. Stettler. He had with him five dogs that he is training. Each was in a different stage of his training period and after briefing the group on his methods he proceeded to give a demonstration.

In the demonstration Stettler by verbal directions and use of whistles made the dogs retrieve ducks from the pond, cross the pond and bring back ducks and pigeons that had been hidden behind trees, race to retrieve decoys from the water, and perform a number of other tricks.

His show lasted nearly an hour and before it was over the spectators almost expected to see the dogs make Stettler do tricks, he had them that well trained.



The Iowa Division was host to representatives from three of our adjacent states. From left to right is Albert Bastyr, Austin, Minn.; Fred Johnson, Chicago, Ill.; President Murray Russell; Terry Kokenstad, Crete, Nebr.; Vincent Cain, Wilbur, Nebr., and Leo Wifemeyer, Austin, Minn.

From the Schild place the group then visited the Robert Allers place where they listened to talks on establishing wild life preserves and how they are a means of building up the wild life population. These talks were given by Glen Heady and Harry Rector, who explained that there are some eight or ten such spots in this section of the county.

Included in the group were men from 18 Iowa counties, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois and Nebraska.



a group as this, for on that very evening we experienced a cloud burst, which verified every statement of Mr. Heady's lecture.

Anamosa, Maquoketa, Clinton, Wapello, Keokuk, Cedar Rapids, Newton, Knoxville, Des Moines, Fort Dodge, Pocahontas, Emmetsburg, Spirit Lake, Storm Lake, Sioux City, and Fort Madison. The guests being from Crete, Nebraska; Austin, Minnesota; and Chicago, Illinois. The purpose of the school is to train leaders who in turn will serve as directors for similar schools in their respective chapters.

The school opened with a lecture and



Garrison Growers Add Acres to Farms With Half-Mile Waterway



—Daily Times Photo

ART HAGEN points out to his sons Vernon, 15, and Dale, 14, the course of the new grassed waterway on the Jackson township farm that will permit 15 more acres to be included in cultivation. The plot is now an old and practically useless bluegrass pasture.



—Daily Times Photo

HERE'S the way the Pippert land looked before the creek bed was filled in and a smooth waterway constructed. The bed is six feet deep in places.



—Daily Times Photo

HERE'S the way the stream bed looks today. Dale Hagen stands in the waterway that has been seeded down. When completed on both farms the waterway will stretch for half a mile.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
Garrison, Aug. 26.—To reclaim acres of good land made unworkable by the headwaters of Henkle creek, two farmers are constructing a half-mile grassed waterway on adjoining farms two miles southeast of Garrison.

One of the most extensive projects of its kind in Benton county, the filling in of the creek bed, which cut to a depth of six feet and more over the years, has been completed on the Richard Pippert place, while work is still going on on the neighboring William Barry farm, operated by Art Hagen.

OPTOMETRIST
Vinton Welding Co.
ONES, TAKE THEM TO
WILL BE HARD TO GET NEW

WELDING

Office Phone 112, Res. Phone 162
Office 403 A Ave.
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON
L. W. KOONTZ, M. D.

4321—First Ave.
MOORE'S THEATRE



After Seeding

Heavy Sod Protects Waterway



TO PROTECT WATERWAYS from becoming gullies, a wide, well-sodded channel must be provided. This picture shows an excellent sodded waterway.

Waterway Can Produce a Crop, Hold the Land

Alfalfa, Brome or Reeds Canary Excellent Seedings in Channels.

BY GLENN HEADY
Benton County Conservationist

Where water flows a gully is sure to follow—unless the waterway is protected with a good sod. Because of the great amount of waterway sodding done by the C.C.C. camp, the farmers in the southwest part of Benton county became conscious of the value of good sod waterways over all of the area of Benton county. This, however, was not universal as some farmers have always practiced leaving well sodded waterways when they plowed up a field.

Before a waterway grows into a gully is the time to act. If it is in a good heavy soil, it should be protected by lifting the plow well back from the edge. A sod waterway that becomes

silted up is a certain sign that there is erosion occurring on the field and naturally the proper control of silting is the type of conservation farming of the land to prevent silt from moving from the cultivated land.

Waterway to Produce

I like to think that our waterways can be producing a profitable crop as well as preventing erosion, thence, it seems proper that alfalfa-brome or Reeds Canary might be excellent seedings in the waterways from which a hay crop might be harvested. One of the best colored pictures we show at Farm Bureau meetings during the winter months is one of Dick Schild making hay from his waterways.

How to Build

In establishing the waterway the first step is to work it down by disking, blading or whatever might be necessary to create a wide flat channel.

The width is especially important. It must be wide enough to carry all of the water that may run into it. It must carry far enough up the slope water flows over sod in reaching the channel.

When the waterway has been worked into shape, seeding or sodding is next in order. This may be accomplished by seeding in the desired mixture or sodded by setting in cuttings of Reeds Canary root stocks. Plowing out Reeds Canary furrow slides and scattered by the manure spreader has become a popular method of getting the root stocks where desired. Getting them covered means a couple more diskings and the plants are ready for an early "take off."

Needs Fertilizer

Regardless of the method followed in establishing the waterways it is well to remember that a high level of fertility will make the grass grow faster. So working in a high analysis fertilizer and spreading manure over the waterway after it is seeded will push it along.

The manure also has a twofold purpose as besides adding fertility it has good soil building effects.



Before Seeding

Gets Rid of Gully Washing With 2,500-Foot Waterway

June 17, 1950



JACK FRY, hired man on the 260-acres owned by Oscar Olson and farmed in partnership with his son, Arthur, four miles south of Vinton, stands at the edge of an inexpensive rock and sod flume at the mouth of a new waterway on the place. The waterway got rid of a deep gully that not only washed away rich soil, but also cut a big field into two sections, thus hampering farm operations. Below the big waterway, dish-shaped, is shown with the flume on the extreme left. See story.



BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Four miles south of Vinton, Oscar Olson has transformed a virtual field of weeds cut by a deep, five-foot gully into a smooth, 2,500-foot sodded waterway that will halt the erosion of valuable topsoil.

At the same time Olson is now able to farm the land on either side of the waterway as a unit. Previously, because of the depth of the gully, the land on either side had to be farmed separately.

It made for no end of loss of time and efficiency.

Total Bill of \$3,600

The cost—including tiling—ran to about \$3,600, but Olson figures the project will pay for itself in a short time.

One feature of the transformation is the rock and sod flume built at the mouth of the waterway for around \$100, as against \$50 that a concrete dam with spillways would have cost. The flume is in bluegrass sod. It protects the waterway from washout.

The waterway, a great saucer-shaped area from 30 to 40 feet across, is 1 1/2 feet deep at its lowest elevation. It has been seeded to bromegrass, timothy, Reed's canary and a little alsike.

Two Tile Sizes

Eight-inch tile was sunk on one side of the waterway, six-inch on the other. Old tile lines that previously dumped into the gully, now go into the new lines which empty at the flume. The flow is in a northerly direction for the most part.

Work was done by the Iowa Soil Conservation Co. of Brooklyn, Ia., headed by Robert Lord, president. Lord is a former soil conservation aid in Black Hawk and Poweshiek counties. Building the waterway took about two weeks, cost around \$1,500. The rest of the cost was in the tiling.

This year the field is in corn with soybeans planted along the edge of part of the waterway.

Florence Owner Has Gully Control Plan

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Walford, Oct. 21—Wallace Reilly of Florence township has completed a gully erosion control program on a farm two miles west of here which he recently acquired. Three large gullies averaging 60 rods in length, 20 feet in width and about six feet deep have been bulldozed in and seeded. Cost of the job ran around \$2,000. It is expected to pay for itself in a relatively short time.



VINTON, IOWA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1950

At Newhall 35 Acres of Sod Turned for First Time



A TILING MACHINE lays 4,000 feet of four and six-inch clay pipe in a 35-acre field belonging to Henry Boddicker. The piece has never been cropped. —Daily Times Photo-Engraving

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Newhall, Oct. 21—A thirty-five-acre field belonging to Henry Boddicker and farmed by his son, Elwood, will be watched with great interest next year and the year after by farmers in this locality.

The field, about half a mile north of here, this week was being tilled preparatory to being put into crop production next year for the first time. As far as Boddicker knows it has never been plowed, and the heavy blue-grass sod indicated that this is so.

Some 4,000 feet of four and six-inch tile were being laid by Amos Kilmer and crew from Deep River, and in addition a bulldozer was busy straightening a creek bed that meanders through the piece. Boddicker explained that the acreage had never been plowed largely because of the creek which would have made plowing and cultivation difficult. In the past the land has been grazed, but it wasn't this year.

Corn will be planted next spring and probably the year after, too. It is the second year's crop that will be followed with especial interest, for often the first year after sod is not as productive as is generally believed.

Altogether Elwood farms 240 acres near Newhall.



Boddicker examines a piece of sod that was probably pounded by buffaloes at one time. —Daily Times Photo-Engraving

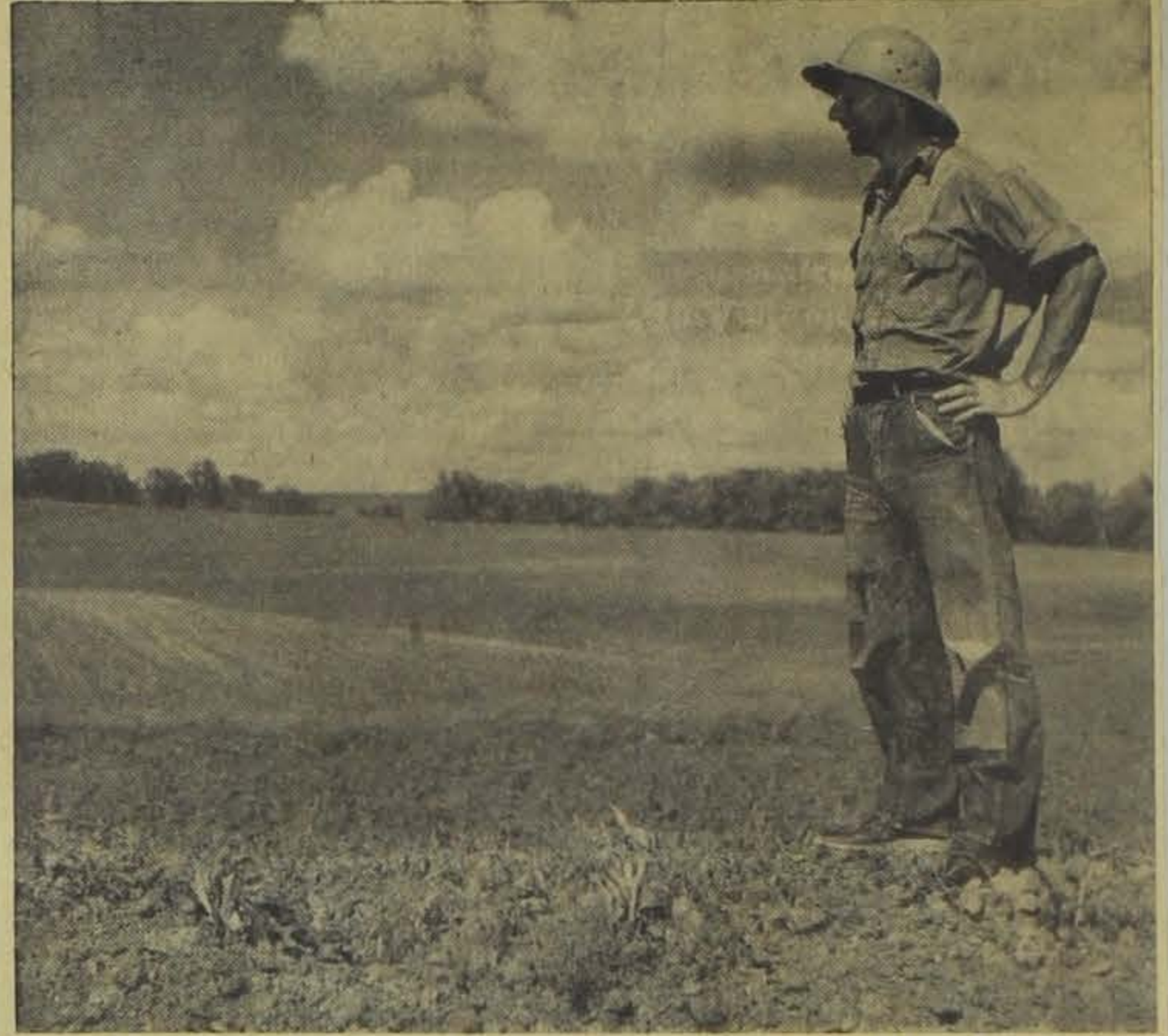
Benton Once Covered With Tall Grasses



—Daily Times Photo-Engraving

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Chester McNelly, Benton county soil conservation aid, is shown with two fabulous grasses that originally covered this part of America's great prairie lands. The taller is the Big Blue Stem which will be found today in small numbers along the fence rows on nearly every farm in the county. This particular specimen measured 6 feet 3 and a half inches in height. The other is Reed's canary grass. Both are valuable forage and conservation crops. Big Blue Stem, unlike Reed's canary, however has little commercial value because of the difficulty of obtaining the extremely small seed. A number of farmers in the county have sown Reed's canary, which is very expensive, in conservation projects on their places. Very little, however, is found growing wild in Benton. To these two grasses Benton owes the richness of its top soil. Both have "terrific" root systems, as Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady puts it, and under both were formed the handsome topsoil that makes the county's wealth. Benton was originally in the so-called tall-grass region of the west. The short-grass section began farther west, in western Iowa and Nebraska.



ELMER SCHEETZ scanning his rolling acres at Elmr Stock Farm about three miles northeast of Luzerne. He has a small one-half-acre game refuge at the north end of his farm. Between 90 and 100 acres of the tillable land are terraced.

Elmer Scheetz Farms to Save Soil and Water

Has Stock Farm Near Luzerne

LUZERNE — Elmer Scheetz started farming on his own in 1946 and the following year he started farming on the contour. In 1954 he began the task of terracing his land.

Elmer and Ruth Scheetz own 160 acres. They rent an adjoining 80 from Elmer Hughes of Belle Plaine, who is 100 percent behind the soil and water conservation work.

'Who's Who'

Elmer comes by conservation work naturally . . . his neighbors read like a "Who's Who" among conservation-minded men of the soil. His neighbors who follow such practices include the following: George Raabe, Paul Raabe, John Tatge, Jack Tatge, Richard Jahnke, Lloyd Albers, Otis Wright, Dick Schild, John Schild, Bob Allers, Harold Wehrman and Orrin James.

In the 160-acre tract, 90-100 acres are terraced. In the adjoining 80 acres, 20 are terraced.

It has been a time-consuming job, but Elmer feels there will be a definite "payoff" in the years ahead.

"Yes," he says, "there's more work than you would do on a level farm, but soil conservation methods hold the dirt — and the topsoil is not going down the Mississippi river."

Mr. Scheetz also feels he saves gasoline as he operates on the level and that this makes it easier on his power farm machinery.

The combination of farming on the contour, terraces and strip-cropping, Mr. Scheetz believes, holds back the water and retains a larger percentage of moisture than on land where

such practices are not followed.

The Scheetz place is known as the Elmr Stock Farm, a contraction of the names Elmer and Ruth. They raise registered Shorthorn cattle. At present they have about 70 head on the place. They sell most of the yearling calves, feed out a few head.

Also the Scheetzes have about 150 head of ewes and lambs.

Elmer does not crop his land "heavy." This year he has about 46 acres of corn — he's in the government corn program — 65 acres of hay and 45 in oats.

'Rambling'

At present the Scheetzes are in the process of building a new home on their farm. The new structure will be of ranch-type design, all on one floor with a

full basement.

At present the family has sort of a "rambling" home. With their old home torn down they are now living in three small buildings once used for storing of tools and machinery.

It isn't easy, Ruth says, but it will be worth it once the new house is ready.

Mr. Scheetz is a veteran of World War II, he is active in Jennings-Bradshaw Post No. 39, the American Legion, at Belle Plaine, he is a township trustee and a director in the Benton County Farm Bureau organization.

June Rainfall Caused Soils To Wash Away

Farmers Are Urged
To Inspect Their Acres
Following Precipitation.

BY L. E. TYLER
District Conservationist

Rainfall in June has totalled considerably more than normal this year. Higher than normal rainfall usually results in considerable soil washing and this was especially true this June. The most damaging rains from the standpoint of soil washings, are hard rains that occur when the ground is saturated from previous rainfall.

There are several ways of reducing soil washing on a farm but none are likely to be used unless the farmer recognizes that he is losing valuable topsoil. We have been seeing silt deposits at the foot of slopes and behind fences for so many years that we are not trained to recognize them as danger signals.

Gullies are easily recognized as soil erosion and most farmers want to do something about them.

Actually much more topsoil is lost from slopes with no gullies than is actually lost over gullies.

Most of us recognize the yellowish brown spots that show up on our hillsides as eroded areas. These spots also make themselves known by low yields at harvest time. By the time they are there it is slow work improving them. Something must be done, however, or they increase in size. If the expensive improvement of these subsoil spots is to be avoided, the soil washing that occurs on these slopes must be recognized before the subsoil shows through.

Inspect Farm

It isn't too hard to train yourself to see the soil loss that is occurring on your farm. Walk over your farm after the next heavy rain and notice what is occurring on your slopes. If you see little evidence of wash on slopes, especially in cultivated fields, take a look at the foot of the slopes, or behind a fence where the water has been slowed up. If there are silt deposits, there you can figure out where that soil must have come from.

Perhaps you are too busy to give your farm such an inspection. If the wind damaged a building on your farm, worth 5 or 10 percent of the value of your land, wouldn't you have time to inspect that damage?

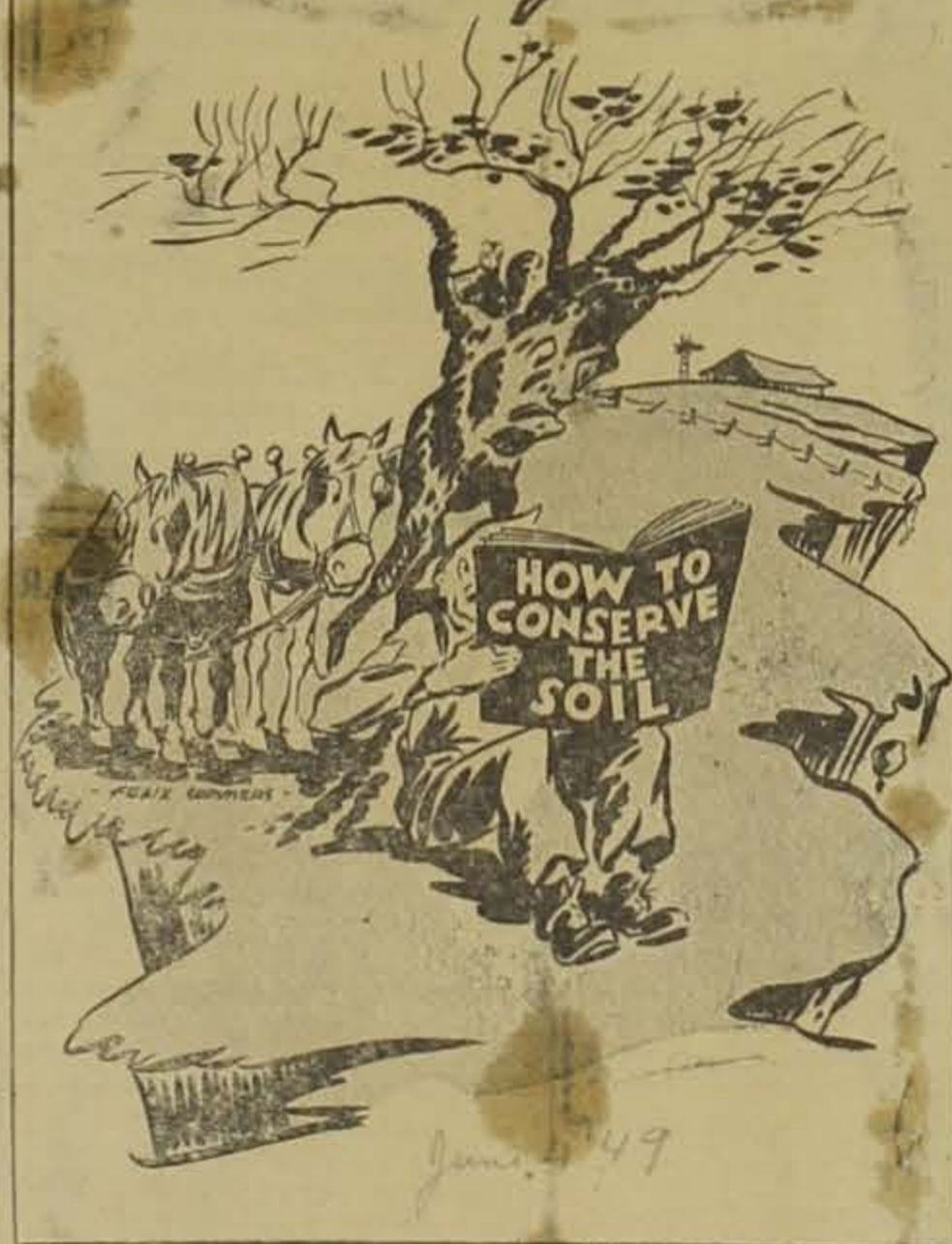
It's "Bye Bye" to the Topsoil!



THIS IS A FIELD OF CORN . . . the gullies are just as deep as the cultivator shovels went into the ground. This picture was taken immediately following a rain this year. The farmer planted the corn down the side of a steep hill. Had the corn been planted on the contour the soil loss would have been held to a minimum. Yes, it's "bye bye" to the topsoil in this field.—UNION photo.



'tis later than you think



U.S. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

In actual contour demonstration work, 3,470 acres of contours were laid out with an additional estimated 6,000 acres having been laid out by farmers who attend contour demonstrations.

This spring two contour demon-

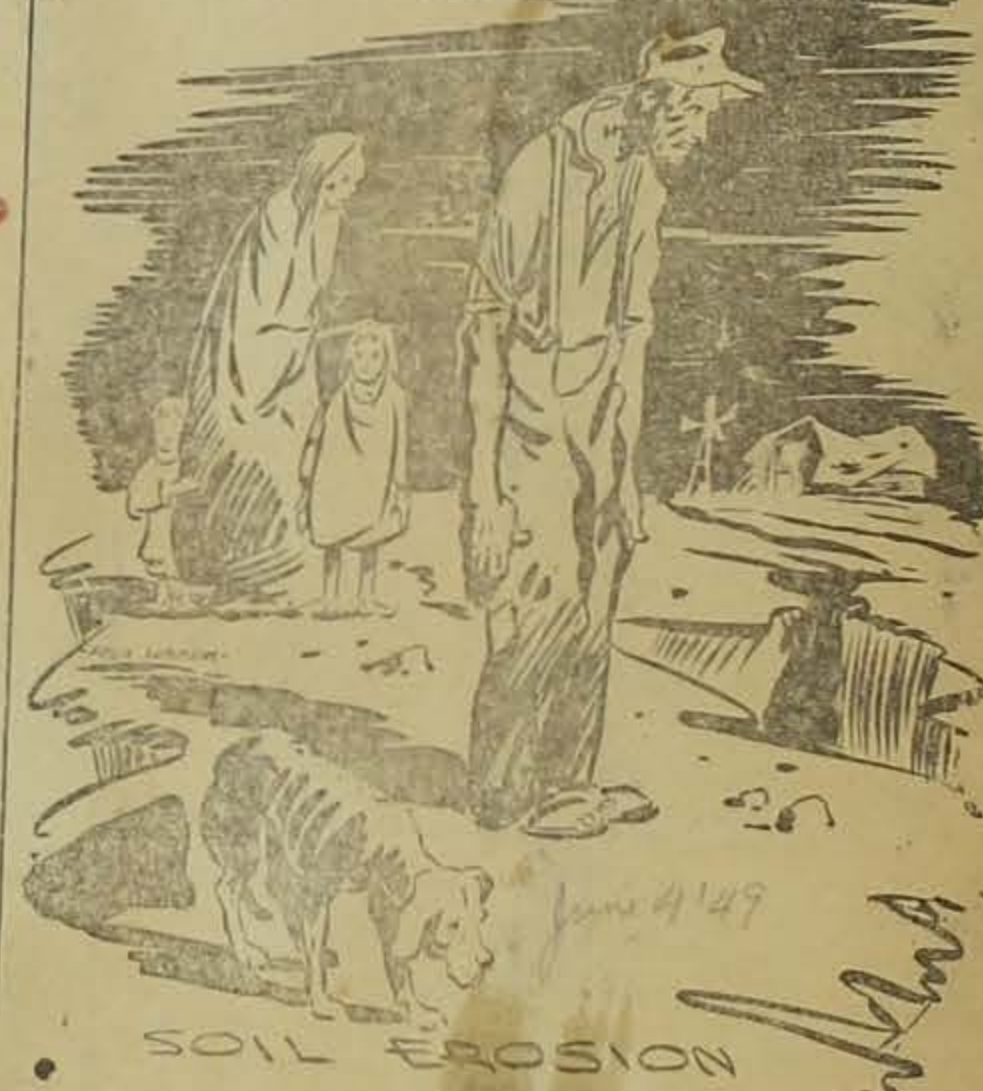
strations were held in the Norway vicinity, one of which was held on the Lyle Olsen farm and the other on the farm of Eldred Schulte. Around twenty farmers attended these two demonstrations. Seventy-five per cent of these men are now contour farming on their own farms.

BABES IN THE WOODS



Courtesy King Features Syndicate

get we worry about the atomic bomb

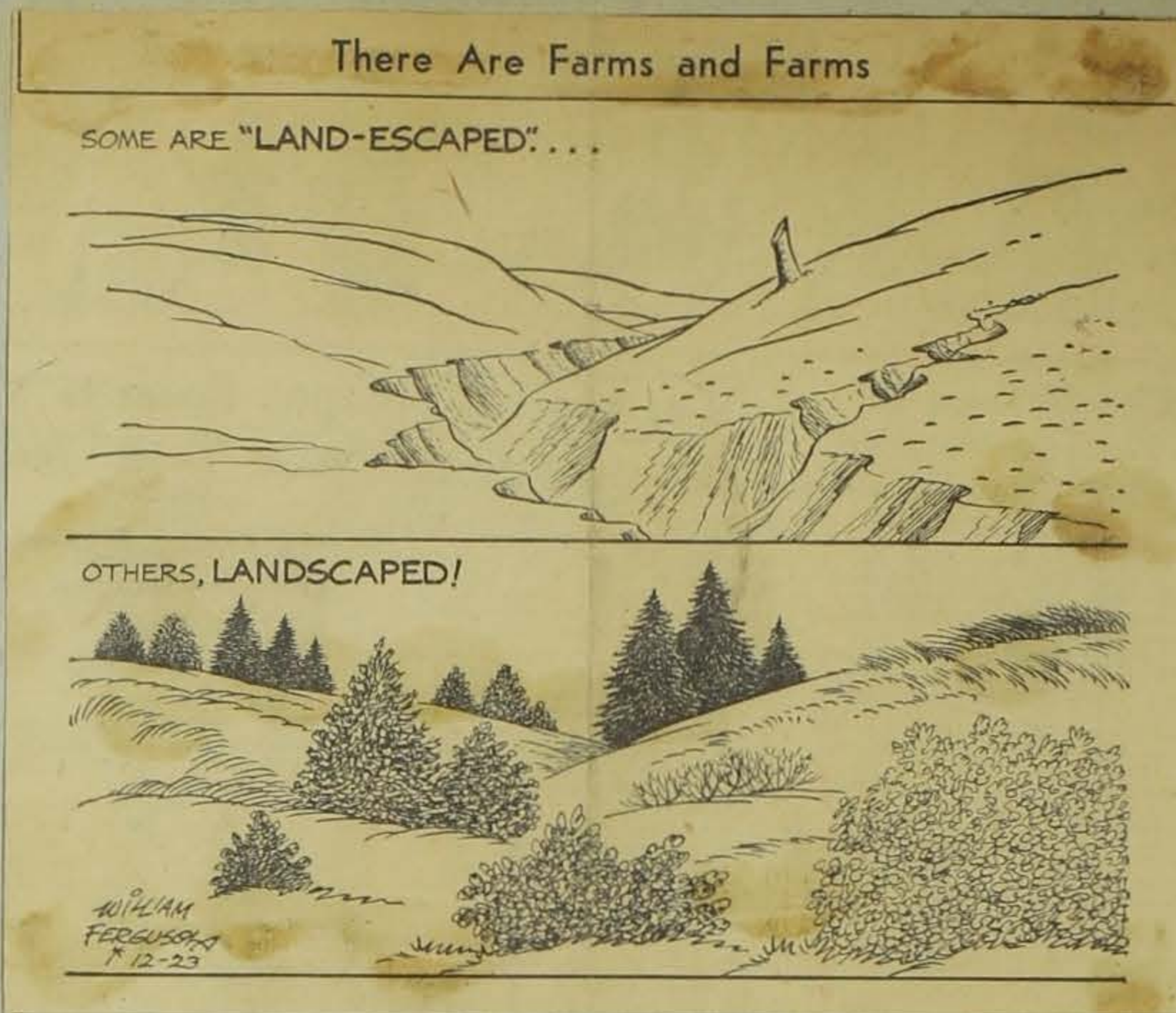


U.S. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

The Benton County Soil Conservation Service Technicians with the assistance of some men loaned to the district by the A. A. A. have recently completed a very heavy layout season according to Herman Franzenburg, County Chairman of the Benton S. C. S. District.

One hundred twenty thousand

feet of contoured field boundaries were laid out along with 91,700 feet of waterway construction, 36,450 feet of tile drainage, 42,240 feet of terraces, 552 acres of strip crop layout and thirty three acres of wildlife and woodlot planting which was done in cooperation with the Benton County Game and Fish Club.



copy

Marion, Iowa
June 3, 1955

Mr. Henry J. Gruenwald, Jr.
Chairman, Commissioners
Benton Co. Soil Conservation District,

Dear Henry:

I received a copy of the May issue of the Iowa Soil and Water publication which featured the Benton District. It is felt that this was a very worthwhile project and successfully completed. You and the other commissioners, along with the staff at Vinton, are to be complimented on carrying out this project.

It is particularly encouraging to see articles appearing that have been written by district commissioners themselves and other interested parties such as Mr. Tobin, local Conservation officer and teachers, and in particular the well written article entitled "What Soil Conservation has done for One Farm" by Lewis L. Falck.

I am sure that with the progress made to date along with the interest that you folks, as district commissioners, have shown as well as other interested parties that a well rounded over-all balanced soil and water conservation program will be continued in the Benton County Soil Conservation District.

Sincerely,

Harlon H. Backhaus
Harlon H. Backhaus
Area Conservationist

cc: Frank H. Mendell
cc: Benton District

The Benton County Star

The Only Newspaper in the United States That is Interested in the Upbuilding of Norway, Iowa

VOL. 49

NORWAY, BENTON COUNTY, IOWA, THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 1947

NUMBER 1

Soil Conservation Week, June 21-28

The Benton County Star, Together With Norway Business and Professional Men, Make This Week's Issue A Banner, Asking For Observance of Soil Conservation Week

xxx

Governor Blue Asks Observance of Soil Conservation Week

Last week Governor Blue made his proclamation for the observance of Soil Conservation Week which approaches at a very appropriate time, just when the recent rains have ravaged many thousands of tons of our top soil from the land and subsequent rains have taken more.

The soil conservation technicians of Benton county estimated a loss of slightly over 5 million tons of top soil was washed away from its place on the corn and bean land alone in the county since June 1.

When on their trip over the county last Monday inspecting the good conservation work being practiced by a number of farmers, district commissioners, Harold Miller, Arvid Shogren and Herman Franzenburg, learned from a number of farmers that the soil conservation way of farming was the only way to farm as far as they were concerned.

Farms visited on the tour were those of Leland Merchant, Woodrow Merchant, George Schueler, John Strawn, Glenn Christy, John Losenisky, Bert Romman and Clyde Merchant.

xxx

Florence Township Becomes Soil Conservation Minded

A number of men in the vicinity of Norway have begun conservation practices through contour cultivation of their row crops. Last spring contour lines were run on the farms of Larry Becker, Cecil Frimml, Sam and Wallace Tow and Melvin Potter and after the recent rains have shown some very fine results in contrast to fields planted up and down the slopes.

The Soil Conservation technicians spent one day on the farms of the above mentioned men with all in attendance working with the levels to learn how to lay out their fields. It is estimated that in the neighborhood of 500 acres of corn land were contoured this spring in Florence township. The rains and subsequent loss of top-soil have resulted in many farmers coming in to the soil conservation office to assure them of having conservation layout work done on their farms for next spring.

If results in other parts of this county and in other counties of the state are an indication of the spread of practices after they first became established, they will be tripled next year in Florence township. At present Benton county has one hundred eighty-four farms being layed out for conservation practices by the soil conservation technicians. These farms comprise a total of over thirty-four thousand acres being changed over to this system of farming.

Since it began in the southern Iowa counties, they are far ahead of this area in conservation farming. Page county alone had 350 miles of terraces constructed on the farms last year. As one travels across this end of the state it appears that most of the farm land is contoured, strip cropped or terraced. As several farmers stated last week to the Benton County Soil Conservation Commissioners these farmers would never change back to farming up and down slopes.

xxx

Dean H. H. Kildee Asks Observance of Soil Conservation Week

H. H. Kildee, dean of the college of agriculture, calls attention to the fact that the week of June 21-28 is "Soil Conservation Week." The dean says that we are proud, and justly so, of the fact that Iowa has 25 per cent of the grade "A" land in the United States. But, he continues, we cannot be too proud of our record in conserving our soils.

The severe erosion and flooding caused by the recent heavy rain, is appalling. It is cruel reminder of the fact that we have not taken every precaution possible to save our top topsoil on Benton county farms.

The Soil Conservation Service has made a good start under the direction of the soil commissioners and is developing a strong program for Benton county farmers.

Mark these dates, watch the news on the radio and if you have time, call at the soil conservation office to talk over a "farm plan" for your farm.

That Top Soil

How is your account in your land bank? That is to say, how much top soil do you have on the land on your farm? The top soil is that black soil on the surface of your land. It varies from 1 to 20 inches in depth. No top soil, no crops. Continuous row cropping exhausts it and a lot of it washes away. When yellow or brown spots appear in the field where there are slopes, it can be compared to red ink on your bank balance and means that much land is getting very short of top-soil and that your soil bank account is disappearing.

A farm plan that includes a good cropping and soil management will help hold your top-soil account in your land bank. In the long run, top soil is the measure of a farmer's success. It will determine the standard of living in future generations.

Corn Crop Is Big 'Eater' of Nitrogen, Ohio Study Reveals

CORN'S need for liberal quantities of nitrogen in order to produce high yields was indicated by recent research work by Drs. J. D. Sayre and R. E. Yoder, agronomists at the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, which showed that under average conditions, corn plants must take up nearly 1½ pounds of nitrogen from the soil for each bushel of grain produced.

While most Corn Belt farmers on good legume sods, more decomposing soil organic matter a large part of the for the corn increasing tities pl

Soil Districts Cover Iowa

Only five counties of the state are without Soil Conservation Districts; however it is expected that their farmers will organize and petition for the service of technicians within the next year. Benton county organized formally on June 24 of 1945, with technicians being sent in June of last year, the district commissioners consisting of Harold Miller, Vinton, as chairman; Herman Franzenberg of Keystone; Arvid Shogren of Vinton and George Raabe of Belle Plaine, are very pleased with the rapid progress of conservation practices on the farms.

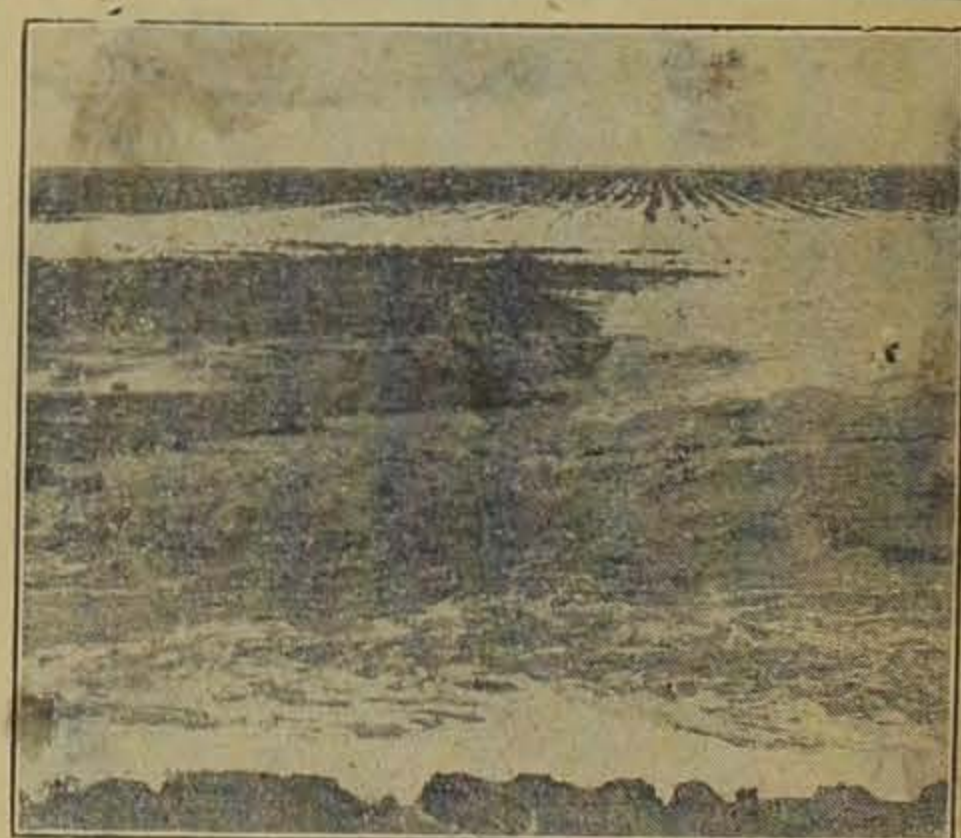
Legumes Need Plant Food to Do Job of Rebuilding Soils

CHICAGO—Legumes as a recipe for enriching the soil and adding to its resources of organic matter were recommended by the Middle West Soil Improvement Committee.

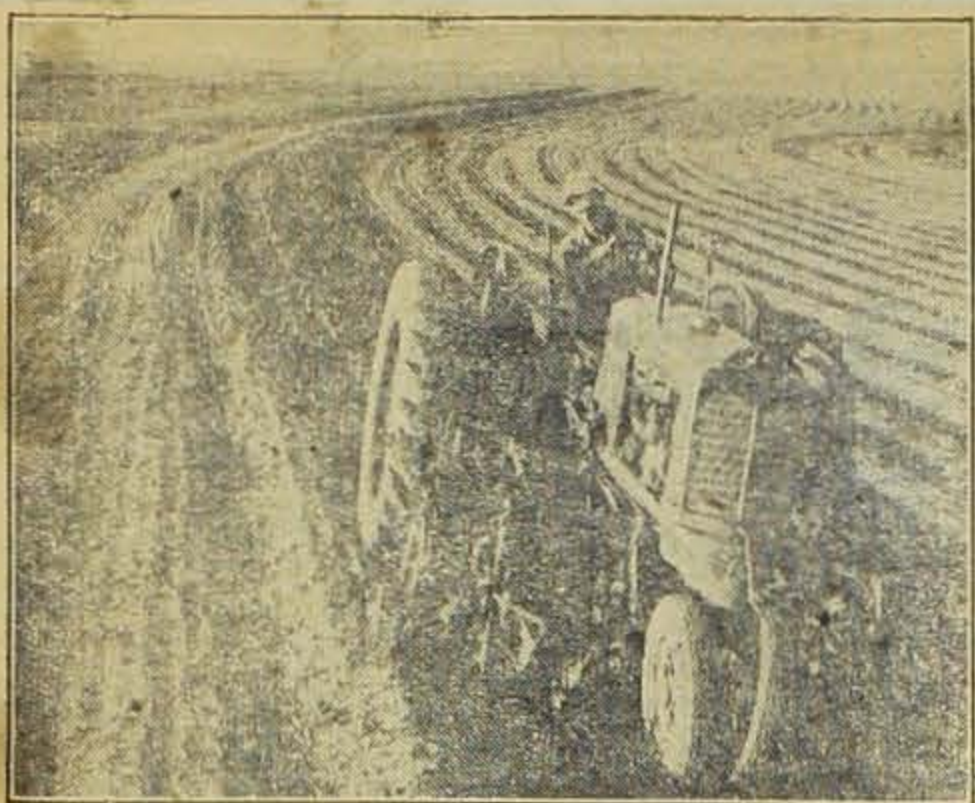
"But," says a statement issued here by the committee, "legumes cannot do the job of fertility replenishment by themselves. They have reinforcements in plant foods containing phosphorus."



Unless beans are grown on flat land or on a very gentle slope a great amount of topsoil is lost by subsequent erosion. Some farmers are almost ready to abandon raising beans altogether due to erosion, but when farmed on the contour as is seen in the above picture, very little soil is lost. It is a very wise practice to contour all beans on land over two per cent slope.



This common scene in Benton and many other counties in Iowa this month has brought on millions of dollars worth of distress. Much of it could have been prevented by proper conservation practices applied on the land where the water first started flowing. Many thousands of dollars could have been saved in road damage alone in Benton County.



The above picture taken of Alfred Greiner of Marion County, shows how he farms over the terrace in his field as simply as he would any other ordinarily contoured field. Because of the inauguration of the old fashioned terrace in Iowa township, Benton farmers have a general belief that only grass or hay crops grow on the terrace. This 320 acre farm has 11 miles of terrace on it.

Top Soil IS THE BEST

Shell Products Are Top

Start today to build up that topsoil. Consult your District Soil Conservation men.

Shell Service Station
"HAL"—and—"DAVE"

Food and Vegetables

are only as good as the

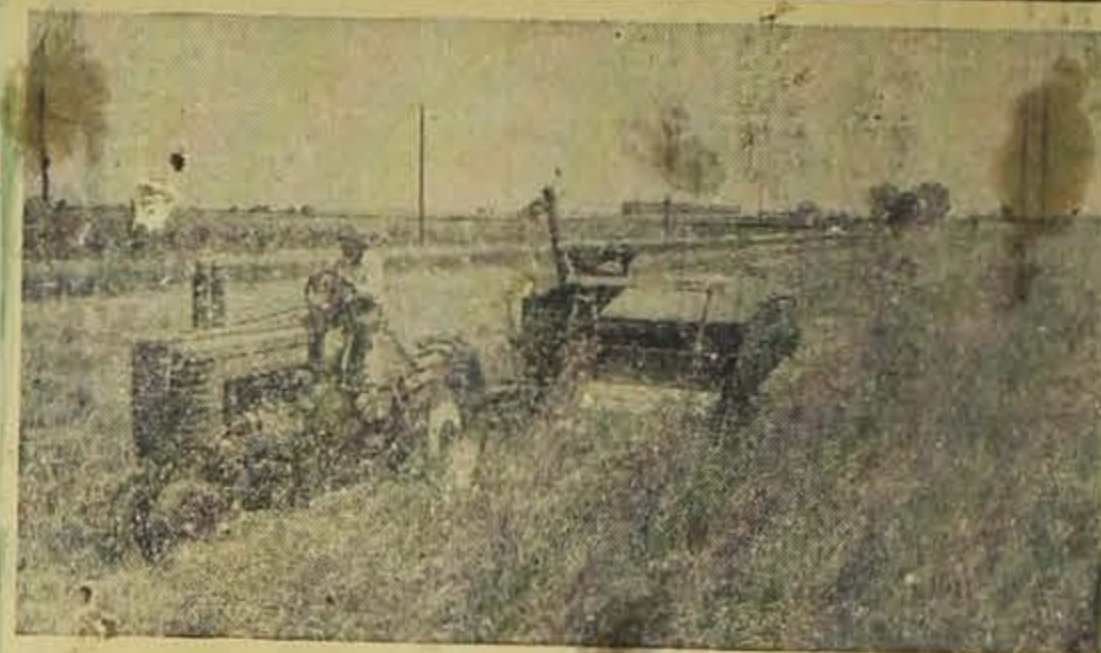
SOIL

that produced them!

A well-fed soil produces fruit and vegetables that contain an abundance of minerals and vitamins. Keep your soil in top condition.

A Soil Conservation Advertisement
Ray's Clover Farm Grocery
Norway, Iowa

Soil Fertility Called 'Fourth Dimension' Which Enables Farm Land to Feed People



Soils Well Stocked With Fertility Can Best Perform Crop Producing Job.

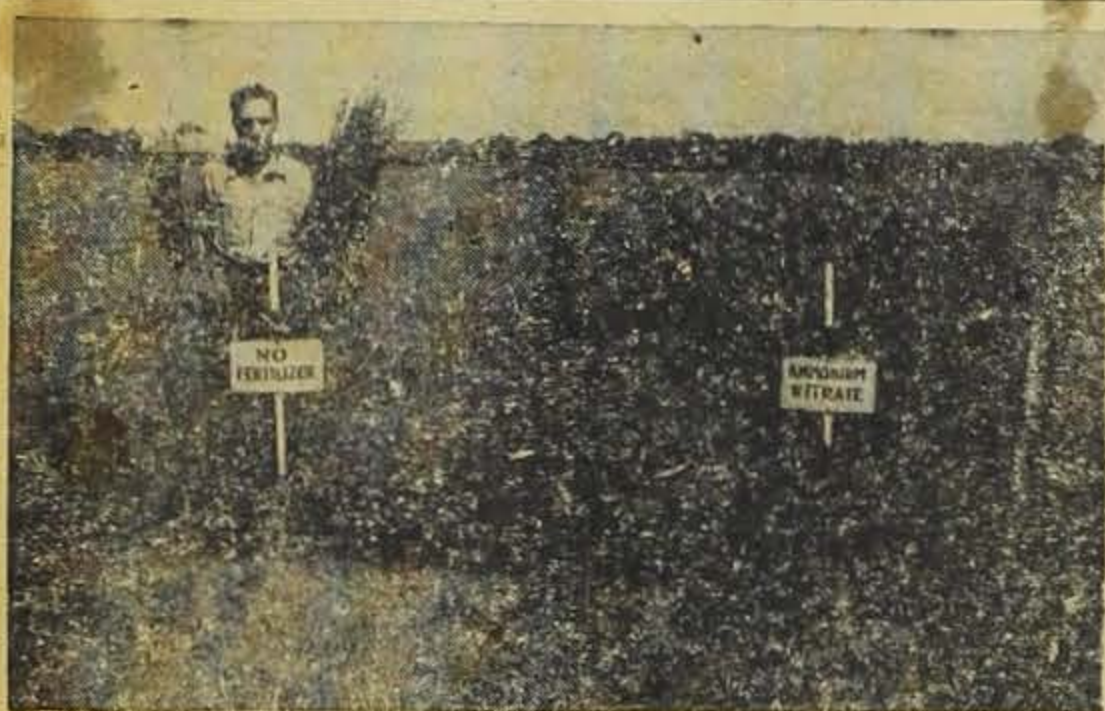
COLUMBIA, MO.—Soil fertility was described as farm land's "fourth dimension" by Dr. William A. Albrecht, chairman of the soils department of the University of Missouri.

"This is the 'dimension' that enables the soil to feed us," Dr. Albrecht pointed out.

"Of old we measured land by two dimensions—length and breadth—and not by this dimension, and not length and breadth and depth—that the soil can feed."

livestock make into food for us. It is by this dimension, and not length and breadth and depth—that the soil can feed."

Soil Treatment Increases Grasslands Crops, Improves Hay's Protein and Feeding Value



Pasture Shows Value of Ammonium Nitrate Application.

"DIVIDENDS" ranging from $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1½ tons more hay per acre can be expected to result from the application of ammonium nitrate at the rate of 150 to 200 pounds per acre in April or May as a top-dressing to timothy and other grasslands, according to Prof. C. H. Johnson, Iowa State University.

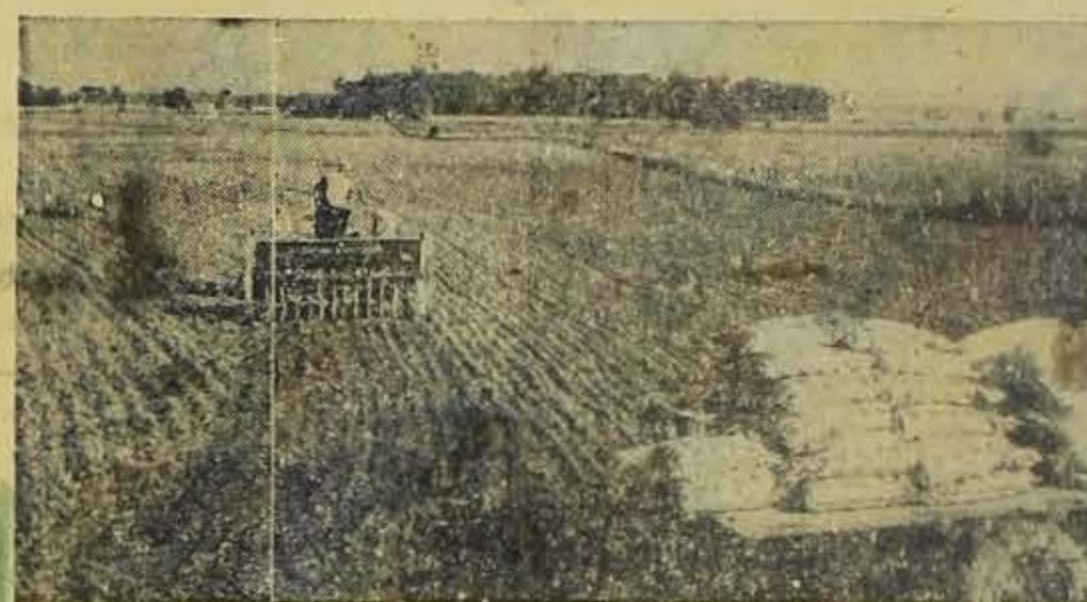
FOUND! A CURE FOR SOIL EROSION!

Soil Conservation practices will heal that gully if applied in time. Your "Soil Doctor," the Soil Conservation Technician, will diagnose your erosion problem and prescribe a cure.

SEE HIM TODAY

PICKART PRODUCE
Poultry, Eggs and Feed
NORWAY IOWA

Demand for Fertilizer Tops Supply Despite Big Increase in Output, U. S. Report Shows



Fertilizer Use Has Been Greatly Expanded in Midwestern States.

CHICAGO — How farm demand for fertilizer has far outstripped the supply in spite of tremendous increases in production, was disclosed in a recent report of a special subcommittee of the U. S. House of Representatives.

Pasture Improvement Yields More, Better Feed for Livestock

CHICAGO — Emphasizing that "grass is the cheapest feed for dairy cows or beef animals," the Middle West Soil Improvement Committee recommended a 6-point pasture improvement program for providing plenty of hay and pasture for livestock.

Liming heads the list of the committee's suggestions.

"Apply what lime your soil needs," says a statement issued by the committee. "The local county agent or agronomists at state agricultural colleges can provide you with necessary information. Don't waste seed and fertilizer on highly acid soils. Liming before seeding and fertilizing is the best policy."

Item Number 2 on the program is adequate fertilization.

"An investment in mixed fertilizer both at seeding time and afterwards will pay dividends," the statement says.



Good Soil Management Vital in Getting Good Legume Stands.

GOOD SOIL BUILDS AND SUSTAINS GOOD HOMES

Your District Soil Conservation Men Will Help You
In Building Your Soil.

Let Us Help You In
Building Your Home

DENNISTON & PARTRIDGE CO.
HEINIE & HEINIE Lumber and Building Materials

Soil Conservation Is No Gamble

Erosion Control Practices Are Passing
The Test On Over 10,000 Farms

CLARENCE'S CAFE

Don't Give Away Your Farm Land

Save It For A Future

Benton County Soil Conservation, Week of June 21-28

Iowa farmers will plant six million acres of sloping land in corn this year. They'll plant a million acres to soybeans. How much increase in food and feed production would be obtained by contouring all of this?

CONTOURING

BOOST YIELDS—

Corn—5 Bu. Per Acre
Oats—5 Bu. Per Acre
Soybeans—2 Bu. Per Acre

SAVES—

Fuel—1 Gallon In 11
Time—1 Hour In 8
Machinery—Fewer Repairs

If the seven million acres were contoured, and increases per acre as listed were obtained, farmers would produce thirty million more bushels of corn and two million more bushels of soybeans.

—WE'RE HEADQUARTERS FOR—
Cargill and Nutrena Feeds

GOODRICH PRODUCE CO.

Norway and Oxford



It's
Good "Horse Sense"
To
Practice
Soil Conservation
—AND TRADE AT—
Olson's West End Garage

The Basic Requirement
—of a—
GOOD FARMER
—is that he—

Conserve His Soil
Soil Conservation
Practices Pay

Quality Merchandise Is
The Basis of Our Business

JIM'S RADIO AND APPLIANCE
General Electric Store

To All Our Farmer
Friends and
Land-Owners:

We urge all our farmer
friends and customers to
participate in the benefits
to be derived from

A Soil Conservation District

We believe soil improving
is a good, sound farming
practice.

Friendly Tavern

Contour Farming Pays In 3 MAIN WAYS

- 1—Saves Tractor Power
- 2—Produces Higher Yields
- 3—Conserves Soil, Water, Seed and Fertilizer

Our prosperity depends to a large extent upon the prosperity of the farmers we serve. The farmer's prosperity depends to a large extent upon the soil he farms. That is why we are interested in a Sound Soil Conservation Program for Benton County.

We Believe In Soil Conservation. It's Just Good Common Sense.

Norway Creamery Norway Sales and Service

Soil Conservation
Means More
Farm Income
Save Your Income (Top Soil)
—BY—

1. Establishing Grass Waterways
2. Contour Plowing (this fall)
3. Planting Crops On Contour
4. Fit Rotation To Soil Capability

We recommend that you cooperate with
the Benton County Soil Conservation District

See Us For Conservation Loan

Benton County Savings Bank

"Ask Us About The Bond-A-Month Plan"

Established In 1881

Found, A Cure For Erosion

Soil conservation practices will heal that gully if applied in time. Your "soil doctor," the Soil Conservation Technician, will diagnose your erosion problem and prescribe a cure.

See Him Today At The District Office In Vinton

This Space Furnished
Through The Courtesy of **John's Tavern**

Hold The Soil

You Hold The Title To Your Farm

—BUT—

Can You Hold The Land Itself?

Today any farmer can Hold his soil and build himself a better living by using Soil Conservation Practices.

JERRY'S PLACE

**A THOUGHT FOR
Iowa Soil Conservation Week**

**Conserve Your Soil By
Proper Soils Practices**

The Quaker Oats Company
E. L. BERG, Agent Norway, Iowa

Our Seed Will Not Wash Away

... IF ...

You Follow Soil Conservation Practices On Your Farm.
See Your County Agent Or District Men For In-
formation On Practices Adapted To Your Land.

NORWAY GRAIN COMPANY

Washington 25, D.C.
July 28, 1950

Copy

Mr. R. O. Burrows, Jr.
The Belle Plaine Union
Belle Plaine, Iowa

Dear Mr. Burrows:

You are to be congratulated on the effective manner in which you treated soil conservation as the keynote of the July 5 issue of The Belle Plaine Union. I am glad you sent me a copy, because I thoroughly enjoyed reading the various good stories you carried on this vital subject. The pictures likewise were well selected and effective in telling the conservation story.

Particularly good, I think, was your front page article pointing up how agriculture is the foundation on the Nation's economy and the basic importance of soil conservation in bettering our agriculture and improving the well being of all of us.

I am glad to hear of the helpful cooperation given you by Mr. Glenn Heady of Vinton. We in the Soil Conservation Service appreciate the great value of such public service educational support as your own in helping to get the soil and water conservation job done. I hope you will let us know at any time we may be of further service in providing you with information.

Sincerely,

H.H. Bennett

Chief

**A THOUGHT FOR
Iowa Soil Conservation Week**

**Conserve Your Soil By
Proper Soils Practices**

The Quaker Oats Company
E. L. BERG, Agent Norway, Iowa

Our Seed Will Not Wash Away

... IF ...

You Follow Soil Conservation Practices On Your Farm.
See Your County Agent Or District Men For In-
formation On Practices Adapted To Your Land.

NORWAY GRAIN COMPANY

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Glenn F. Heady, Work Unit Conservationist Marion, Iowa
FROM : L. E. Tyler, District Conservationist DATE: October 2, 1950
SUBJECT: Letter to Cooperators

I wish to commend you for the letter you recently sent to all co-operators in the Benton County Soil Conservation District. Such a letter, it seems to me, has a two-fold purpose; it not only may help to facilitate layout work, it should give the co-operator the feeling that he has not been forgotten.

Mr. Mendell was also quite favorably impressed with the letter. He mentions that such a letter could be sent by the district governing body, however, rather than by Soil Conservation Service personnel. This is a point you might consider when future letters are sent out.

Lloyd E. Tyler

**A THOUGHT FOR
Iowa Soil Conservation Week**

**Conserve Your Soil By
Proper Soils Practices**

The Quaker Oats Company
E. L. BERG, Agent Norway, Iowa

**Our Seed Will Not Wash Away
... IF ...**

You Follow Soil Conservation Practices On Your Farm.
See Your County Agent Or District Men For In-
formation On Practices Adapted To Your Land.

NORWAY GRAIN COMPANY

June 28, 1950

Frank Wendell
Soil Conservation Service
Ames, Iowa

Dear Frank:

Each year the Iowa Division of the Izaak Walton League of America sponsors a wildlife school training course for men and boys from our various chapters throughout the state. The purpose of such a school is to train instructors so that they may direct similar schools through their own chapters. We start the program with slides and lectures on soil conservation, as our League realizes that conservation is directly related to the soil.

I have held similar schools in three counties and have always used representatives of the SCS Service.

Glen Heady, representative of the SCS in Vinton, has helped me on numerous occasions and never have I received better cooperation from any one than I have from Glen. He certainly is doing a bangup job in Benton County, and I just wanted you to know about it.

I am recommending that each of our chapters hold a similar school to the one we have here and I have suggested that they contact the soil conservation men in their district, as this department has always cooperated well with all conservation practices.

Yours very truly,

HER
Harry E. Rector
Executive Sec'y.

HER:jw

Blind Copy: Murray Russell
Glen Heady

Cedar Valley Times Farmer

VINTON, IOWA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1951

Fred Bockholt Farm from Air



STRIP CROPPING is done on the Fred Bockholt farm near Keystone. The farm is operated by Mr. Bockholt's grandson, Keith Ohde. Mr. Ohde is a relative beginner in soil conservation farming but he has become firm in his convictions on the program he is carrying out. This fine aerial picture was taken last summer at harvest time.

Strip Cropping at Wayman's



EVERETTE WAYMAN, north of here, was one of the first farmers in this area to call for a conservation plan on his farm following World War II. Last year Everett was named one of the three "conservation farmers of the year" by the soils commissioners. His farm is shown in the foreground. Glenn Heady, Benton soil conservationist took this fine picture.

Conservation Work at Grunewald's



THE TOP PICTURE SHOWS A RUGGED GULLY creeping up into a field on the H. J. Grunewald Hill farm southwest of Blairtown. The gully appeared in this condition in the spring of 1947 when the Grunewalds purchased the farm. John Grunewald is shown crossing the gully. The lower picture shows H. J. Grunewald, Sr., in the same spot as John stands in the upper picture last spring after the gully had been completely plowed in and seeded down to alfalfa brome grass seedling.

Luzerne Farmer Conservation Enthusiast at 71



GEORGE BACKES, 71, is one of Benton county's most venerable and enthusiastic soil conservationists. He is shown above telling one of his famous stories to U. S. Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady and one of his two sons Fred (left) at a recent meeting in Vinton. The Backes farm of 320 acres is situated four miles northeast of Luzerne, abounds in strip-cropping, pasture renovation and good crop rotation and livestock production practices. Terraces are being planned. Besides Fred, another son, Arnold, also helps operate the farm.

—Daily Times Photo-Engraving

What's This?—

Garden Vegetables on Contour

—At Swatosh Farm

A number of years ago when the soil erosion area was established in Belle Plaine, Ed Swatosh, living one-quarter mile northwest of the city, applied for and received assistance in the development of a complete soil conservation plan for his farm.

Ed has not only followed closely his erosion control program on the farm but has long been influential in developing further interest in this area. On numerous occasions high school and veterans agricultural classes have visited his place, inspecting his strip cropping system and to learn how to lay out contour lines.

Contour Garden

Mr. and Mrs. Swatosh's yard and garden are places of beauty. Both the yard and garden follow the theme of soil conservation, since Mrs. Swatosh even plants her small garden on the contour.

Yes if, one visited the Swatosh farm and looked at their garden, he would see radishes, lettuce and onions planted around the slope.

George Raabe, another great conservation booster in this section of the Big Four district, might have been stretching the point a bit, but he claims that Ed's livestock have even taken to the idea. George contends the animals refuse to walk to or from the fields without traveling on the exact contour of the slopes.

The Swatosh farm is the first farm on the left hand side of the road after one crosses the intersection of Nineteenth street on Seventh avenue.

Improvements Made At Knapp Farmstead

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Garrison, Dec. 30.—Many new improvements have been made on the Esther Knapp farm near here.

Operated for 23 years by Ed Turner, the farm has a new cow barn, two 1,000-bushel steel bins, a renovated residence and a new electric pressure water system. One hundred and twenty acres were added to the farm this year.

Turner, incidentally, has eight children. Four have gone through college. One has had a year at Cedar Falls and three are still in high school.

Reeds Build New Cattle Shed With \$500 in Materials

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Garrison, Dec. 30.—George Reed and his father have built a low cost but extremely serviceable, cattle shed on the Reed place northwest of here, a mile west of the junction of 218 and 8.

The shed replaces an older structure. Materials cost \$500. Reed raises Shorthorns and purebred Chester White hogs. Ordinarily he raises 125 to 140 hogs and saves 30 to 35 of his best boars to sell to farmers for breeding stock.

Reed has a soils program of corn, oats and two years of meadow. He has been terracing his farm which has been lined only once.

Luzerne Student Is Business Manager Of Farm Magazine

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Luzerne, Dec. 2.—William Kern of Luzerne, student at Iowa State college, was business manager for the issue of the Iowa Agriculturalist, magazine published by students at Iowa State college, which placed high in ratings announced this week by the Agricultural College Magazines Association.

The Agriculturalist was picked third in general excellence, and was judged best in the cover contest. It also received a superior rating for the best popular presentation of technical material.

Blairtown and Luzerne Farmers Ask for Soil Help

The Luzerne and Blairtown areas have requested a great deal of technical assistance from the Benton county district soil commissioners who, has included the writing of additional conservation plans on the farms of H. J. Grunewald and Sons Hill farm, Gus Kimm, Grant Shuck, W. A. Drake, W. J. and Lloyd Doerzeman, Fred C. Rieke and Son, Herb Rieke, Grunewald and Sons Creek farm, Hiram Lanam, Hanner estate and Bruce Hanner, W. J. and John Thorman, Merle Thorman and William Reinberg, all of Blairtown, and L. J. Stewart of Luzerne.

Latest applicants for conservation plans whose are pending conservation surveys are the following Luzerne farms: Albert Mecklenberg, Lumir Macku, George Wonnau, Lawrence Thompson, John C. Kern, Joseph and Harold Drahos, Harold and C. K. Jackson, Arthur Schaefer, George Backes and Sons, Frank Kahler, Alfred Sauertieg and Orris Shoemaker, Martin Kimm and Earl King Otis Voss, Leo and Wilfred Duncalf, Claude Williams, August Ohlen, August Kluss, George Franzburg, Louis Scheetz, Jess Mapes and William J. and Kenneth Kramer.

Late applicants for conservation plans in the Blairtown area whose farm plans are on the waiting list include the farms of W. C. and Edwin Niebuhr, Henry Schultz and Kenneth Johnson, Clarence and Albert Schultz, A. B. and W. W. Groff, Waldo Niebuhr, William Schroeder, W. J. Baumgardner, M. F. and Merle Bruch, Herman and Myron Becker, Kruger Brothers, Charles Schultz and Gilbert Wardenburg, William Schultz and Gilbert Wardenburg, E. J. Craw and Kenneth Johnson.

Supervisors Louis Coberly's Farm



THE ABOVE STRIP CROPPED FIELD OF FORTY-TWO ACRES is on the farm of Benton County Supervisor Louis Coberly. Coberly owns two farms consisting of a total of 520 acres both of which are being completely changed over to complete soil conservation plans. The main conservation practices being applied are terracing, strip cropping, waterway construction, pasture renovation and woodland management. This picture was taken in the summer of 1949 when sons, Jack and Stanley, who farm the land were cutting the oats.

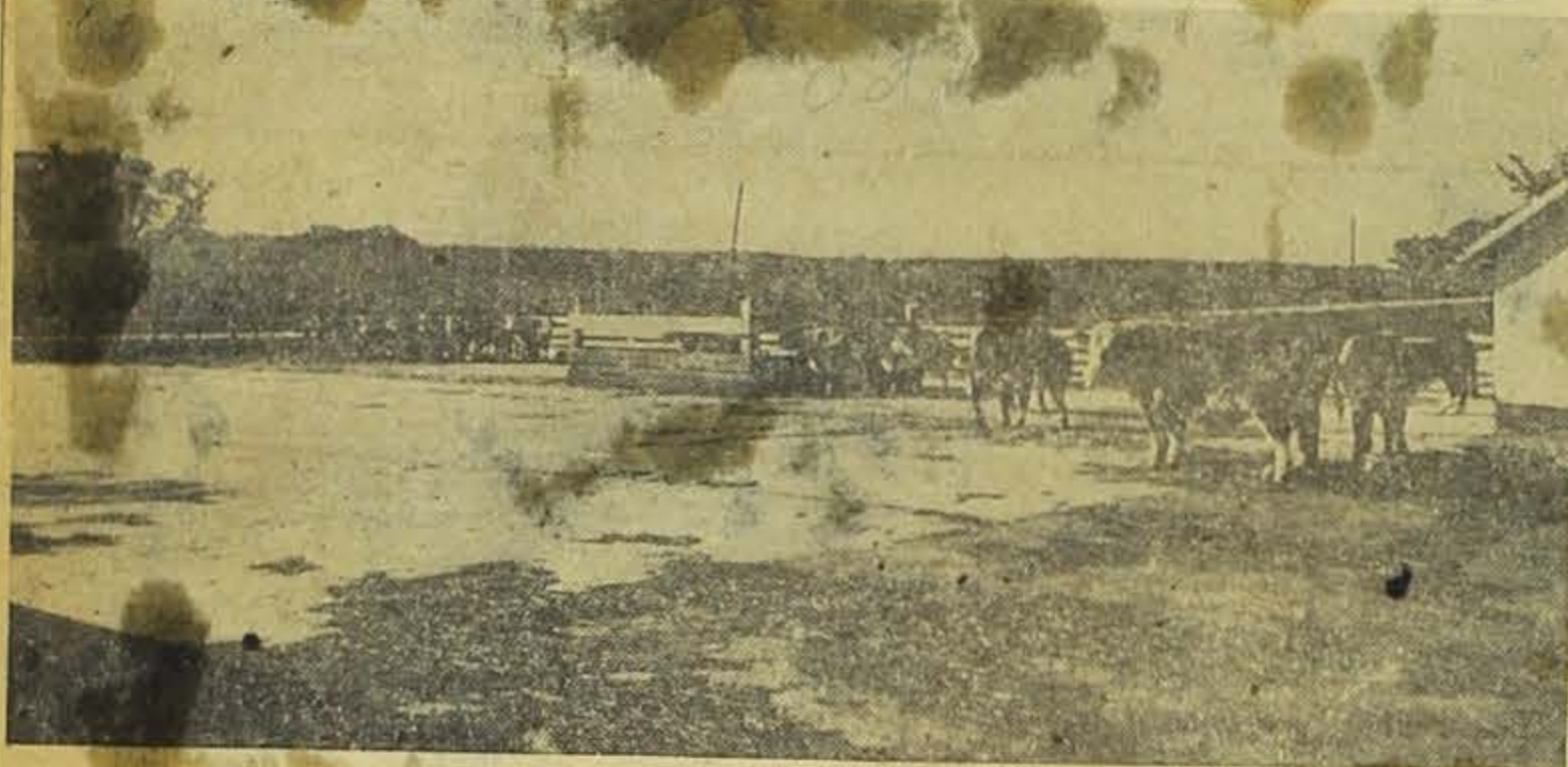
Garrison Man Has Blooded Herefords

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Garrison, Dec. 2.—The first four calves dropped by five of Carl Edmonds' pedigreed Hereford heifers now calving for the first time were heifers. He bought both his bull and four of his five

heifers from the Pollock herd near Mt. Auburn. Edmonds also has a herd of purebred Holstein cows 18 of which he is now milking. He separates cream for sale in order to have milk for hogs. This fall Edmonds finished terracing 60 acres of land on his farm and has plans for more terraces to be built later.

New Vinton Feed Floor Covers 15,400 Square Feet



HAROLD BEATTY, six miles northeast of Vinton, this week turned 42 head of fat Hereford feeder steers onto his big new feed floor for the first time. Six inches deep, the floor is 140 feet long and 110 feet wide and may well be the largest feed unit of its kind in Benton county. Two carloads of cement were used and the cost was around \$3,000. The Herefords have been on feed for about ten months, will be sold within the next fortnight. Beatty, who farms 180 acres, is a brother of the Shellsburg Beattys—Charles, Everett, Earl and Frank.



VINTON, IOWA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1950

May Serve 7th Year As PMA Chief



—Daily Times Photo-Engraving
JAMES GIBNEY OF WATKINS, Benton chairman of the county PMA committee here for six consecutive years, may be re-elected for a 7th term today at the county convention in Vinton. A chairman, vice-chairman and third member will be elected today for 1951. Twenty delegates, one from each township, are eligible to vote. Present vice-chairman is S. E. Wallace of Vinton, third member Gus Carison also of Vinton. County committee members receive \$9 a day and five cents a mile mileage. Gibney is shown above with Mrs. Warren R. Barr of Vinton, secretary-treasurer of the county PMA.

RETURNS FROM 14 TOWNSHIPS IN PMA VOTING

Elections to Choose Farm Leaders Ended Last Night.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
Results of 14 of the 20 township PMA elections concluded this week were announced today shortly before the county convention went in to session at county headquarters here to choose the county committee for next year.

Chairmen, vice-chairmen, regular members, first alternates and second alternates were announced in that order as having been elected from the following townships:

Canton to Harrison

Canton — J. Earl Tumilty, Arthur Roehr, Donald Gardemann, Lloyd D. Hatfield and Glenn McClintock.

Eldorado — Merl Rinderknecht, George Good, Percy Olson, Herbert F. Welchman and Harvey C. Werning.

Florence — Henry O. Schloeman, Milo Melberg, Chester Towle, Harold Cole and Harry Du Bois.

Fremont — Paul J. Haerther, Albert H. Rathje, Cecil J. Frimml, Herman W. Haerther, John C. Gardemann.

Harrison — Delbert L. Cox, Walter F. Pardun, Harry Horak, Charles S. Pauley and Milton F. Sallee.

Homer to Monroe

Homer — Herman Tecklenburg, Louis T. Albertson, Harry J. Junge, Donald H. Albers and Gaylen Good, Jr.

Iowa — Walter E. Boehmke, Robert H. Buch, Richard H. Janku, William E. Herink and Calvin F. Fullmer.

Jackson — Ernest F. Kahler, Henry J. Herger, Edward F. Turner, Alfred M. Greaser and Glenn J. Christy.

Kane — Arthur E. Franzenburg, Steve J. Kozik, Wilbert Heitman, Merle K. Ohde and Johnnie E. Hansen.

Monroe — Walter H. Miller, Henry S. Kersten, John Doekal, Shelby L. Roberts and Edward Wurtzel.

Polk to Union

Polk — Frank J. Koutny, Leland E. Reiss, Donald E. McKinley, Clarence F. Wilson and Fred Dripps.

St. Clair — Theodore G. Schmidt, Matt J. Boddicker, Charles H. Siek, Robert Schulte and Norman McNea.

Taylor — Harold W. Miller, Cecil Flickinger, Russell E. Kray, Harold Neve and Keith Elwick.

Union — Herman C. Brehm, Leon Werner, Ronald Barry, William A. Fry and B. P. Nolan.

Results of the other township elections will be announced early next week.

2 Men to Test Soils in Benton County July 1

Service Was Used in Tama, Iowa, Poweshiek Last Year; Small Fee.

BY JAMES GIBNEY

Benton P. M. A. Chairman
Starting July 1, the Benton Production Marketing association will have two men available full time to test the soils on the crop fields of interested farmers. To get the service farmers must drop a card to the Benton County P. M. A. office at Vinton or contact their township committeemen.

With interest growing in the use of commercial fertilizer it is thought that most farmers will be able to save considerable money by having their soils tested in order to assure them of buying the right fertilizers for their crops. This service was used last year in Tama, Poweshiek and Iowa counties, but has not been used previously in Benton county.

\$1 Per Sample

Farmers may have one or all fields on the farm tested. Because soil samples will be sent to the Iowa college testing laboratories the cost per sample will be the usual one dollar. It is expected that some farmers will want only one or two fields tested while others will want every field on the farm tested.

Upon receipt of the results on the chemical analysis the farmers will know whether or not the fields need more lime and the amount of nitrogen and also phosphate and potash needed to apply. Recommended fertilizer analysis for the crops to be grown will also be included with the results.

Some 14,000 samples were tested in the state last year with Sac, Delaware and Winneshiek counties leading in the number of soil tests made.

Clyde Merchant and Graydon McQuilkin, former Iowa State college students and now active Benton county farmers will take the samples. They have been well trained for the work and it is expected that they will be busy until fall freeze up with requests.

Cedar Valley Times Farmer

MORE BENTON FARMS SIGNED UP FOR PLANS

Cite Work Accomplished On Acres Throughout County During '50.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

More and more Benton farmers are falling in line to conserve the rich soil that is the heritage of this part of Iowa, according to the annual report of the Benton soil conservation district commission. Cooperators and projects in 1950 included the following:

Terracing, 147,674 linear feet, on the farms of B. G. Alcorn and R. Halva, Benton county home, Baldridge and Eldridge, Harry Carr, Myron Caldwell, Ulin Cantonwine, Carl Edmonds, H. J. Grunewald & Sons, Green Giant and Ward, Max Gleason and Studebaker, Harry Horak, Lamprecht and Green Giant, H. S. Lames, Ralph Little, Howard and Eugene McLeod, McQuilken Bros., Abdo Omar, Hommy Omar and Alcorn, Warren Pangborn, Fay Pardon, George Reed, Bernard Reider, Charles Sauer, Wayne Saunders and Robbins John Strawn, John Suck, Charles Zieser and Harold Zobel.

Strip-cropping, 586 acres on the following farms, Charles Bryden, Louis Coberly, Glenn Christy, Kenneth Fry, Victor Hanson, Dave Irvine, Elmer Jones, John Long, Dr. C. A. Manahan, Waldo Niebuhr, Paul Raymond, Grant and Don Shuck and George Wonnau.

Field Boundaries, Waterways
Field boundaries on the contour, 114,529 linear feet, on the farms of Larry Becker, Benton county home, Don Boddicker, Maurice Caldwell, Vernon Cook, M. J. Culver, Roy Dunston, Walter Fiebelkorn, Lawrence Floyd, Foss and Merchant, Walter Fye, C. E. Hilliard, Dave Irvine, Elmer Jones, Howard Knupp, Kozik Bros., Francis Kueny, Carl Lowery, Ralph Little, Lawrence Maxwell, Howard Meek, John Meek, Peter Michael, Howard and Eugene McLeod, Narber and Showman, Wallace Newton, Waldo Niebuhr, Abdo Omar, Hommy Omar and Alcorn, Dr. Paige and Kitner, N. A. Potter and Burris, J. A. Sanders, W. D. Smith, Clarence Stratton, Merl Thorman, Pete Walker, Earl Wallace, Harold Wallace and Vinton Hybrid.

Waterway construction, 59,480 linear feet, Willard Abraham, B. G. Alcorn, B. G. Alcorn and R. Halva, Harry Carr, Louis Coberly, Rush Cumberland, Carl Edmonds and Burd, Rommann Gardner, V. M. Gardner, Clark Geater, Green Giant Co., Earl Girtman and Seely, Art Hagen, Rudy Halva, Wesley Horak, McQuilken Bros., Waldo Niebuhr, Wallace Newton, Dr. Paige and Kitner, Fay Pardon, Dick Pippert, Earl Reed, Charles Sauer, E. C. Schminke, Ervin Schrader, Earl Wallace, Harry Weichman and Charles Zieser.

Tiling, Wildlife, Etc.
Open ditches, 6,360 linear feet, Don Boddicker, Clark Geater, A. B. Kirk, McQuilken Bros., Dr. Paige and Kitner and Dick Pippert.

Clearing and grubbing, 120 acres at Benton county home, Kenneth Fry, Max Gleason and Studebaker and Leonard Maley.

Tiling, 65,074 feet, Charles Birkner, D. B. Cooper, Art Hagen, A. B. Kline, Ralph Little, Howard McLeod, Merchant and Foss, Lynn Nicodemus, Nicodemus and Taylor, Dr. Paige and Kitner, Dick Pippert, Mel Rammelsburg, E. C. Reiss, John Remington, Elfred Schulte and Carl Shogren.

Making Plans For 17 Farms At La Porte

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

La Porte City, Aug. 26.—John Highland, soil scientist working with the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, has made a soils inventory of 17 La Porte City area farms in preparation for the development of farm plans.

Highland also measured the per cent of slope on the places and the amount of erosion that has occurred. The data have been sent to the SCS regional office for photographing. They will be returned to the Benton SCS headquarters in Vinton for use in development of the farm plans being made for the La

Porte group organized in February of 1949.

Farms surveyed include the following with La Porte addresses: D. B. Cooper, Homer McQuilken, Roy V. Casey, Roger Rickert, John Hark, Dewey Taylor, Inez and Robert Glime, Vervian Palmer, Ray Parmater, Robert Parmater, Don Taylor, Oren Hoyt and Dr. Paige. Also in this group are O. W. Gillespie of Garrison and Charles and Forest Hill of Dysart.

Glenn Heady, Benton county soil conservationist, has meanwhile urged these farmers to consider what they want on their places in the way of crop rotations, tiling and conservation practices. His office expects to be ready to work on the La Porte City farms in the near future. In the fall the Benton soil conservation district commission hopes to hold a small field day on the McQuilken Bros. farm for growers in this area.

Conservation Projects Pop Up in Benton

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Many thousands of feet of terracing have been built and additional thousands of feet of new tile have been laid this fall on farms all over Benton county.

Under the direction of Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady, terracing jobs have been completed on the following farms:

Charles Sauer, Harrison township, 2,800 feet.

Earl Wallace, Taylor, 8,940 feet.

Walter Boehmke, Iowa, 1,350 feet.

Daniel Bruch, Taylor, 2,450 feet.

Dr. R. E. Elson, Benton, 1,100 feet.

W. A. Drake, Leroy, 7,250 feet.

Ralph Little, Benton, 3,950 feet.

Harry Carr, Canton, 1,650 feet.

Tile projects have been completed or are in the works at a number of places. Henry Grunewald of Blainstown has laid 3,000 feet; Earl Wallace has tiled 40 acres in Taylor; Drake is planning to retille his entire 320-acre farm;

Planting of wildlife, woodlot and game lanes on 21 1/4 acres on the following farms: Walter Boehmke, Louis Coberly, Vernon Crow, Keith Elwick, Loren Eichmeyer, Lawrence Floyd, Harry Horak, Walter Heineman, Elmer Jones, Howard Knupp, Francis Kueny, McQuilken Bros., Abdo Omar, William Reinburg and Carl Shogren.

Pasture renovation, 403 acres on farms of B. G. Alcorn, R. D. Baldridge, Louis Coberly, Robert Daugherty, W. A. Drake, Kenneth Fry, H. J. Grunewald & Sons, M. A. Hall, Ed Hanson, Walter Heineman, A. B. Kirk, F. C. Kubik, Hugo Lindahl, Ralph Little, Clark Long, W. D. Martin, W. I. Maynard, John Schild, L. J. Stewart and KaDel Urice.

Farm Plans Written

Farm plans were written during 1950 for the following Benton farms: Lloyd Ashenbach, Rudy Bader, Baldridge and Eldridge, Gale Ballheim, Walter Bauer, Harold Beatty, William Bendull, Benton county home, Agnes Bevins & C. Brown, Clarence Beyer, Don Boddicker, George Bradstreet, W. E. Burd and C. Edmonds, Roy Casey, Lewis Chambers, Coleman-Kahler, D. B. Cooper (two farms), R. Earl Cox, Rush Cumberland, Bernice Davis and C. Clime, Ivan Davis, Kenneth Ferguson, Walter Fiebelkorn, Joe Fulmer and A. Foss & Merchant.

Walter Fye, Paul Gahan, Robert Glime, Bruce Hannen, Raymond Hanneman, John Hark,

James Bardwell in Iowa has put in 180 rods and in Canton A. C. Shipley is going to lay 2,580 feet.

Other soil conservation practices going on this fall include:

Laying of strip-cropping on 37 acres on the Floyd Bayer farm in Polk. Because of erosion, he had to let the ground go back to hay land. It will be returned to cropland next year with alternate strips of corn and clover-timothy.

In Iowa two miles north of Belle Plaine, Boehmke is planning a farm pond that has been laid out by Heady.

Drake is building 1,500 feet of waterways which he will seed to brome grass and alfalfa.

In Benton the Urice Brothers have a 650-foot gully control project underway to stop meandering and water cutting. They will seed to Reed's canary grass.

Realizes Nearly \$90 An Acre by Hogging Down Corn, Hay Field

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Urbana, Sept. 30.—Rush Cumberland, well-known Urbana pork producer, has been making the equivalent of nearly \$90 an acre on his farm north of here by turning 170 hogs into a 10-acre field of corn and a 15-acre field of alfalfa-brome hay.

The hogs weighed 110 pounds when they were turned into the fields and they now average around 175 for a gain of 65 pounds each. Figuring live pork at \$20 per hundredweight, the return for the 25 acres would run to \$2,210, or \$88 plus per acre.

Lester Henkle, Edwin Hill, Wesley Horak, Clarence Hupfeld, Byron Irwin, L. E. Kaiser, Bill Kern, Esther Knapp and Ed Turner, Preston Koser, P. Lamprecht and Green Giant, Lawrence Maxwell, Everett Mayhew, John Meek, Harold Mehlhaus, Wendell Merchant, Narber - Showman - Green Giant, Wallace Newton, Ed Niebuhr, Waldo Niebuhr and Hommy Omar & Alcorn.

Dr. R. T. Paige & Kitner, V. C. Palmer, Glen Pardon, Robert Raitt, Sam Raymond, George Reed, Robert Rickert, John D. Robeson, J. A. Sanders & O. Schminke, T. H. Schmitz, Carl Shogren, Clark Smith, Clarence Stratton, Ralph Struve, Merl Thorman, W. J. Thorman, Vinton Hybrid, S. E. Wallace, Kenneth Wandschneider, W. I. Williams, Art Wilson & Zoe DeAcres, Cliff Wilson, Roy Winklepleck and Harold Zobel.

Heady Looks At Benton's Soil Gains

By GLENN F. HEADY
Soil Conservationist

On two occasions this past week I had the pleasure of having Benton county farmers with me as I drove two different routes in the north half of the county. After each of these trips I realized that there is a liberal agricultural education in observing the "goings on" right here at home.

Traveling southeast out of Vinton there were Bob Sears' hogs and Shorthorn cattle living lush on the legume grass mixture. The corn on his old permanent blue grass pasture will pay him good dividends and the alfalfa brome to follow will certainly yield much higher quality forage.

Other similar blue grass pastures that faded out of the picture this year were on the farms of Herb Hayes and W. I. Maynard of Shellsburg, Howard Studebaker, Ray Robbins, and M. A. Hall near Urbana and of Rudy Halva northwest of Vinton.

Strip Cropping

Strip cropping on the farms of Vernon Crow, Dr. C. Owen Stookey, Rev. Charles Bryden, Orville Fish and Louis Coberly, all of Shellsburg are showing up in a beautiful way now and should be worth quite a drive to see. Why these men are farming with contoured strips of crops is an interesting story and would be an interesting question to ask them.

We traveled up to see some of the multi-flora rose plants Howard Knupp set out this spring to find that some plants had grown as much as thirty-six inches this season. From the thorns on these plants it is easy to see how they should make a good livestock fence as they mature.

The farm formerly owned by Arvid Shogren and now owned by Max Gleason has some of the best corn in the neighborhood on it. You'd never know that this had been a very badly "beat up" farm to see it today, but ten years of very careful farming by Arvid paid off and will continue to pay equally as well now with proper conservation practices and good crop rotations.

Incidentally Howard Studebaker constructed better than two miles of terraces on this farm last spring.

Melvin Rammelsburg has removed hundreds of rock from one of his newly-acquired pieces of land and tiled out the wet spots. It looks now like the corn crop will well pay for the big job of rock removed and tiling. Theo. Schmitz had done a similar job.

Low Cost Hogs

Bob Kline was spraying for corn borer and out on the fields were evidences of hundreds of hogs being raised for probably the lowest cost of any hogs raised in Benton county.

Newly constructed waterways on Wes Horak's are becoming well established to grass, as are a lot of others worked over out in that neighborhood this spring by Bob Smith of Brandon.

Wallace Farmer was delivering "Buzz" Pardon some new machinery and they were getting ready to put up their clover-timothy. This will be some of the last clover-timothy raised by "Buzz," as his new farm plan now calls for all alfalfa brome for hay and pasture.

The big reeds canary grass waterway across one of Beryl Raitt's fields shows up like a "sore thumb" and to anyone wondering about its usefulness here is a good demonstration.

225 Benton Farms Have Soil Programs

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady today noted that the Benton county district commissioners now have more than 400 cooperators with farm plans on 225 of their farms. Four men are working full time right now laying out terraces, strip-cropping, etc. Letters were in the mails today to all cooperators notifying them that their requests for technical assistance are being met in the order in which they are received by the commissioners.

134 Benton Farmers Ask Technical Aid

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

The Benton SCS office has had 134 farmers in the county apply for technical help in planning their farms thus far this year. Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady reported today.

"And we have been able to help 35 farmers develop complete farm conservation plans," Heady added. "We believe, however, that by working with neighbor groups, we can make faster progress in the future."

Heady's statement was issued on the heels of a mid-year report made at Ames by Frank H. Mendell, state conservationist, who noted that in six months 3,900 Iowa farmers have asked the SCS for technical assistance with their erosion problems.

"There has been a definite increase in public interests," Mendell said, "and this has been reflected in greater demands upon the SCS for technical assistance. Naturally, with the field technicians we have available, it is impossible to keep up with the demands. However, we will get to these new district cooperators as rapidly as possible."

Mendell's report showed the farmers who applied for technical services during the first half of the year operate 683,000 acres of land. They bring the total of Iowa farmers who have asked the SCS for technical aid since the soil conservation district program began, up to 35,200, operating 6,600,000 acres.

Sauer Farm Changed

Anyone who might have been acquainted with the C. W. Sauer farm of near Brandon four years ago, would see some different sights now if he were to go out for a look. It's changed so completely that if it weren't in the same location you'd hardly know it as the same farm. Charlie credits terraces to the big improvement, and they would be worth a trip to see.

Bill Klotting, northwest of Vinton, used to farm with a conservation plan down in Jasper county, and knew what its value was before he moved onto the Ed Hanson place. His crops look good and so does his livestock, being raised way out away from the buildings where they're free from disease and contamination.

I think one of the most interesting conservation fields we saw last week was from the top of a hill north of Rudy Halvas. There was a sixty-acre field with a combination of terraces, buffer strips, contoured rows and newly-constructed waterways all on Tippy Alcorn's farm.

Finish Many Benton Soil Saving Jobs

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Some 55,440 feet of terraces have been built, 32,825 feet of tile have been laid and contour lines have been established on nearly 3,500 acres of farm land in the county this spring under the direction of the Benton county soil conservation district commission in cooperation with the SCS, it was learned today from Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady.

In addition, 452 acres of strip cropping have been laid out and 120,970 feet of new field boundaries have been made to conform with the contour of the land, Heady said.

Terracing projects are now being completed on the farms of A. B. Kirk and Earl Wallace of Vinton and Dr. H. S. Lames of Dysart. In the past two and a half years the SCS has built 138,600 feet of terraces in the county. Farmers who have had terraces laid out this spring include Howard McLeod of Elberon, Dr. Lames, A. C. Shipley of Shellsburg, W. A. Drake of Blairtown, Robert Allers and Walter Boehmke of Belle Plaine, Robert Underwood of Garrison and Chas. Sauer, Dan Bruch, V. H. Hoefle, Bill Eldridge, Preston Koser and Wallace and Kirk, all of Vinton.

Strip-Cropping Everywhere

The new strip-cropping projects bring the total acreage of that operation in the county to 2,000 acres. Strip-cropping has been laid out on the following farms: Everett Wayman of Elberon, Vernon Crow of Shellsburg, Hiram Lanam of Blairtown, Glenn Christy of Garrison, Kozik Bros. of Elberon, George Backhaus of Luzerne, F. J. Stewart of Blairtown, Don Junge of Belle Plaine, Everett Yerkes of Garrison, J. W. Maynard of Shellsburg and Victor Hanson of Vinton.

Fourteen contour demonstrations were held during the spring at scattered points throughout the county. Heady estimated that fully 6,000 additional acres were contoured by farmers themselves after the demonstrations.

While the only tile drainage project now in operation is that on the Harold Graff place near Fairfax, tile jobs are soon to be started on farms owned by the following cooperators: Einar Carlson, Theodore Schmitz, Morris Long and Oscar Anderson, all of Vinton and W. D. Sindt of Van Horne.

Many New Boundaries

New field boundaries were laid out on the following places this spring: Louis Coberly, Harold Kubic, W. K. Hootman, R. E. Elson, Harmon Cropsey and Howard Meek, all of Shellsburg; Loren Eichmeyer, Leonard Ulch and Kozik Bros., all of Elberon; Chas. Potter of Van Horne, Wendell Merchant and Everett Yerkes of Garrison, W. A. Drake, L. J. Stewart and H. J. Grunewald of Blairtown, Franklin Jacobi of Fairfax, Curtis Bader of Mt. Auburn and the following from Vinton—Harold Miller, Don Bairdridge, Bernard Reider, Roy Dunston, Charles Sauer, Hugo Lindahl, Robert Daugherty, U. K. Hoefle, Marion Donley, Howard Cook and W. D. Martin.

Conservation work also included the planting of 31 acres of wildlife areas in cooperation with the Benton County Fish & Game club and Boy Scouts from Vinton, Van Horne, Keystone, Garrison and Shellsburg.

Soil Technicians Lay More Terraces

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

The Benton County soil conservation service technicians have recently laid terraces on the farms of Romann Gardner of Garrison, Bernard Reider of Vinton, George Reed of Garrison, Carl Edmonds of Garrison, George Vavarock of Dysart, Clyde Williams of Shellsburg, Grunewald & Sons of Blairtown and John Strawn of Garrison.

APPROVE PLANS FOR 101 FARMS

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Soil conservation plans have been approved for 101 farms in Benton county as of the first of the new year, it was announced today by Glenn Heady, soil conservationist.

At its last meeting the Benton county soil conservation district commission approved plans for 11 farms totaling 1,806 acres. Average size of farms for which plans have been okayed to date is 200 acres, Heady said. On this basis more than 20,000 acres of farmland in the county are now being operated under plans designed simultaneously to increase the productivity of the acres and preserve and improve their fertility.

Farms for which plans have recently been approved include those of: Leonard Ulch in Kane township, 160 acres; Charles W. Sauer, Harrison, 230 acres; W. D. Martin, Taylor, 113; Hugo Lindahl, Taylor, 160; Wendell Merchant, Jackson, 160; Ed Hanson, Jackson, 200; Harry T. Horak, Harrison, 160; Loren Eichmeyer, Kane, 160; Eugene and Howard McLeod, Kane, 183; Merle Ohde, Kane, 120, and Everett Wayman, Homer, 160 acres.

Work has already been started on several of the above farms. Conservation practices will be undertaken on all in the new year.

SOIL PLAN FOR GREEN GIANT CO.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

The Green Giant Co. is going into conservation practices in a big way with the view to developing Benton soils for greater production.

Under the direction of Darrell Golden, working with the Benton SCS and a technician from the county PMA office, a thousand acres of land under control of the food packing concern in the county began to get a face-lifting last week with 14,000 feet of terraces and contour lines laid on several hundred acres. Two of the farms now in the process of getting complete conservation plans applied are the 480-acre Pete Lamprecht place and the 160-acre Narber estate managed by Donald Showman of Shellsburg.

CONSERVATION FARMERS OF '50 ARE SELECTED

By GLENN HEADY

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

At the regular monthly meeting called on Wednesday evening the Benton County Soil Conservation commissioners selected the three conservation farmers of the year who included Charles Sauer of Harrison township, Maurice Caldwell of Polk township, and Walter Boehmke of Iowa township.

Although competition, in selecting the three top conservation farmers of the year is becoming very keen, the commissioners selected these men on completeness of their conservation programs although there is still other work to be done on these farms to complete them.

All three farms have terrace systems being laid out for completion with from two to three mile of terraces already in use. Good well grassed waterways are in evidence on the three farms with well established crop rotations in effect and well planned to consume the larger acreages of alfalfa brome grass being produced.

The three farms have field divisions divided on the contour with the fences also placed accordingly. Unique among them is a livestock lane on the Caldwell farm which is built on the contour of the land. As to fences both Sauer and Boehmke have planted multi-flora rose to provide living fences.

The district soils commissioners had no doubt that they had selected the three right men to be named to Conservation Farmers of the Year. However, they had a great deal of consideration to give when they had also the following list of close rivals: Ralph Little and Vernon Crow of Shellsburg, Victor Hanson, Howard Knupp, Everett Yerkes, Clyde Merchant, George Schueler, Harry Horak, and Bob Ulerich, all of Vinton; W. A. Drake, Hiram Lanam and Robert Allers, Belle Plaine; Romann Gardner and Don Burkhart, Dick Eppert, Art Wilson and Walter Heineman of Garrison; Howard McLeod and Loren Eichmeyer of Elberon; Dr. H. S. Lames of Dysart, Franklin Jacobi of Norway, and the McQuilken Brothers of La Porte City, all of whom are going to be close competitors in the future selections by the Benton District Soils commissioners.

Walter Boehmke Top Conservation Farmer in County

One of Three Bentonians Honored for the Year; Facts Considered Told.

Walter Boehmke, of Belle Plaine was named one of the outstanding conservation farmers at the June 21 meeting of the Benton county soil conservation district commissioners. Three Benton county farmers were named for their outstanding work.

Each year the commissioners name three men whom they believe are the outstanding individuals of the county for the year.

During the past two years they have also named the Kozik Brothers, Everett Wayman of Elberon, and H. J. Grunewald and Sons of Blairtown.

Other two farmers named along with Mr. Boehmke this year were A. W. Sauer and Son and Maurice Caldwell of Vinton. The Sauer farm is in Harrison township and the Caldwell farm is located in Polk township.

In determining the top 3 men the competition is becoming very keen. The commissions take into account all conservation practices and crop rotations used on the farm of the participants for the awards.

Considered for Award

Other farmers who were considered for the honor were Dick Schild and Robert Allers of Belle Plaine, W. A. Drake, Hiram Lanam and William Reinberg of Blairtown, Howard McLeod of Elberon and Loren Eichmeyer of Keystone.

As selecting Mr. Boehmke as one of the top conservationists of the year, the commissioners considered the following facts: terracing, waterway construction, tree planting, farm pond, crop rotation and livestock feeding program.

Milton Beck Cited In Cappers Farmer

Milton Beck, Belle Plaine, is among a group of Iowa farmers cited in an article on feeding cattle in the July issue of Capper's Farmer.

"A beef feeding program gives a way to market roughages and crop residues that are hard to sell," says a story in the nationally-circulated farm magazine. "There's another strong point in beef's favor. It can be varied more than any other project to fit your ability, labor and capital. You may have a beef cow herd. Perhaps you prefer a larger enterprise like Milton Beck. He would rather buy all his calves for feeding. But he has some permanent pasture, difficult to reach, that he can best utilize with 25 beef cows. Then each fall he buys 30 or more calves to feed out with those he raises."

URBANA SHEEP PROFITS HIGH

Two Producers Realize Unusually Good Gains.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Urbana, Dec. 2.—Two Urbana men have had unusual success with sheep production.

Marshall Wycoff, a mile west of here, bought a small flock of ewes last fall. The lamb crop paid for the ewes and there was \$300 left in profits from the wool, together with the original ewes.

Don Smith of Urbana's veteran's class also bought a small flock of ewes last fall. He ran them on a seven-acre pasture during the summer. Later he took \$1,700 in profits from both wool and lambs.

SCS Technicians in Benton Make Report On '50 Achievements

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Under the direction of SCS technicians, who wrote 77 farm plans in Benton during the calendar year of 1950, 3,749 acres were contoured in this county during the last 12 months it was reported today by S. E. Wallace of Vinton, chairman of the county soil conservation district commission.

In addition, 586 acres were strip-cropped, 33.3 miles of terraces were completed, 65,074 linear feet of tile laid, 114,520 linear feet of field boundaries set out on the contour, 403 acres of pastures were improved, 343 acres of pastures were renovated and 21 acres of trees were planted.

BENTON COUNTY

Field Day And Terrace Demonstrations Oct. 11 And 13

A soil conservation field day involving a lot of heavy equipment will be held on the McQuilken Brothers farm in Bruce township on Oct. 11, and a terracing demonstration will be held on the Warren Pangborn farm in Canton township on Oct. 13. Alternate dates for this field day and the demonstrations will be Oct. 16 and 18. The events of both days will be open to the public in the afternoon of each day.

Soil conservation practices on the McQuilken farm will involve the construction and seeding of grassed waterways, farm pond, drainage by open ditch, terrace construction, fence construction on the contour, tree and brush removal, pasture renovation and rock burial.

The terrace demonstration on the Pangborn farm will feature terrace construction by use of the whirlwind terracer, the disk plow and the moldboard plow.

Present at both farms will be Darrell Russell of the Iowa State College soil testing laboratory in Cedar Rapids, who will talk on soil sampling and discuss the chemical analysis of the soil in the fields being worked on during the time

Benton Contouring Demonstrations

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
Six contour demonstrations are being held by the SCS this week on as many farms in the county. Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady, announced today. Purpose of the demonstrations is to train farmers how to run contour lines themselves. The Benton SCS staff is currently busy tiling and building terraces.

This afternoon the first demonstration will be held on the Robert Parmater farm in Bruce township. Wednesday morning a demonstration will be held on the Robert Sears farm near Garrison; Wednesday afternoon on the George Reed farm, also near Garrison.

Thursday there'll be an all-day demonstration on the Jess Mapes farm near Luzerne. Friday morning the site will be Waldo Neibuh's place near Blairstown, and Friday afternoon the Merle Bruch farm, also near Blairstown.

TO HOLD FIELD DAYS NEXT WEEK

Bruce and Canton Twps.
Demonstration Sites.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
A soil conservation field day involving a lot of heavy equipment will be held on the McQuilken Bros. farm in Bruce township next Wednesday, Oct. 13, it was next Wednesday, Oct. 11, and a terracing demonstration will be held on the Warren Pangborn farm in Canton township on Friday, October 13, it was announced today by Earl Wallace of Vinton, chairman of the Benton county soil conservation district commission.

Soil conservation practices on the McQuilken farm will involve the construction and seeding of grassed waterways, the building of a farm pond, providing drainage by open ditch, building terraces and fences on the contour, removing trees and brush, burying rocks and renovating pastures.

The terracing demonstration on the Pangborn farm will feature terrace construction with the aid of a whirlwind terracer, the disk plow and the mold-board plow.

Present at both farms will be Darrell Russell of Iowa State college who will talk on soil sampling and discuss the chemical analysis of the soil in the fields being worked on. All farmers in the county are invited to attend demonstrations at both places.

Farms Show New Beauty From the Air

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
No more does Benton county look like a tiresome patchwork of squares from the air. Today, thanks to growing soil conservation practices, a bird's-eye view of the farmlands reflects the natural contours of the earth, and the scene is one of endless variety.

This was demonstrated this week in the USDA soil conservation offices at the courthouse where Conservationist Glenn Heady held previews of a "show" taken in color by District Conservationist Emerson Wolf of Marion. The still photos were flashed on a silver screen in the office to show the kaleidoscopic arrangements and colors of modern farms in this county. Instead of the old checkerboard picture, there were gently waving rows in the fields, reminiscent of the candy one used to buy.

Next week Heady plans to show the views to owners and operators whose farms were photographed. They include:

In Shellsburg: Don Showman, Harmon Cropsey, Harry Carr, Walter Knudson and Mike Maynard; in Blairstown, H. J. Grunewald & Sons, Don Shuck, Grant Shuck and L. W. Stewart; in Belle Plaine, John Schild, Don Junge and Calvin Fullmer; in Garrison, Hermann Gardner, Don Burkhardt and Art Wilson; in Elberon, Everett Wyman and the Kozik brothers; in Vinton, Keith and C. J. Elwick and John Caldwell & Sons; in Luzerne, Earl Leimberger; and in the Luzerne area, the "Lost 40," owned by Martin Senior of Mason City.

PLAN BENTON AIR FLIGHTS

So Farmers Can See Soil Conservation Programs.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
Benton county farmers will have an opportunity to see their lands from the air next week when three planes fly from a yet to be determined field on sight-seeing tours of Benton.

The Benton county soil conservation district commission last night decided to sponsor the flights to show the soil conservation in the county and the beauty of the Benton countryside from the air.

A fee of \$4.50 per person will be charged for a half-hour tour. The planes will be three-passenger ships with experienced pilots. Fifty cents of the \$4.50 will go to the Benton soil conservation office to be used as expense money for the program. The date tentatively scheduled is either Thursday or Friday of next week.

The rides will be divided into two groups. One flight will go north of the Cedar river while the other flight will go over the south slope. Passengers will decide which flight they wish to take.

Maps are expected to be furnished every passenger and everyone will be kept informed throughout the flights just where they are so that they can recognize certain farms as well as other land marks.

The flights are not just for farmers and their families but for anyone interested.

Soil Contouring and Terracing Methods to Be Shown April 28

There will be a terracing and contouring demonstration at the Howard McLeod farm Thursday, April 28. The work will begin at 2 p. m. McLeod's farm is located five miles north of Belle Plaine on state highway No. 21, or the first place north of the intersection of No. 21 and U. S. highway No. 30.

According to Glenn Heady, Benton county soil conservation officer, a new type of crawler tractor and disc tiller will be used in the terrace construction.

A crawler tractor pulling a three-bottom plow will also be shown to the group attending the demonstration. A sub-soiler, used for breaking up the hard pan under the surface of the soil, will be used at McLeod's place.

Mr. Heady added that there is a chance a corn borer duster will be available to show the latest method of eliminating the ill-famed corn borers.

FARMERS VIEW SOIL FROM AIR

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
Benton county farmers, their wives and children yesterday took to the air to see what their soil conservation practices look like from the skies.

Under the direction of Herman Franzburg of Keystone, chairman of the Benton county soil conservation district commission, three planes from Marion began taking off from the Kenneth Fry farm at Van Horn yesterday morning at 8 a. m. for 40-minute trips over the county. Seventy-five per cent of the farmers and their families elected to take the so-called northern tour, which covered the north half of the county, beginning with a view of the Vinton Hybrid farm and finishing with a swoop over the George Schueler place.

The planes continued flying until 5 p. m. A dozen farmers were taken up at one time. More growers from Eden township went up than from any other township in the county. The flights were arranged by the Benton conservation commission.

Benton Terracing Demonstration to Be Held Thursday

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
Keystone, April 26.—Two new farm machines will be used Thursday in a terracing demonstration to be conducted at the Howard McLeod farm, six miles southwest of Keystone, it was announced today by Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady. The machines are a new tractor and a disc plow. The demonstration will start at 2 p. m. All farmers in the vicinity are invited to attend.

Conservation Day At Pangborn Farm

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
The Warren Pangborn farm in Canton township this afternoon was the scene of another soil conservation field day staged by Conservationist Glenn Heady. Wednesday a field day was held at the McQuilken Bros. farm southwest of Dysart. Heady said the total attendance for the day there ran to about 250 persons.

Soil Conservation Demonstrations to Be Held Friday

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
A contour demonstration and a terracing demonstration will be held tomorrow morning near Vinton, it was announced today by soil conservationist Glenn Heady. A contour demonstration will be held tomorrow at 9 a. m. at the Morris Long farm and a terracing demonstration at the Earl Wallace farm northeast of here at 10:30 a. m.

Soil Demonstration at McLeod Farm Showed Latest Methods of Holding Soil on the Farm



ON MONDAY, AUGUST 21 SEVERAL HUNDRED FARMERS WITNESSED A SOIL demonstration at the Howard McLeod farm, 5 miles north of Belle Plaine. Co-operating with Mr. McLeod was the Soil Conservation Service and implement dealers throughout

this section of the state. In the above picture which was taken from U. S. No. 30 looking northwest, one can see buffer strips being built on the contour which will tend to slow down the run-off if and when it rains. —UNION photo.

Farmers Turn Out For Soil Conservation Field Day



SIX MILES SOUTHEAST of La Porte City a crowd of farmers gathered yesterday afternoon at the McQuilken Bros. place to watch the earth reworked during a soil conservation field day. Above a group studies a rock burying demonstration. Darrell Russell of the Iowa State college extension service spoke on the chemical analysis of soils in the fields being worked. Today another field day is being held east at the Warren Pangborn farm in Canton township.

CONSERVATION DAYS PLANNED

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

All farmers in the county today were invited by the Benton soil conservation district commissioners to attend two field days to be staged by the commissioners later this month.

The first will be held the afternoon of August 21 on the Howard McCleod farm near Elberon on highway 30. The second will be held the following day, August 22, at the Harry Horak farm, eight miles northeast of Vinton. On both days the demonstrations will start at 1 p. m. and continue until 4 o'clock.

Herman Franzenburg of Key-stone, chairman of the commissioners, explained today that the field days would be held as a cooperative program by the commissioners, the PMA, the extension service and the SCS.

At the Horak farm demonstrations will be on tilling, building terraces, removing rocks, killing trees with chemicals and testing soils. At the McCleod farm there will also be terracing and tiling demonstrations, together with discussions of land uses, fence changing and a soil testing demonstration.

At Horak's farmers will see a motor patrol used in building terraces, and whirlwind terracers and farm plows used for the same job. Tiling will be done at both places by a machine. New chemicals will be employed in the tree-killing demonstration at Horak's. The PMA will conduct the soil testing show with Darrell Russell of the Iowa State college extension service leading the discussion. Terracing at McCleod's will be done mostly with disc plows and ordinary farm plows, Franzenburg said.

Field Day And Terrace Demonstration

A Soil Conservation field day involving a lot of heavy equipment will be held on the McQuilken Brothers farm in Bruce township on October 11, and a terracing demonstration will be held on the Warren Pangborn farm in Canton township on October 13. Alternate dates for this field day and the demonstrations will be October 16 and 18. The events of both days will be open to the public in the afternoon of each day.

Soil conservation practices on the McQuilken farm will involve the construction and seeding of grassed waterways, farm pond drainage by open ditch, terrace construction, fence construction on the contour, tree and brush removal, pasture renovation and rock burial.

The terrace demonstration on the Pangborn farm will feature terrace construction by use of the whirlwind terracer, the disc plow and the fold board plow.

Present at both farms will be Darrell Russell of Iowa State College who will talk on soil sampling and discuss the chemical analysis of the soil in the fields being worked on during the time of this field day and demonstration.

La Porte City Conservation Day Aug. 23

CEDAR VALLEY NEWS

La Porte City, Aug. 19.—Committees of the La Porte City on-farm training class and their instructor, Irving B. Hawk, have completed plans for the third annual Black Hawk county soil conservation field day to be held at the Roy Ashley, Harold Huck and Fred J. Huck farms, 4 1/2 miles northeast of La Porte, on the Brandon road on Wednesday, August 23. It will be an all-day affair beginning at 9 a. m.

The project will take in a complete watershed area running across Section 16 of Spring Creek township. Included will be tiling, building grassed waterways, terracing and demonstrations with bulldozers, carry-alls and other heavy equipment.

Mrs. Wallace Franklyn has announced that two local registered nurses, Mrs. Frank Nabholz, and Mrs. E. C. Pendlebury, will be on duty all day and that local ambulances and a doctor service will be on call throughout the day. The La Porte City auxiliary and the Jubilee Lutheran Ladies Aid society will have lunch stands on the grounds.

In case of rain the field day will be held on Friday, Aug. 25.

Soil Saving Field Days Convincing

By GLENN HEADY
Soil Conservationist

Conservation field days bring in many new converts, believes Donald Bellman of Indianola, who recently stopped in Vinton to see his folks and also chatted a while with the soil conservation personnel.

Don, having been on the AAA committee for a number of years and watched the soil conservation program grow, explained that five years ago none of his neighbors was contouring. This year, following last year's field day, they're all in the program! Because this conservationist was in Warren county three years ago this spring, and planned a number of farms in Don's neighborhood, he can bare out the facts that there was not more than a farm or two on the contour within five miles of Don's place at that time.

Effects of the "face lifting" on his place is not noted only in the local community, according to Don. He cites as an example, that there is seldom a Saturday or Sunday goes by that there are not 35 to 40 people stop in to go over his place to observe the results of the work done on his place last fall. Most of them come from considerable distance and even from out of the state. "Surprisingly," he says, "the version of his place to a complete are also a lot of city people soil conservation program."

To See Farms From Air on Fri., Aug. 20

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Benton county's soil conservation flying day will be Friday, Aug. 20. Conservationist Glenn Headly announced today. Flights will be made over the county showing conservation work being done in Benton.

Starting at 8 a. m. three planes will operate from a field on the Bill Fry farm, one-half mile east of Van Horne. In case of cross winds, a field on the Leon Werner place, that borders the Fry farm, will be used.

The price of the 30 minute rides has been lowered from the originally planned \$4.50 per passenger to \$4.00. The conservation office will receive 10 percent of the take to defray expenses.

There will be two routes farmers may take. One trip will include the Garrison, Vinton and Shellsburg area and the other course will include the south and southwest part of the county. Each passenger will be given a map showing him the area he is covering.

Headly said tickets can be bought from group leaders and at his office at the Benton courthouse in Vinton.

Road markers will be strung around the Fry place to help those interested to the field. A number will be marked on everyone's ticket as soon as he arrives at the field so that all will be in the order that they arrive at the field.

Some of the farms to be seen on the northern flights include the following: Geo. Schueler, Woodrow Merchant, Dan Bruch, Clyde Merchant, Art Wilson, Will Martin, Boddicker and Baird, Rommann Gardner, Wm. Eldridge, Robert Daugherty, Robert Reynolds, Rudy Halva, John Caldwell, C. S. Elwick, W. I. Maynard, Louis Coberly, Walter Knutson, Ralph Little, Oscar Mason, H. J. Carr, Harmon Cropsey, Robert Hopper, Howard Meek and Vinton hybrid farm.

The southern tour will include the farms of Everett Wyman, Kozik Brothers, Walter Boemke, John Tatge, Earl Leimberer, Glenn Lyman, Don Junge, Robert Allers, John Schild, Louis Koep, Charles McLennan, Ed. Sotosh, George Raabe, Calvin Fulmer, L. J. Stewart, Grant Shuck, Grunewald Brothers, Don Shuck.

Small Field Day At the H. McCleod Farm on Aug. 21

Farmers of Area Invited To Witness Many Soil Conservation Practices

A small field day will be held on the Howard McCleod farm on Monday, Aug. 21. The demonstrations will take place in the afternoon. This announcement was made by Herman Franzenburg, chairman of the Benton county soils commissioners.

Mr. McCleod's farm is located just north of the junction of state highway No. 21 and United States highway No. 30. It is approximately six miles north of here.

All farmers of this area are invited to attend the field day and witness the many modern soil conservation practices, according to Glenn Headly, soil conservation officer of Benton county.

The following is a partial list of the demonstrations which will take part on the McCleod farm: Tiling; two or three different kinds of terracing equipment; changing of fences on the farm; putting field boundaries on the contour of the land.

To Test Soil

Darrel Russell of the extension services at Cedar Rapids will be at the field day and is scheduled to show different soil testing practices.

The field day is designed to be a cooperative project between the district soils commissioners, the Production Market association, the extension service and the soil conservation service.

DEMONSTRATE SOIL SAVING

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Soil Conservationist Glenn Headly today announced a series of contouring and terracing demonstrations being held this week for farmers throughout Benton county.

This morning demonstrations were held at the Art Corbett place, two miles south of Vinton, and the Dan Bruch farm, two miles southwest of the city.

Tomorrow, Wednesday, at 9 o'clock a contour demonstration will be held at the H. F. Pfingston farm in Union township, five miles northwest of Blairstown.

Thursday at 9 a. m. contour demonstrations will be held simultaneously at the John Long farm five miles west of Vinton and the Horace McLennan farm, four miles northeast of Belle Plaine. At 2 p. m. Thursday a contour demonstration will be held at the Richard Jahnke place, two and a half miles northwest of Luzerne and at the K. F. Wandschneider farm in Cedar township, about four miles southwest of Mt. Auburn.

Friday at 9 a. m. a contouring and terracing demonstration will be held at the Rommann Gardner farm, two miles northeast of Garrison.

All farmers interested were urged to attend demonstrations nearest their places.

Good Crowd at McCleod's Mon. For Field Day

Best Farming Practices Demonstrated to Interested Farmers

Two hundred farmers from Benton, Tama and Iowa counties attended the Howard McCleod conservation field day Monday to view the soil conservation farming practices applied.

Featuring terrace construction by various implements, terraces were being constructed by use of the whirlwind terracing plow of the International Harvester Co., the disk of John Deere company, the disk plow of the Ford company and the Massey Harris mold board plow. Due to the dry condition of the soil, terrace construction was difficult for all implements.

Change Fences

The field boundary and a fence between two of the fields were changed with a new fence setup by a number of young farmer's group, who work with Carl Ehler of the Belle Plaine high school. Then new fence was constructed on the contour to develop a minimum of short rows when the field is planted to row crops.

It was called to the attention of those in attendance that practically all of the McCleod's farm fences are similarly constructed. Howard's explanation of the contour fences is that a few hours extra time in constructing a fence on the contour, saves much time in crop production in contrast to that of farming square fields and therefore, is well worth his time.

A mechanical post hole auger was used in digging the post holes for the McCleod's new fence which greatly speeded the fence construction and showed how drudgery can be almost entirely eliminated in fence construction.

The Wet Areas

Although there was no sign of moisture being contained in the dry soil Monday, the areas on the fields which are seasonally wet were tiled out by Otis Hilmer's mechanical tiling machine which the old-timers estimated was ten times faster than hand tiling. Hilmer had to control the speed of his machine during Monday forenoon in order to have tiling to do in the afternoon. Three thousand feet of tile were laid.

McCleod's have 20,000 feet of tile on their west 80 acres.

Soil Tests Taken and Results Cited

Darrell Russell of the agricultural extension service was on hand to explain how to sample the soils from crop fields and explained the results of samples previously taken from two of the McCleod's fields.

Russell explained to the farmers that 350 thousand tons of commercial fertilizer was used in the state of Iowa last year and that equally that many samples of soil should also have been tested. Instead only 40,000 soil samples were tested. He did explain, however, that soil sampling has picked up four to five hundred percent over two years ago.

The reason for a chemical analysis of the soil Russell said, was to apply the correct fertilizer that will produce the maximum results in crop yields.

FIELD DAYS SET FOR NEXT WEEK

Elberon and Vinton Farms Demonstration Sites.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Farmers throughout Benton county were reminded today about the two field days to be held next Monday and Tuesday by the local soil conservation district commission. The first will be August 21, on the Howard McCleod place near Elberon on highway 30, and the second on the following day at the Harry Horak farm, eight miles northeast of Vinton. Benton farmers will see tiling, terrace building, soil testing, rock removal, tree killing with chemicals, etc. The demonstrations will start at 1 p. m. on both days.

FOUR COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION FIELD DAY

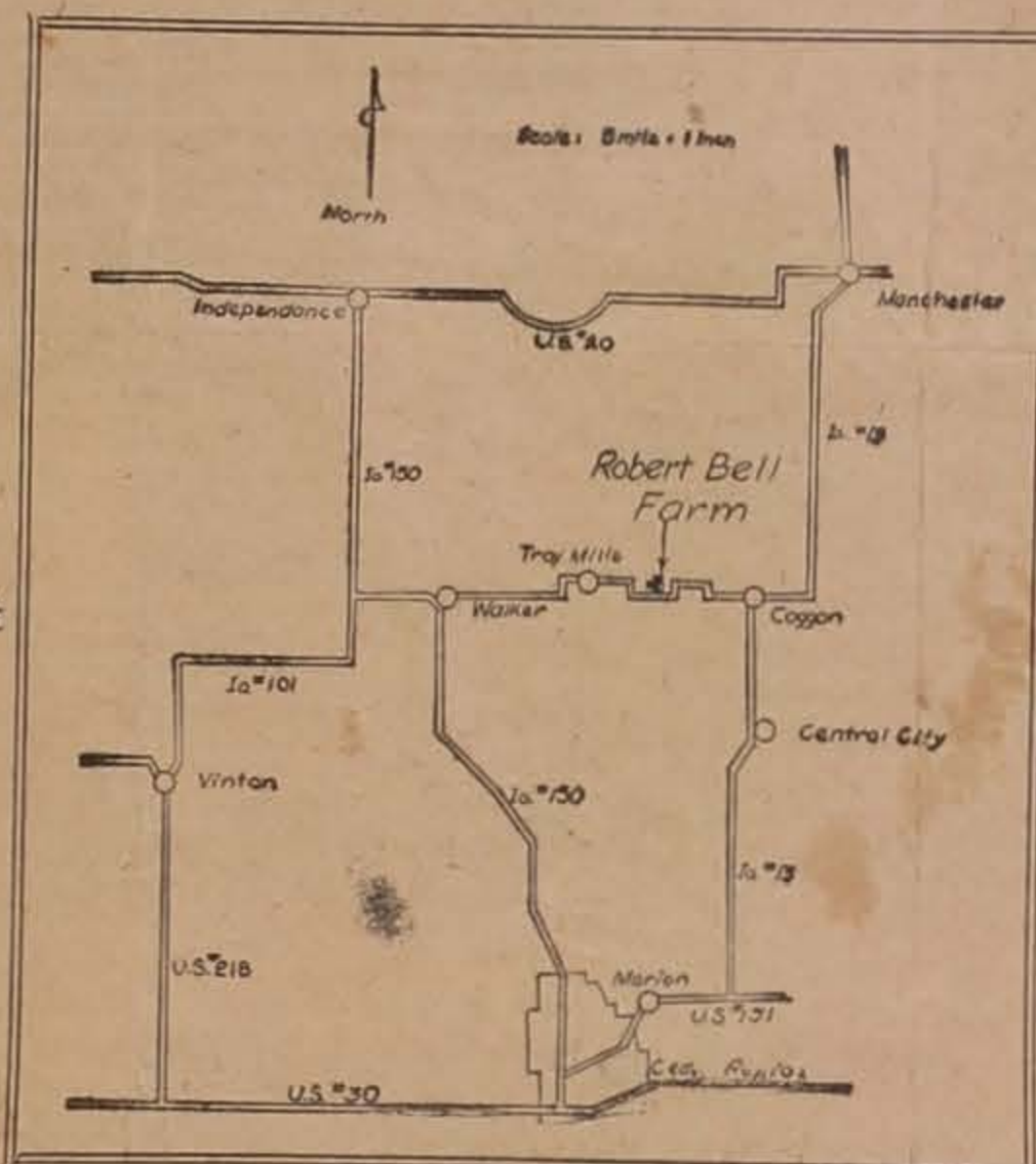
on the Robert Bell Farm 6 miles west of Coggon,
9 miles east of Walker

Tuesday, Aug. 23

9:30 A. M.

- ★ Terrace Construction
- ★ Waterway Shaping
- ★ Gully Control
- ★ Boggy Pasture Improvement
- ★ Rock Removal

**Lunches
Sold on
Grounds**



- ★ Machine Tiling
- ★ Soil Testing Demonstration
- ★ Balanced Land Use Program
- ★ Farm Machinery Exhibit
- ★ Noon Program

Picnic Grounds Available

Sponsored by

**The Linn, Delaware, Benton, Buchanan County
Soil Conservation Districts**

NO ADMISSION CHARGE

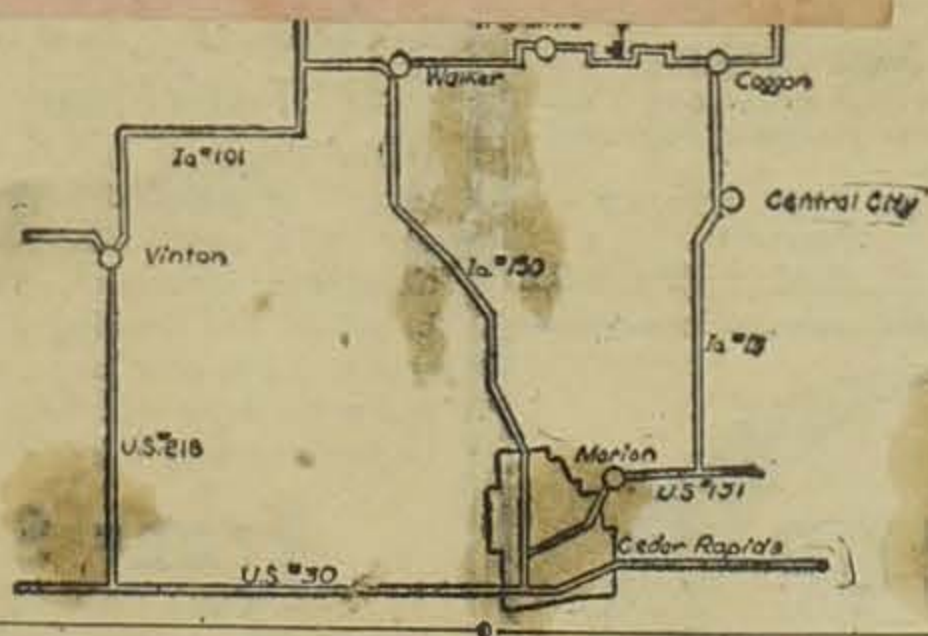
FREE PARKING SPACE

EARTH-MOVERS SCHOOL
HERKOT COUNTY NEWS
S.E. Wallace of Vinton, chairman of the Benton county soil conservation district commissioners, today had invited Benton earth-moving contractors to attend a special school to be held next Wednesday in Cedar Rapids to study the possibility of reducing time consumed in farm plan projects. Wallace explained that presentations will be made by Iowa State college and SCS engineers with the view to showing

diversion dike around farm buildings, and rock removal. All of the above demonstrations will be performed with machinery which can be found on the average Iowa farm.

Stephen West of Mount Vernon, chairman of the 4-county soil conservation event, states that all farmers in the 4-county area should make plans to attend.

Other committee chairmen assisting with the event are Maynard Schmittier, program chairman; Herman Franzburg, finance chairman; Virgil Corey, grounds chairman; and Fred Cherry, concessions chairman. The event is sponsored by the Linn, Benton, Buchanan and Delaware conservation offices in cooperation with the Soil Conservation Service, Extension Service, AAA, Vocational Agriculture Instructors, Veterans Administration Instructors, county Farm Bureaus, newspapers and radio stations WMT and KCRG.







STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Glen Heady, SCS, Vinton, Iowa
Walter Weiss, Zone Conservationist, SCS
FROM : Milwaukee, Wis.
SUBJECT: Belle Plaine Union *WW*

DATE: July 24, 1950

I was very glad to receive the copy of the Belle Plaine Union and took time to scrutinize all the very fine soil conservation articles in that special issue.

I visited with the information and education division and learned they had received 2 copies. They, too, were very well pleased with the vast amount of coverage secured. Keep up the good work.

cc: Lloyd Tyler, Marion, Iowa

500.



STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Glenn F. Heady, Work Unit Conservationist,
Vinton
FROM : Frank H. Mendell, State Conservationist
SUBJECT: News Stories

Ames, Iowa
DATE: March 16, 1949

I have had an opportunity to review the items that appeared in the CEDAR VALLEY TIMES FARMER. I refer to the two pages sent in from the issues dated February 12th and February 19th on the weekly section devoted exclusively to news by, for and about the farmers of the Cedar Valley.

I want to take this opportunity to compliment you upon a very fine job with these particular two items. You have certainly done a very good job with the editors of the CEDAR VALLEY TIMES FARMER. I was particularly interested in the "Soil Plan May Double Corn Yield on Eldorado Farm" appearing in the February 19th issue. I believe this is an exceptionally good way to get farm people to read about this type of thing and explains very well the set-up of a farm conservation plan. The most valuable thing about it is that it is about an actual farm of which the farm people are acquainted.

Allow me again to compliment you upon a good job well done.

Frank H. Mendell

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Glenn F. Heady, Work Unit Conservationist, SCS DATE:
Vinton, Iowa

Des Moines, Iowa
February 3, 1956

FROM : V. W. Silkett, Assistant State Conservationist

SUBJECT: 1955 Annual Report

Thanks very much for the 1955 Annual Report of the Benton County Soil Conservation District listing the activities carried on during the past year. The practice applied certainly shows a tremendous increase in wildlife, tile drainage and terracing. With interest of this kind, continued progress in the District in both planning and application should be assured.

I will pass the report on to other members of the staff here in the state office.

W. Scher

DES MOINES
REGISTER AND TRIBUNE

DES MOINES 4. IOWA

September 5, 1957

SEP 6 - 1957

Mr. Glenn F. Heady
Benton County Soil Cons. Dist.
Vinton, Iowa

Dear Mr. Heady:

An award-winning farm at the state level in the soil conservation awards program is in your district, and please be our guest at the recognition luncheon next Tuesday noon, Sept. 10, in the Memorial Union at Iowa State College.

This event is a feature of the annual conference of the soil conservation district commissioners. We will have a luncheon ticket for when you stop at our registration desk in the Memorial Union lobby.

Congratulations to you for having an important part in development of the conservation program on the winning farm.

Sincerely,

Henry Cunningham

Glenn Cunningham
IOWA FARM & HOME REGISTER

GC/sh

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Glenn F. Heady, Work Unit Conservationist, SCS DATE: Des Moines, Iowa
Vinton Iowa February 3, 1956

STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA IOWA CITY, IOWA THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

9 June 1958

JUN 10 1958

Mr. Glenn F. Heady
United States Soil Conservationist
of Benton County
Vinton, Iowa

Dear Mr. Heady:

We understand that you are leaving your post in Vinton to accept a new position in Madison, Wisconsin. Permit us to congratulate you on this advancement, although we feel we speak for the State in regretting your departure.

The State University of Iowa Library here is collecting the old records and programs in Iowa, agricultural, social, legislative and economic which have contributed to the growth and prosperity of the State. We feel that the Soil Conservation has been one of these important programs. For this reason we cordially invite your office to make our library the repository of your program records to date. Particularly those of the first few years. We appreciate that you may wish to retain the last five years or so, but feel you may wish to secure your files of older records and still know that they are being not only preserved for posterity but also serve a useful purpose.

Utilization of old records is one of the principal purposes in this State-wide collection as old files in our libraries serve as source materials for historical research.

Very truly yours,

Geo M. Sheets
George M. Sheets, Collector
Iowa Historical Documents
Room 118 Library Building

GMS:MC

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Glenn F. Heady, Work Unit Conservationist, SCS
Vinton, Iowa

Des Moines, Iowa
February 3, 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

APR 16 1958

West School
Vinton, Iowa
April 14, 1958

Dear Mr. Heady,
Our class, (5B) thanks you very much for talking to us and showing us movies on conservation. It was very interesting. We thank you again.

Sincerely,
The 5Bth Class

Heady Won't Be Satisfied Until All 2,500 Farms in Benton Have Conservation Plans



—Daily Times Photo-Engraving

EDWARD T. TURNER and his son, Alvin, 19, who farm the Esther Knapp place one mile south and one mile east of Garrison, check in with Soil Conservationist Glenn F. Heady about their new farm plan. Turner, who has operated the place for 22 years, has been contouring for quite a while, but he's anxious to apply additional practices to keep and enrich the soil. When Heady's in his office, there is usually a parade of farmers coming in with a great variety of agricultural problems for him to untangle. Heady loves it as much as they do.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Benton county farmers who are lucky enough to catch Soil Conservationist Glenn F. Heady at his Vinton office in the Legion building this winter will probably spend more time with him than they planned.

They'll extend their visit because Heady has the rare gift of making everyone feel he has nothing better to do than "shoot the breeze," as he calls it. Yet records in the district office of the U. S. Soil Conservation Service in Milwaukee, Wis. show that since he came to Benton county four and a half years ago Heady has achieved more than any one man should.

Last year, for example, more farm plans were prepared in Benton than in any other county in the state.

Statistics Tell

And during the past three years nearly 35 more miles of terraces were built in this county than there were in the other three counties (Linn, Buchanan and Delaware) in this district put together. In addition, Benton strip-cropped 6,343 more acres and established 170,000 more linear feet of waterways than did the other three counties considered as a unit. In fact, only 12 more farm plans have been written during the three years in those three counties than have been written in Benton alone.

That's Heady's job. He gets up with it often about 5 every morning, unless the weather is bad and he knows he can't get into the country, and he goes to bed with it at night, reading himself to sleep with technical books on everything from grasses to erosion.

In between times he is a walking information service, for Heady is constantly approached by both farm and townspeople with agricultural problems on their mind. Those thinking of buying farms look up Heady to ask his advice; farmers check with him almost daily on what to do about crops and livestock; and always someone wants Heady to take over the management of their farms. At one time, in fact, he thought about going into the farm management game, but conserving the soil has thus far had

too strong an appeal for this little man (just under five feet six) with the beetling black eyebrows flecked with gray, the ready smile and quiet, easy manner.

Spreads the Word

When Heady came to Benton in the summer of 1946, he found that while farmers had heard of soil-saving operations like terracing and strip-cropping, there was practically none of it in the county, so, like a fervid evangelist, he began stumping and spreading the word. He spoke before every Farm Bureau, service club, church, school, business and men's organization meeting he could get an invitation to, often, politely, inviting himself. He wrote articles for newspapers and he drove to hundreds of farms to make himself known. A few farmers caught his fire and began to spread the word themselves. With the help of the soil conservation district commission and his host of friends throughout the county, there are now conservatively 1,000 Benton farmers who either have soil plans on their places or are waiting their turn to get them.

Heady did not become a conservationist until after the war. Shortly after his discharge from the infantry on October 22, 1945, he won his Purple Heart for wounds received in the Battle of the Bulge—he stopped in to see a brother, Dr. Earl Heady, farm economist at Iowa State college at Ames, and there he met Frank H. Mendell, head of the state conservation program. Mendell infected Heady, a former vocational-agriculture teacher, with the importance of the work and the first thing Heady knew he had received a temporary appointment in Warren county, taken and passed his civil service exam and become Benton's first full-time conservationist.

Studied German

Son of a southwestern Nebraska farmer, Heady was born, raised and educated in the Cornhusker state, graduating from the University of Nebraska with a B. S. in agriculture in 1933. Five years later he married a pretty Nebraska school teacher, born and reared on a farm like himself. For nine years Heady taught vocational agriculture, then on Aug. 19, 1942, Uncle Sam called

him. At first it was the signal corps, and he went to various schools, including Boston university and the University of Utah, to learn German, presumably to serve with the army of occupation. In 1944 when the demand for infantrymen reached historic proportions, Heady, along with thousands of others, was shifted into a mud-slogging, doughboy outfit and was quickly dispatched to Belgium. He was on the front lines for six weeks during the terrible winter of 1944-45 and was hospitalized after both his left hand and left leg were shot. Though he can use the hand today with little trouble, it still bothers him on occasion.

Dressed in faded army suntans and old and comfortable army shoes, Heady takes particular delight when he is in his office in pointing out fifty specimens of grasses he has picked up on his unending trips through the country. He is an expert on plants, a carry-over from his university and teaching days, and likes nothing better than the job of identifying some new specimen brought in by a farmer. He estimates there are more than 100 weeds and wild flowers native to Benton, and most of these he has either in the office or at his home on 1st avenue. Thus far he has failed to identify about two plants brought in: one was a variety of sumac, the other an obscure weed. "Take it to Heady" is what farmers say when they happen onto a plant they haven't seen before.

Plan for Every Farm

His ambition, of course, is a conservation plan for every one of Benton's approximately 2,500 farms. At present he has two SCS men in his office, Gene McBride, assistant conservationist, and C. H. McNelly, conservation aide; a man paid out of state conservation funds, Graddon McQuillen; and two men loaned to him by the PMA for technical layout work, Clarence Beyer and Everett Yerkes. More plans than ever are being written, but progress is still too slow to suit Heady. The man who never seems to hurry wants Benton's soil saved—all of it—right now!

A Methodist, Mason and former commander of the Vinton VFW post, Heady at 41 seems to thrive on conservation. Aside from that, his major interest is in his son, Jack, 3, who already is showing a lively interest in plants his father brings home.

Heady Tells Of Control Of Erosion

By GLENN HEADY
Soil Conservationist
BENTON COUNTY NEWS

The question as to whether erosion control on farmland pays off is becoming less debatable month by month in Benton county.

Day after day the technicians of the soil conservation service hear of the successes Benton farmers are having with various soil conservation practices.

As an example, Walt Boehmke of Belle Plaine figures he has received over \$200 per acre in returns during the past summer on his alfalfa-brome hog pasture. Dick Schild, who practically grew up farming around the hill, very consistently wins the corn yield contest sponsored by the Belle Plaine Chamber of Commerce. His contoured fields that won the contest last year yielded 136 bushels per acre.

Cites Carr Case

Both Louis Coberly of Shellsburg and Walter Heineman of Garrison say the best corn yields they will get from their farms this year are from the fields they are renovating for pasture. Harry Carr of Shellsburg recently told the Benton soil commissioners that his terraced field was going to yield more corn per acre than the farm had ever yielded before. His oats yield was 80 bushels per acre. With the water from rains and snows being retarded by conservation practices, the waterways on Harry's farm, once great gapping gullies, are now smoothly grassed ways which can be crossed any place.

Robert Daugherty tells of a large gully which up to three years ago was actively eating its way across his pasture and threatening to enter a cultivated field. After terracing, the cropland is now well under control. Although operating this farm with 20 acres less corn than it used to have, Bob is now producing more bushels than the place probably ever produced before.

Gullies Now Gone

Daniel Bruch recently told the district soil commissioners that he hadn't lost a ton of soil from his terraced field in the past two years. As to weeds, his fields are cleaner than the average that has been checked and crossed. A friend of Howard Knupp tells a story of how a few years back there were a number of small gullies creeping up on the slopes of Howard's Tama silt loam fields in Eden township. He says that they have completely disappeared and Howard tells him that it is conservation farming that controls them. Howard's story about the results he got from hogs feeding on ladino clover pasture would have been hard to believe, had not both the soils men and neighbors carefully watched the progress there during the past summer.

Even though Iowa township farmers seemingly were the pioneers in using soil conservation practices on a large scale, we learn that Wendell Merchant's father farmed around the hill on one of the fields 20 years ago and Bill Eldridge contoured in the county 23 years ago.

Still Conservationists

If erosion control farming wasn't worth while, if it wasn't paying dividends, one would wonder why these men who have been practicing conservation for the past several years continue to do so. Of those who were farming around the slopes when the technicians first came into Benton county and who enthusiastically are continuing include Hanneman, Fry and Schueler, Christy, Tipper, Fisher, Merchant, Wilson, Crow, Hayes, Shipley, Hootman, Urice, Little, Maynard, Elwick, Bolenbaugh, Ullerich, Nichols, Shogren and Sauer. Farmers on the south slope who have been farming around the hill are too numerous to mention. H. J. Grunewald Sr., was one of the pioneer state legislators who advocated state financial assistance in conservation farming. The bill became a law at the last session of the Iowa general assembly.

HEADY URGES ATTENDANCE AT HAY SHOW

By GLENN HEADY
Soil Conservationist

For an opportunity to see all kinds of haying equipment in use and to rub elbows with the men who are successfully using it, we might be missing a "good bet" if we miss the forage harvesting demonstration on Grunewald's farm at Blairtown next Friday afternoon.

Not only will the various methods of harvesting hay be demonstrated but some of the variations will be included. There will be round bales, oblong bales, twine bales, and wire tied bales.

With the exception of the suction type of unloader it is probable that all types of hay harvesting equipment to be demonstrated are already in use. It will be possible, however, for farmers to see all types of equipment in use and hear the advantages and disadvantages of each explained by the engineers as they move from one section of the demonstration to the other.

All types of equipment now relieve the farmer of the drudgery of hay harvest and emphasize high quality products. As of a number of years back when we considered hay as hay in any terms we now find that the quality makes a terrific difference in the production of livestock which consume the forages we grow on the farms. As an example, experimental tests have shown that grass silage might contain 51 per cent more protein than loose hay that was put up after having had a rain on it or 20 per cent more than good quality field cured hay. Field driers, mow driers, hay choppers and baling all have their advantages in labor saving and production of higher quality hay. The valuable carotene content of forages may be many fold greater under some conditions of hay making than others.

All the answers to the farmers' hay making problems should be found at the Grunewald demonstration except the financing of the equipment. The most inexpensive method is always the best and most efficient, which is grazing, but this does not answer the winter roughage problem. The actual cash outlay of the equipment used in the modern day of hay making even though the cost is high, might mean the greatest efficiency in quality of product and in labor saved.

First Benton Grown Ranger Alfalfa Seed

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Keith Elwick of northeast of Vinton harvested and threshed 20 bushels of Ranger alfalfa seed this fall from 10 acres of one of his seedings. It was believed to be the first Ranger alfalfa seed harvested in the county.

Ranger is both winter kill and wilt resistant which makes it a very desirable variety of alfalfa for any field where a stand is expected to remain on a field for more than two years, according to Soil Conservationist Glenn Headly.

Two bushels per acre is not a great yield, Headly said, but there are very few men who have tried the hazardous job of harvesting alfalfa seed in this county. Ranger seed sells at a premium and is considered the safest alfalfa seed to plant for stands that are designed to last over two years.

Elwick harvested about 40 acres of Ranger this year on rolling, sandy loam soil that had been cropped too heavily before the place was bought by him in 1937.

Nations Lost By Ignoring Soil Saving

BY GLENN HEADY
Soil Conservationist

Land use and abuse by peoples of the past have shown that in each case where conservation was started too late the nations involved were lost.

History also shows that although conservation of the soil was begun by some nations, it was begun too late or was wrongly applied.

Oved 7,000 years ago when agriculture had its beginning in Mesopotamia and the Nile Valley we read how nations rose and fell with the productivity of the soil. The rise and fall of ancient peoples can be traced to the management of their land.

Mesopotamia, Egypt, Trans-Jordan, Syria and Lebanon were once all great nations that prospered and declined with the productivity of their soil. Great irrigation systems were built to irrigate the fertile valleys to be ruined by silt-laden waters caused by erosion of the land on higher elevations.

Field terracing was done on much of the land after erosion had become accelerated by land use, but in most cases was too late to save the remaining top soil. Pictures sent to the Benton SCS office by the USDA show the abandoned lands of the early nations that once ruled the world. Only nomadic tribes with their sheep herds now rove over the once thriving land. There is no top soil, only a barren surface.

Had it not been for the overgrazing of the uplands the lack of proper crop rotation and the consumption of natural resources the nations of the Near, Far and Middle East might yet be the centers of world population.

Photograph Tile Lines From the Air

BY GLENN HEADY
Soil Conservationist

The importance of knowing the exact location of drainage tile in the ground has been brought to the attention of a number of farmers in Benton county this fall.

Land owners have wished to add lines to pick up moisture from areas not yet drained or to repair tile to put a whole system back into useful operation. New owners also are at a loss to know where their tile has been laid.

As a rule when tiles are newly laid, the farm owner does not understand how he could forget the exact location of each main, sub-main and lateral. However, this is at the time the tiles are just put in the ground, and within three to five years he may remember only in a general way where the lines lay.

In digging tile out for repairs or additions, he may miss by several rods where various lines were laid.

On conservation planned farms the technicians scale in all tile lines they supervise on land-use photographs. However, it is believed that any aerial photo taken immediately after a tile system has been installed, should serve well to show the location of the lines. Several such photographs have been taken this fall for that purpose.

A. C. Shipley of Shellsburg is having a picture taken of his newly-laid system by one of the Shellsburg fliers. The Flying Farmers club of Pratt Creek has promised to do considerable tile-line photography as the demand comes in.

Russell Walhart of Garrison, who does his own flying, is also going to take photos of newly-laid tile.

Benton SCS Marks Soil Saving Week

BY GLENN HEADY
Soil Conservationist

Because this past week has been set aside as National Soil Conservation Week, today seems to be an opportune time to list some of the more important activities of the Benton soil conservation district during this past spring layout season.

(Ed. Note: Altogether the SCS in Benton county has planned or is planning conservation programs for 76,129 Benton acres. Of the total, 14,652 acres are in new applications for new plans.)

Since most of the farmers have been shown how to run their own contour lines, no calculation has yet been made on the crops now being contoured in Benton. Practically all contouring done by the SCS technicians was through demonstrations where groups of farmers turned out to learn where and how to lay the lines.

Much of our time was spent laying out terraces, strip-cropping, constructing waterways, field boundaries and tile lines.

Some 95,000 feet of terraces were constructed on 24 farms, 26,850 feet of constructed waterways were completed on 14 farms, 79,200 feet of field boundaries were laid out on 65 farms, 48,947 feet of tile were installed on 11 farms and 507 acres of additional acres were laid out for strip-cropping on 11 farms.

Other assistance given included 38,000 trees and shrubs in co-operation with the state conservation commission and the Benton County Fish and Game club. Two farm ponds were constructed and many acres of old blue grass pastures were renovated through SCS assistance.

The fact that interest is increasing in conservation is largely shown by the greater number of farmers applying to the Benton district commissioners this year for assistance. During the first three months of the present year more applications were received than during any similar period since the district was organized.

RUSSELL URGES SOILS TESTING

State College Expert Is Field Days Speaker.

By GLENN HEADY
Soil Conservationist
BENTON COUNTY NEWS

During his meetings with Benton farmers at the soil conservation field days this week, Darrel Russell of Iowa State college's extension service said that more Iowans should be taking soil tests of their fields to determine fertilizer needs.

Russell noted that there were 350,000 tons of fertilizer used in Iowa last year and that there should have been an equal amount of chemical soils analyses made. Instead, there were only 40,000, or about 10 per cent, of the actual need.

He said that they have many cases of farmers having ordered their fertilizer before the results from the samplings were returned. Orders then had to be quickly changed. He also said there are many farmers using fertilizers that do not particularly meet the needs of their soils.

At the demonstrations, held near Elberon and north of Vinton, Russell discussed fertilizer needs of the fields being worked on. They had previously been sampled. In each case wide variances were found in requirements.

Practice Soil Conservation

LARGEST STAND OF BIRDFOOT TREFOIL AT B. P.

Elmer Janes' Seeding of 22 Acres Will Be Used For Pasturing.

By GLENN HEADY
Soil Conservationist
BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Belle Plaine, Sept. 23.—Probably the largest acreage of Birdfoot trefoil, a legume, ever planted in Benton county is to be found on the Elmer Janes farm, two miles southeast of Belle Plaine.

Janes seeded 22 acres last spring and now has a remarkably good stand. He is interested in trefoil as a pasture legume. It is reported to be long-lasting and a strong competitor of companion grasses which often crowd out legumes. His seed costs ran \$2 per pound.

Because this and other seedings on the farm are all exceedingly good, regardless of the fact that all were planted at about one-half the recommended rate, Janes credits his success to the Brillion seeder used in the plantings.

Paying for Itself

This seeder, developed by Iowa State college's engineering department several years ago, is said to be paying for itself after only a few years. It has a reputation of developing good stands on about half of the recommended rates of seeding.

Right next to Janes' trefoil planting is an acre of seedling trees planted by the Belle Plaine Future Farmers last spring, and these seedlings, despite the drought, are thriving. Particularly good growth have been made by the evergreen trees and multiflora rose plants. Practically 100 per cent survival of both are evident. Other trees and food-producing plants on the Janes place include dogwood, green ash, American elm and wild grape.

Has Other Plans

Operations on the Janes farm follow a soil conservation plan drawn up by him last winter with the assistance of SCS technicians in Vinton.

Other plans to be carried out here include pasture renovation, strip-cropping, terracing, crop rotation and considerable fence construction. Janes, incidentally, is putting up native timber fences. He also has native timber saved up for a new corn crib.

DON'T FORGET SOILS SAMPLES

Headly Advises Farmers To Take Them Now.

By GLENN HEADY
Soil Conservationist
BENTON COUNTY NEWS

With most of the corn now out of the fields, a large proportion of farmers are working very industriously toward getting buildings and the farmstead ready for the coming winter.

One fall chore that is very likely to be overlooked in the rush is the soil-sampling task. It should be a must on every farmer's list before the ground freezes. Otherwise soil sampling has to be put off until after the winter months have past. This is generally too late for getting an analysis back in time for buying crop fertilizer or next spring.

Since most of the fertilizer orders are made up in the fall and winter months, the soil analysis should be rightfully made in the fall.

One-half day—if it takes that much time to sample the soils in the various fields—is no much time considering the fact that a farmer might save himself \$50 to \$100 in his fertilizer buying. It is easy to buy the wrong fertilizers when you don't know what your soil needs are.

MUCH BENTON TILE LOSES ITS 'USEFULNESS

By GLENN HEADY
Soil Conservationist

A tile drainage system properly laid and maintained should last over an indefinite period of years. The first tile laid in the United States was in the year of 1835, or 113 years ago, and is reported to be in fine working order yet on the farm of John Johnson in New York.

Some tiling was done in Benton county fifty years ago and is still in good working order, but regardless of when tiling was done in this area it seems that there is considerable loss of its usefulness for drainage purposes.

As the soil conservation technicians have been running surveys for tile lines this fall, they have discovered a number of factors contributing to the failure of tile systems, and it is safe to say that in about fifty per cent of the cases where they have supervised tiling on Benton farms, they found that the area had been tiled previously. This is evidenced by the fact that the tilers are digging out old tile in the same areas being tiled this year—sometimes to the amazement of the farmers themselves, although a good many of them knew that the ground had been tiled previously, but did not know where the old lines were laid or the condition they were in.

Failure of such drainage systems can be attributed to a number of factors, the main ones of which follow: low areas or bad falls in the line which silt in shortly after being laid, using tiles that are too small for the drainage job to be done, willow and elm trees growing too close to a tile line, broken tile and inadequate outlets which become silted over.

NEW LEGUME IN BENTON COUNTY

Partridge Pea Shows Up In Many Areas.

By GLENN HEADY
Soil Conservationist
BENTON COUNTY NEWS

A profusely blooming wild legume has been showing up strongly in Benton county this summer to attract the attention of many farmers in this area.

Its name is partridge pea, and it can be identified by a leaf and seed pod similar to that of a black locust tree. Its flower is yellow and about three-quarters the size of a sweet pea blossom. It grows from one to two feet in height.

USDA agronomists in Nebraska are working to domesticate the partridge pea, which also grows native on the sandy areas in that state. It also grows abundantly on sandy soils in this county. It is an annual legume, but agronomists believe it has a strong re-seeding capacity.

Two areas in which the pea can be found growing in abundance in Benton are in a pasture south of Hummel's filling station north of Vinton and at the northwest corner of Carl Merchant's farm east of Vinton. At the Merchant farm it is found in a road ditch. However, there are many road ditches in the county where partridge peas can be found.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

405 Iowa Building
Des Moines, Iowa
February 13, 1958

Mr. Glenn Christy
Chairman, Commissioners
Benton County
Soil Conservation District
Garrison, Iowa

Dear Glenn:

I wish to take this opportunity to acknowledge receipt and express my appreciation for the fine report you folks have prepared for the Benton County Soil Conservation District for 1957.

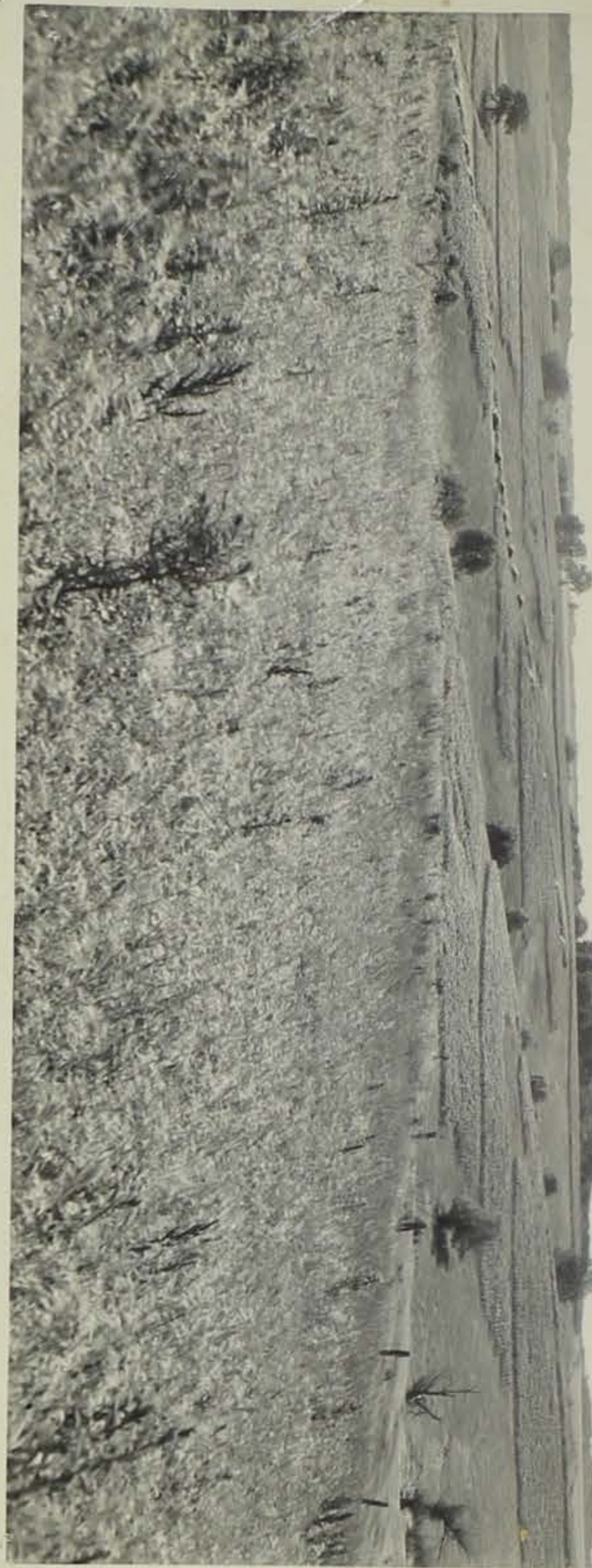
The report indicates you commissioners and assistant commissioners have been quite busy during the past year and are to be complimented for your interest in the overall program in your county.

I was very much interested in the expressions of some of the cooperators. This is a good illustration of the sincere thinking on the part of people when they get interested in Soil and water conservation.

I want to encourage you, as commissioners, to continue the good work and may 1958 be even better than the past year.

Very truly yours,

Frank H. Mendell
Frank H. Mendell
State Conservationist



Drainage Project Restores 120 Acres Cropland in Benton

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
Belle Plaine, Oct. 9.—Wide-spread interest has been evinced here in the drainage project on the Sidney Sankot farm, southeast of Belle Plaine, whereby 120 acres of good cropland will be restored to cultivation.

Under the direction of Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady, a 3,800-foot drainage ditch has been built through the big farm to take the overflow from the Iowa river and

permit the growing of crops once more on the big 120-acre field. The land had been farmed up to 1938, but siltation meanwhile stopped the flow of water across the place during wet seasons and the soil was grown over by slough grass.

Sportsmen joked that the re-digging of the drainage ditch and the changing of the water course through the acres had "ruined a good duck pond" for them. The land will be planted to corn next year. All work was done by a bulldozer. Contractor was Andrew Wilson of Belle Plaine.

WHIP WEEDS BY PLANTING ON CONTOUR

By GLENN HEADY
Soil Conservationist.

The great variation in moisture conditions in Benton county during the past two years have given farmers here a chance to compare both crop yields and weed infestation in proportion to amount of rainfall.

We are hearing much less of both of these this year than was heard two years ago, due to the fact that there have been so many conservation-minded farmers in the county contouring, strip cropping and terracing, that the facts are becoming well known by this time by the men who have gone into it.

Iowa State college experimental figures on contoured corn show that corn on the contour can be expected to produce on the average of seven and four-tenths more bushels per acre than corn farmed up and down the hill. A good many believe they get a greater increase in yield than ISC indicates. The college has never made a statement as to whether there is more or less weeds in corn farmed around the slopes hence this must be left up to the individual farmer to determine. Approximately five per cent of the farmers in Benton county had the opportunity to find out last year, and upwards of ten per cent are getting an opportunity to see the difference in weedings themselves this year.

Glenn Lyman of Iowa township began his farming career on one of the weediest farms in the county a few years back, and believe it or not, he is whipping the weed situation with his corn, beans, oats and hay crops, all on the contour.

The weediest fields of corn in Benton county were all check-rowed and crossed, which the conservationists would delight in showing to interested individuals.

Speaking of weeds, the farm most contaminated with the highest infestation of weeds in the county might be the greatly publicized farm in the south part of the county near Luzerne, but this conservationist nominates a close second to it in Cedar township. Erosion is likewise ruining this farm, and as one might guess it is owned by an absentee landowner, who from all appearances is taking all and putting nothing back.

Most of us are very prone to look at the very best and exclaim that this is Benton county. However, these poorly-managed, highly-run-down farms are also a part of our county and in truth it is not a good situation. Possibly the day will come when poorly managed farms will be taken from their owners as they are in England and put in the hands of people who will manage them properly.

Raises 5,300 Pounds Of Popcorn Per Acre

VINTON NEWS

Marion Donley, Vinton popcorn producer, raised 5,300 pounds of popcorn per acre on one of his fields this year. The exceptionally large yield is equal to about 200 bushels per acre of field corn.

C.C.C. Started Soil-Saving Work in 1938

Local Camp Wrote Up About 70 Farm Plans In This Community.

Soil conservation in Benton county was first introduced in the Belle Plaine area when the C.C.C. camp was organized there in 1938 and was very active until the men were all taken out for war work.

During this period there were about 70 complete farm plans written up in the area which included some plans in Iowa and Iowa counties. Iowa township of Benton county still holds a lead in soil conservation among the townships, however, it is being strongly rivaled by Jackson, Big Grove and Benton.

The large majority of the old C.C.C. camp farm plans were re-written after Soil Conservation Service personnel were brought in to the county in 1946 under the new district law.

Those that have been re-written are on the farms of L. F. Koep and Sons, W. R. Craig, Walter Boehmke, John Schild, H. L. McLennan and Son, Charles Patterson, Dr. Don H. Newland, Elmer James, Calvin Pullmer, B. Earl Cox, Ed Swatosh, Ed Wehrman, John C. Tatge, Mrs. Emma Kralak, Robert Allers, Mrs. Anna Allers, George Raabe, William Bach, Glenn Lyman, Dick Schild, Nellie Tatge and Louis Raabe.

Other re-written plans are those of Kozik Bros., Everette Wayman, Leonard Ulrich, Loren Eichmeyer, Eugene McLeod and Merle Ohde, of Elberon.

Other old C.C.C. camp plans that have been re-written are those of John T. Strawn of Vinton, Earl M. Leimber of Keystone and H. J. Grunewald and Sons of Blairtown.

Four-Bushel Corn on Farm In Eden Twp.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Eden township, which regularly turns out some of the best crops in eastern Iowa, has a 13-acre field that is averaging about four bushels of corn to the acre this fall.

With the help of the SCS and the owner, Hommy Omar, operator, is undertaking a restoration program that includes liming, good rotation and the construction of about two miles of terracing. The owner has agreed to put all rent money for the next three or four years into reclaiming the soil which has been badly run down. Many ears in the field are no longer than a pocket knife.

On the same farm one very nice lying 20-acre plot yielded an income from oats this year of only \$6, and that is not per acre but from the entire field. After paying for the seed and combining and not including the cost of seeding, \$6 only was left.

Benton Has Most Pahas In The State

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

There are more Pahas in Benton than in any other county in Iowa.

That, at any rate, is the opinion of Wayne H. Scholtes, 33-year-old graduate student of Iowa State college, who has been roaming around the county off and on for the last several weeks looking for and finding more Pahas than he ever dreamed existed.

A Paha, incidentally, is what the Indians in these parts apparently called a big ridge or hill, and Scholtes, who hails from Clinton, is preparing a thesis for his doctorate on the reason for them. Pahas consist of wind-blown soils 20 to 40 feet deep. Why, Scholtes wants to know,



—Daily Times Photo-Engraving
WAYNE SCHOLTES

don't they consist of glacial material? After all, about 50,000 years ago the Iowan glacier came through here. Why didn't it leave glacial materials on these heights? A number of theories have been advanced by various geologists. Scholtes has one all his own, and he's saving it for his thesis.

Some Are Huge

The graduate student, who took his M. A. at Duke university and his B. S. at Ames, said he found between 30 and 40 Pahas in Benton county. They range from a quarter of a mile to 10 miles in length and rise more or less precipitately from the rolling prairie to heights ranging from 25 to 50 feet. They are scattered all over northeastern Iowa in an area bounded by DeWitt, Fairfax, West Union and New Hampton. Some of them can be seen for miles away. For example, one of the largest in the county is in Sections 1 and 2 of Florence township and can be observed three miles away. Spencer's Grove is the site of another big one and Scholtes said there is one in Jackson township three miles long.

Scholtes is taking tests of the soils in these ridges. In his diggings he has uncovered Indian relics, leading him to believe that the Pahas were used for camps by the redmen, and at one point he bored to a depth of 32 feet and still didn't get through the wind-blown material.

Chemical Differences

The Paha soils have different qualities than soils surrounding them, Scholtes said. There is a big difference, for example, in their erosiveness and in their capacity to hold water. Borings are being examined now at Ames to determine chemical differences. The Iowan glacier, incidentally, came down from Minnesota, pursued a southeasterly course through the northeast part of Iowa and apparently crossed into Illinois. It is one of the youngest glaciers known by geologists to have passed this way.

Study Soil Types At Vinton Meet



HORACE CHENEY, SOILS AGRONOMIST FROM THE EXTENSION SERVICE AT AMES, points out profiles of Garwin and Muscatine soils at a fertilizer meeting held recently in Vinton in the old Legion hall. Left to right are three interested Benton farmers: Joe Sand of northeast of Vinton, Fred Obermuller of Keystone and Leslie Moore of Mt. Auburn. (See Editor's Plover 'Chair')

Monroe 4-H Boys Win



—Daily Times Photo-Engraving
YESTERDAY AFTERNOON at the fairgrounds the Taylor and Monroe township 4-H boys' demonstration teams were selected to represent Benton county at the Iowa state fair competition on August 31. The Monroe team, shown above, demonstrated the importance of soil conservation, the Taylor team, consisting of Duane Belknap and Charles Bruch, demonstrated farrowing pen equipment. The Monroe team, consisting of Don Leo, 14, (left) son of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Leo of Dysart, and K. Lames, 15, son of Dr. and Mrs. H. S. Lames, also of Dysart, built a novel plaster of Paris model to show poor and good farming practices. Miniature corn stalks were contrived from pipe cleaners painted green. Leo has been in 4-H work for three years, Lames for six. Judge was Gress Rogers, Tama county extension director. The contest was arranged by Joe Legg, Benton youth assistant. A blue ribbon was also awarded yesterday to the demonstration team of Del Hanson and Ronald Fiebelkorn of Jackson township. Their theme was "removing warts from cattle."

Correct Acid Conditions—

Liming Bolsters Farm Production

Liming the soil to correct acid conditions established itself many years ago in the state. George Raabe of Belle Plaine was one of the first farmers in Benton county to realize the virtues of liming. Of his first liming and seeding of sweet clover George has some interesting stories.

Although liming of the soil has been practiced for years by a number of farmers in this area, it had its first stimulus when P.M.A. first began making payments on it.

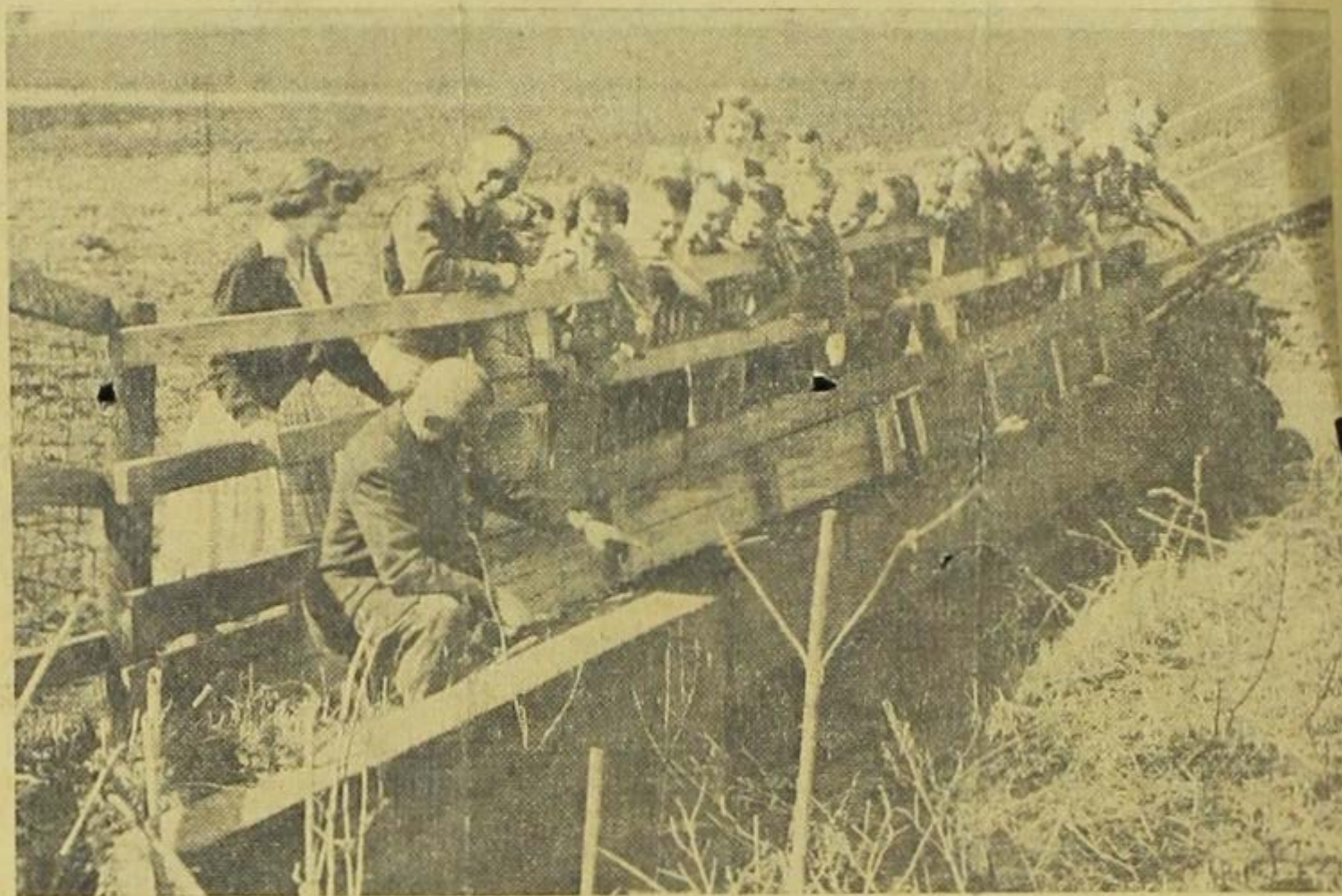
Farmers who pioneered in the use of lime did so most often to obtain a stand of alfalfa. Later

—Experiment Station Proves many observed that other crops did better when they were grown on limed soils.

The Iowa Agricultural Experiment station has found that substantial increase in yields occur when lime is applied. On 51 co-operative fields over the state lime increased corn yield an average of five bushels per acre. Oats yielded 3.7 bushels more while clover-timothy hay increased one-third ton per acre. To get a stand of alfalfa on acid soil it is almost imperative that the soil be limed.

Current estimates are that six million tons of lime should be spread annually in Iowa through a period of ten years to correct the present acid condition of the state's soils. There are a number of farms that are being limed for their third and fourth time. All too few have not been completely covered as yet.

Science Pupils View Erosion Control Project



THE VINTON SIXTH GRADE science classes of Miss Agnes Svoboda are shown viewing an erosion control structure on the Ray Hanneman farm, three miles southeast of Vinton. It is located on a 205-acre watershed that had a bad gully on it several years ago. After shaping and grading the waterway and seeding it down, the control structure was installed to stabilize the grade. The classes also visited soil and water conservation practices on the farms of Carl Merchant, Hugo Lindahl, W. K. Hootman, and Howard Knupp, and at the county home. Supervisors taking the classes on the tour were Glen Angell, Iowa state conservation officer, standing at left of picture with Miss Svoboda and the members of the class, and Glenn Heady, pointing down toward the structure.

CLEAN, HONEST,
NEWSY
AND FRIENDLY

CEDAR VALLEY DAILY TIMES

Published Every Evening Except Sunday
United Press Associations Full Leased Wire

There Is NO SUBSTITUTE for CIRCULATION
VINTON, IOWA, SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 1947

IOWA'S GREAT
COUNTRY,
DAILY JOURNAL

Single Copies Five Cents Each
VOLUME 62, NUMBER 240

2 BABIES MURDERED IN HOSPITAL

RAINS WASH TONS OF "BLACK GOLD" FROM BENTON FIELDS



BENTON SOIL CONSERVATIONIST GLENN F. HEADY is shown above measuring more than a hand high of good topsoil which was carried down from a slightly sloping field of corn in Jackson township by the rains of this week. Heady said this particular accumulation was about eight inches deep, covered an area of about an acre. In other sections of the county the silt was a foot deep in places. Loss of this topsoil means poorer fields, poorer fields mean poorer crops, poorer crops a poorer county, poorer county a poorer state and so on right up to a poorer world. All human life was the loser in Benton county this week.

—Daily Times Photo-Engraving

80 GUARDSMEN Tornadoes, HELP IN IOWA'S Cyclones Hit FLOODED AREAS In Midwest

Ottumwa Preparing for the
Record Crest Moving
Down River.

By UNITED PRESS
More than 5,000 persons fled from the flooding Mississippi river and its tributaries in Iowa and Missouri today.

Tornadoes and cyclones, smashing buildings and homes at Chester, Okla., Julesburg, Col., and Champaign, Ill., added to the flood damage which mounted hourly.

Total property damage in both the windswept and flood-stricken areas was expected to reach millions of dollars.

Several persons were injured in the tornado-struck towns, but there were no flood fatalities reported so far. Those who had fled in time from the Iowa streams and rivers were saved by boat.

Rising.

Rock Island,

Mississippi

threatened

worst

river

FOUND DYING WITH WOUNDS ON FRONT OF HEADS

No Clues Leading to the
Killer Have Been
Discovered.

Massillon, O., June 7.—Two infants, undergoing treatment in the pediatrics ward of Massillon City hospital, were brutally slain last night by a murderer who apparently swung them by their feet and smashed their heads against a wall, it was revealed today.

The slayings were revealed this morning by Hospital Superintendent E. J. Lincke after an all night questioning of hospital personnel. County and city officials swarmed over the hospital and grounds in search of clues immediately after the revelation, but said they had been unable to uncover anything to lead to the killer.

Lincke said the two babies, Diana Brand, eight-week-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Brand, and Rosemary Morten,

Says 200-300 Benton Wells Have Dried Up

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Between 200 and 300 wells on Benton county farms have gone dry in the last few months, Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady estimated today, as stock was taken of moisture conditions in this area.

Conditions are not in any way serious, Heady said, but quite a few farmers are hauling water for livestock from neighbors, creeks and springs.

Most of the wells that have given up the ghost are shallow and in many cases they were old wells dug years ago on farms. A number of them, too, are spare wells.

Southeast Areas Cited

The south half of the county, especially the southeast sections, are the most dry wells with a concentration in the Fremont, St. Florence areas, Eldora.

Methods are helping get results back to farmers without any delay this summer.

Kramer thinks right after harvest is a good time to take samples and send them in, since those sent in now will avoid any seasonal rush that might develop at the laboratories during fall months.

Soil testing cartons and information on sample taking and mailing procedure may be obtained at the county extension director's office in Vinton.

Soil Tests Serve as Fertilizer Guides For 5 Years: Kramer

Soil tests from samples taken in August can be relied on in December or in May or any other month.

Results of tests taken at any one time of year apply at any other time of year and make reliable guide for soil management over a period of years, according to County Extension Director Kenneth Kramer.

In fact Benton farmers who send in soil samples for testing won't need to plan on further sampling of the same land for the next five years, he explained.

Reports from the Iowa State College soil testing laboratories indicate that new processing

They Aren't Jungle Explorers



AT A GLANCE YOU MIGHT THINK THESE MEN were working in darkest Africa. Their shirt-sleeves, pith helmets and the heavy vegetable growth around them smack of the tropics. However, the photo was taken nine miles northwest of Vinton where Rudy Halva (left) manages 465 acres for Mrs. Charles Alcorn and B. G. "Tippy" Alcorn. With him is Lloyd Tyler, one of the U. S. soil engineers in the county this week, who is operating an Abney level to determine the per cent of slope on the Alcorn farm. The work is all part of tests being made on cooperator's farms in Benton. See story.

By GLENN HEADY Soil Conservationist BENTON COUNTY NEWS

The conservation surveyors of the USDA, cooperating with the Benton county soil conservation district, were in the county this week surveying soils on farms of cooperator.

Farms covered by the soil surveyors were those of Vernon Cook, Rush Cumberland, W. B. Smith, Leland Reiss, Carl Lowry, Floyd Gifford, John Brody, Jr., Delbert White and M. J. Culver, all of Polk township. Other farms covered at random in various townships were those of Dr. H. S. Lames of Cedar, Rudy Halva of Jackson, Ed Hanson of Jackson, Howard Knupp and C. O. Donels, both of Eden, Walter Fye of Canton and Elmer Kusel of Homer.

As the surveyors—Lloyd Tyler and Arlo Ellison, who are stationed at Marion—covered the farms, they sampled the soils for type, texture and degree of erosion and took measurements of the per cent of the slope on the acres.

Paul Bunyan Stride

Being tall men with long strides, they covered a lot of ground and seldom stopped to talk with the farmers themselves. They made the borings in sampling the soil, going up and down the slopes and seldom missing even a very small area of soil type change on a farm, having been trained to detect probably differentiations by a number of characteristics.

Unlike the soil survey of 1927 when the entire county was surveyed for soil type, these men cover individual farms so thoroughly that they list a greater number of soil types than were listed in the old survey. As an example, technicians in the soil conservation office recently found 14 different types that the surveyors had found on one farm. There is an average of about five types of soil per farm in the soils mapped and being held in the S. C. S. office at present. This is in contrast to a maximum of three shown per farm in the 1927 survey.

Gets Soil Inventory

The conservation survey made by these soil specialists gives a farmer a good inventory of his soil resources and what he can expect of it through use of conservation practices. The capacity of the soil for erosion is shown as well as an accompanying chart indicating recommended crop rotations for the land and conservation practices best suited for it.

At the time the local USDA conservationist and the farmer get together to plan the conservation program for the farm, the conservation survey plays a valuable part in determining use for the future of the farm.

Vinton Corn Company Buys Farm on Cedar

VINTON — Final arrangements were made last week for Vinton Hybrids to take over the Carl Williams farm along the Cedar river east of Vinton.

Clare Donels, of the hybrid firm, said the wooded, light soiled place was purchased at a cost of \$16,500 for use in seed increase. The farm includes 442 acres.

Donels said he plans to rehabilitate the farm through an unusual cropping program. Seed increase of inbreds and single crosses for Vinton strains does not require particularly good soil but it does demand lots of isolation. And that's what the Williams farm has in large quantities. It has small patches of farm land broken up by trees and other features that add to field separation.

Seed certification regulations require 660 feet between varieties to insure pure strains free from pollination of other varieties. Donels said he expects to plant plots of about two acres each throughout the farm. The remainder will be seeded to alfalfa-brome.

The light soil will require fertilizer in large amounts. The farm will be built up through broadcast spreading of fertilizer and by row and hill applications.

The inbreds and single crosses do not ordinarily make heavy demands on the soil. Donels said his firm has had good success in growing them on other sandy plots.

The Benton county soils district will help work out a permanent conservation plan for the farm. Through a careful building program, it seems likely that the river farm can be restored to high productivity.



Cedar Valley Times Farmer

VINTON, IOWA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1949

Weekly Section Devoted Exclusively to News by, for and about the Farmers of the Cedar Valley—The W.

Benton Soils Group System Gains Midwest Attention



IN BENTON TOWNSHIP FARM PLANNING GROUPS NOS. 10 AND 11 GO to work in the old "Seesh" schoolhouse, now the Benton township hall, on mutual soil conservation problems in this area. Back row, left to right, are W. I. "Mike" Maynard, Fred Schlotterback, Walter K. Hootman, Conservation Aid Chester McNelly, Hootman's son, Dewey Bonesteel, Frank Blazieck. Seated are: Charles Neve, Conservationist Glenn Heady, Willis Bruce, Ralph Little, Earl Tumilty and Conservationist John Safranek. Also at the meeting but not present when the picture was taken were Joe Noeller, Harold Cook, and H. F. and E. C. Kubie. See story below.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Under the direction of the Benton County Soil Conservation District Commission, which is responsible with U. S. Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady and his staff for implementing widespread soil-saving practices in this county, a system of group planning among farmers has been evolved that is putting this area in the limelight in the Corn Belt.

Most counties in Iowa have similar systems, but none has worked out so effectively or smoothly as the Benton arrangement which is predicated on education and area cooperation among the farmers themselves.

Typical of the 24 groups consisting of 250 Benton farmers now in operation in the county are Nos. 10 and 11 shown above at a recent meeting at the township hall, formerly Benton school No. 5, about six miles northwest of Shellsburg. Farmers in the group are also residents of Canton township.

Get Down to Cases

At this particular meeting group members, who banded together in 1945 to improve the productivity of their soil through conservation practices, discussed specific practices to fit individual farms and particular rotations

considered best for their acres.

Most of the men in groups 10 and 11 are in the process of having scientific plans drawn up by SCS experts for their individual farms, but there are others who, while attending the meetings, prefer to wait to see how their neighbors make out before taking the farm plan step. This willingness to wait, however, is rapidly disappearing. More and more farmers, having seen actual results of conservation work, are so anxious to have their farms planned that the Benton SCS office is jammed with applications.

Groups in this county at first came into being through the enthusiasm of a farmer or two in a given area who became "hot," as they say, in conservation. Either he read something, heard Heady give an educational talk, or observed the practices of a neighbor. Perhaps all three were instrumental. At any rate, he interested others in his area, they contacted the SCS office in Vinton and made formal application to the district commissioners for the creation of a group. As soon as approval is voted by the commissioners, which it always has been, the farmers meet with Heady, organize and attend lectures and demonstrations on con-

servation practices have been instituted and in the central part of the county and in Iowa township these practices are going into their third year.

At the outset farmers in the more rolling sections of the county were those most enthusiastic about soil conservation. Now interest is rapidly developing in the so-called "flat, black lands" in Kane, Union and Eldorado townships and other parts with similar topography. For example, in Eden township will be found the largest single group of interested farmers in the county.

Group meetings continue throughout the year and attract more and more growers, some of whom have scoffed at conservation from the start, but are now seriously interested and on the verge of plunging into the program themselves. Demonstrations have been powerful convincers.

Both landlords and tenants take active parts in the groups, for what is beneficial to one is beneficial to both. If the landlord enjoys greater return from his acres, so does his tenant.

Occasionally some ignore their plans after they have been drawn, but this is seldom and in some cases where they have been ignored, they are taken up again after the farmers receive more education. Groups formed back in 1945 are still going, and their membership is increasing. Almost always problems are mutual among members of the groups, so at meetings they are able to accomplish much in the way of solving erosion, drainage, rotation, etc.

Groups run in size to about 10 farmers each, and at present members represent some 50,000 acres in the county. On fully half of the cropland in the total area

Conservation has a long way to go in Benton county, but it is coming along swiftly, thanks largely to groups like 10 and 11.

Dysart Man Joins Benton Soil Service

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

The Benton county soil conservation service has a new conservation assistant. Conservationist Glenn Heady announced today.

He is Gene R. McBride, 26, a native of Dysart, who recently received his B. S. degree in agronomy from Iowa State college. McBride, who was graduated from Dike high school, is a World War II veteran, having spent 18 months in the army engineering outfit.

He and his wife and two children, Mark, 5 1-2, and Thomas, 3, will move into the Paul Ward residence on Nov. 1. At present Mrs. McBride and children are still living at Ames.

2nd Conservation Man Joins Heady

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Benton county has a second soil conservationist from the United States department of agriculture, it was announced today by Glenn Heady, chief conservationist for this area. He is John Safranek of Cedar Rapids, who has lately been doing soil conservation work in Buchanan county. Safranek is a graduate of Iowa State college. He will be located permanently in this county with Heady.

By Glenn Heady
U. S. Soil
Conservation Service

Herschel Monroe of Bruce Township will install an erosion control structure in one of the waterways on his farm. The gully in the waterway was worked in thoroughly and seeded several years ago, but persists in creeping back.

Right now is an excellent time to prepare the ground for your tree planting projects for next spring. There will be a lot of trees planted and to have the ground prepared this fall would save time in the spring where there's otherwise so much farm work in the way.

Seven other townships with high mileages of terraces are as follows: Polk 49, Cedar 39, Taylor 35, Jackson 34, Canton 30, Leroy 26, and Bruce 25 miles.

Complete basic conservation plans have recently been worked out in cooperation with the following farmers of the Benton County Soil Conservation District: Carl Ritscher of Keystone, Dallas Meinert and Alvin Erger of Keystone, Leland Ashley of La Porte City, Francis VanDeusen of Garrison, and Pete Meyer of Vinton.

It could be one of these soil
tists.

Harlow Paul, well known Production Credit Administration loan supervisor, has purchased a small 35 acre farm in the northeast part of Canton Township as his future family home. It's largely a wooded pasture area and is just the ideal spot that many town folks dream about as a place to rear their children and retire to in their old age.

Have you noticed how fast those scars of sheet erosion disappeared after the recent heavy rains? Cultivating the corn erased the evidence of erosion, but the loss of plant food nutrients and organic matter of the soil has been great and cannot be regained.

Did you know that of the sixty-five million persons employed in the United States, only 10 million are farm operators, or farm hands, working on farms? Not too many years ago at least a third of these people would have been farming people.

judges sent to the
th the one
ivation in it
con- the
these 78
of the
the same
which he
ring of
it, but idly
red in ned
which
acted
than was
start- yay
in the Our
amp-

owner-just laine, rojects
serva-but bound ojects
ink "The will
scil control farm
event ess irst
some her ways onser-
ast, as gul- did out
y fine plo- last
future has vation 1945.
ally, s, all he has
ith ocally point
regional th- traced
Home the
less, dial beds

e year	tig com-	corn	round
n ton	m christy	along	the
te win-	ak of	if a	Glen
	wald.	would	week.
John	000		to ei-
Alvi	nd e be-	s Dis-	have
n con-	rt years	ll-time	f con-
week	con-	es con-	

Chuck	s he	The	sed to
en con-	crop	ct re-	farm
ge on	sture	s con-	s ago
Garri-			farm
rraces			can't
r Ben-	have	y Soils	p and
ren in-	e be-	second	n haz-
ren in-	on his	errace	ad the
		lt 894	
		it built	

about agricultural
beliefs of our
general population
believe in 1938
benefit of the
They consider

g pop-lation d plow
land, some
is one ence,
ms fac-g
1958
m of
to en-
habit
active-
farm
uses.

for soil
sts with
ators.

ernment
people
at need
interest
able to

his	punt	for-	long-	one-	Farm
terow	reach-	and	year	deral	on K-
sted	people,	at	and	ir-	esting
ame	every	on	ir-	rops	them
gell	many	outh	my	arted	ressed
their	main-	the	will	"	vation-
nty	once	the	his		pleted
nt-	near	omists	last		hman,
	William	at the	es in		Walter
	ms.	in in-	Cen-		ng the
aid	La w	urplus	has		were
ve-	deral	on be-	corn		Rank-
ing	ation	at this	con-		sburg,
		the	very		feet of

pre-er of that cent, wa- Octo- n pro-
tion. n pro-
of on
out rs of nation y the
his figure short- erva- y the
dis- bllars World Ben- W. E.
m, osive id be d 22 been p; and
he uction used s be- s per ommis-
sion vation years ts as a area
ay money surely
rn pend ler to
and ware, rations
ust is of alation mil-
d the re was
will Stick-

the					
n be-	ystone	says,	if the	d. Last	
plan	in to	draw	dents	g Sons	
but a	plan	event	tures	ling a	
of any	terrace	starts	erva-	n their	
ld to	d this		ation	Blairs-	
d for	prove-	f wa-		ill con-	
		was	we'll	and this	
		Foley	he in	and this	

area	of the	show	s week.
active	Shipley	ll be	o added
ori-	he who	hood	
g up	a years	hey	learn
reek.	improve-	f the	rural t shows
	m con-	o see	ater. Dutch
		n the	s, or pagated
n re-			nfall.
his		ently	es. The
george	ements	es of	Chris-

Com-tiling d t of - - -	a pro- lime, otation, t areas il and	they cold pring ouses, e out owing	fall- com- kins, City, lt on arms	g work- brothers ounty learning opagat- cies of
---	--	---	--	--

rep- was am for wild Larry interest-
was ger in and and some also
n for Fish- and the John
Fish-
Gar-
burg;

s 35
 oller
 the
 rey of
 2 per-
 trade
 or n
 two
 or-row
 ief of
 says,
 nton
 sider
 as
 sys-
 relief
 in-
 ricu-
 sand
 ders
 who
 king
 De-
 the
 in
 prop-
 erties
 I. S.
 ently
 re-
 quire
 hem
 s in
 each
 upon
 or at
 been
 put
 some
 egin-
 his
 ngle
 nroe
 um-
 nter-
 one
 this
 ased
 two
 lodic
 aek
 acres
 the
 sent
 a list
 gion
 in k
 ured
 late
 de-
 reau
 naut
 tion
 E.
 City.
 has
 lers

all is of any com-
 in his ment
 have filed
 than or irva-
 for his on
 and day
 and
 nkel
 and time
 Ur- ches and
 the t to con-
 Jo this word
 for any
 ask read
 be

encing board.	ation next	Floyd S.C.	2.	lo
pleted	lines	a st one-	made	h
Ralph	of the	ship	Art.	l
Eden	es in	een	ark, they	gen
arlington	next	with	ation	cre
John	orte	me	ng a	
The		r.	s of	sat

son. nent r ap ank em- the w
ser- inel lon ntly rned to
be in on last short
line, aid ner last short
and f all um, tch core come
lime- arg- ind- m
tant the ga- the
the the low and rader
con- ion- All of fit- the
arm. All of fit- e get

ary ation ps; ited Ricky
pprov- und when ase in- Vin-
serva- re- elle t bytera- are
Law e a n- gan- soil y fi
water- ave er- ill in- iton us.
20,000 and a- em- on far
basis ope will loss He

the
like
this
high
city.
nty
The
a s
in
est
are

on
 vers
 ine-
 ship
 ylor
 est
 rmed
 fel-
 with
 to
 and
 tion
 inly
 had
 30
 elr
 in-
 an-
 nt,
 of

wa	re	arn	more
on	the		their
ne	week		abus
on	nen	po-	were
st-	ath-	he	terri
	pro-	ey	sinki
		ms	now
		all	
on	tion	the	
he	was	mi-	

at	80
a	died
	shed
	tive er-
	and ew-
to	old
l	on the
	'ed
go	ll
be	at- rs.
	eive gir
	rom

at- und- a f
Carl. ly
sh the on
it of xt
m pe
ape ar-
a farm

wei
 lee
 wh
 pas
 F
 the
 sou
 tim
 cre
 E
 en

and
Gle
won
stay
of t
to
me
The

The Editor's Plow 'Chair'

There comes a time in every newspaper man's life when he has something so important to say he doesn't quite know where to begin. He has been writing deaths, weddings, accidents, government, schools, crime and features for so long, and has become so accustomed to the stereotyped methods of presentation, that the thought of reporting something of transcendent importance is frightening and weakening. When this time comes he fears his capabilities are far below what they should be. At this one time in his life when he stumbles upon a bit of intelligence which, if properly presented, could benefit the lives of whole populations, then indeed he shrinks within himself to illiputian dimensions, impotent, feckless, overwhelmed.

The author of this column now feels like that. He feels like that over a book, a little book that he wants everyone to read and study. It is as simple as that. Aldous Huxley, Dr. Hutchins, Mrs. Roosevelt and others have praised the work highly. Louis Bromfield said of it that he could think of no volume of greater importance at this time. Yet a sure way to put the kibosh on any book is to urge people to read it. Then they invariably avoid it as they might leprosy. It is not that they don't have respect for, perhaps, or confidence in the person making the request; it's just that being Americans they don't want to be told to do anything and are a little sick of people getting down on their hands and knees and asking, please, watcha! We know that only too well. So, just to be contrary, we'll say, for heaven's sake don't read "This Plundered Planet" by Fairfield Osborn.

Don't read it, we'll say, because you live in Benton county which exists only because of its rich soil. Don't read it because then you will learn that Benton county might very well not be Benton county in fewer years than you might think. Don't read it because then you won't have to reflect how Benton county might look without people and with its black soil turned to brown sand.

Don't read it because then you won't be troubled with thoughts about what really did happen to the great empires of the world—Greece and Rome and Persia. You won't have to be bothered with their extinction which came from neglect of natural resources and from little else. You won't have to wonder why the Cedar river and other streams in the county are always clouded with soil, and why our game population, important in the chain of processes that keep men alive, is a bare fraction of what it should be.

You won't have to read about the suffering in China and India and Greece and Spain and many other nations dead on their feet because they were once so dead in the head as to abuse their land mercilessly; and they abused it because they were greedy and ignorant. You won't have to think about the terrible deforestation going on in the Americas, the gradual sinking into poverty of Mexico, the unbelievable waste of soil now in progress throughout this sorry globe.

You won't have to pay attention to the sharp, though gentle, mind of Mr. Osborn, who points out with barbed facts that unless we stop being dolts, Mongolian idiots, low-grade morons, we stand a mighty good chance of upsetting the balance of nature in Iowa and seeing ourselves peering with red, bleary eyes out over a veritable Sahara that once grew corn—100 fat bushels to the acre. Sure it's fantastic. So were the fall of Rome and the Hitler hegemony and the atomic bomb before they became hard fact.

TO KEEP OUR SOILS

To the Editor:

As we, who are engaged in soil conservation work, take inventory of our progress during the year of 1949, we cannot help but feel gratified by the progress which has been made during the past year.

However, we fully realize that those of us who are engaged in soil conservation work on a full-time basis cannot take complete credit for this progress.

Benton county has made an enviable record in soil conservation work during the past year, and although we know that Glenn Heady and the men who work with him have done an outstanding job, we are well aware of the invaluable assistance given to the soil conservation movement by the Cedar Valley Daily Times. You and your staff have cooperated in every way possible to assist us and have also taken definite leadership in this crusade to preserve and maintain the rich soils with which Benton county people were endowed.

Please accept my congratulations for a job especially well done and may we hope that you will continue this very fine effort in 1950 and the years to come.

Very truly yours,
Emerson Wolfe,
District Conservationist,
Marion, Iowa.

later. I will leave the farming part to the men, for instance we have for the first time planted corn on the contour. I have seen the lime trucks hauling and spreading lime, the fertilizer sacks and the corn sacks, I know all of these are essential for a good farm practice, but how one blends in with another is beyond my reach.

Study Conservation! When Benton's Soil Goes, The County Goes With It.

Mr. Osborn's intimation that we are the more weak-minded of the ostriches because our own government is not sufficiently alarmed to stand up and scream about conservation you may pass by in criminal bliss. What matter if posterity look upon us as backward aborigines who left behind them a heritage of eroded lands that wouldn't support three thin, blind mice? Let's grow the biggest crops in the world, take what we can from the earth, milk it to death and let the devil take the hindmost. Which he will certainly do, and with gusto.

Mr. Osborn cannot be absorbed in an evening, or two evenings, or a month of evenings. It will take years, and this despite the fact he writes as simply as an author of a first-grade primer and uses language a seven-year-old can understand with astonishing clarity.

The book isn't 200 pages long and its type is half again as large as this you're reading. We're sorry to say it isn't in the Vinton library, though it has been ordered. It will be read by a few thoughtful, conscientious farmers, by conservation officials, by students and others academically inclined. In other words it will be read by people who don't need to read it. If it were read by half the farmers in Benton county, you would not recognize Benton county in one year. You would not recognize it, that is, topographically. For there would be such a wave of soil conservation practices here as to stagger the imagination. You would ride a long way before you would glimpse a scintilla of evidence of erosion. And before long you would find a richer Benton county, a county in more grass, fewer weeds, a profusion of trees and an abundance of wildlife. The continued life of our productive soil would be assured.

But don't read "Our Plundered Planet," for it will only disturb your meditations. Mr. Osborn, unlike so many writers, has had the guts to tell the truth, and the truth lest we forget, will pluck you from your high horse and hurl you most unceremoniously into the nearest patch of bull thistles.

No one likes to read of an intelligent man forecasting the fairly swift disappearance of the human race brought about through its own stupidity and cupidity. As Mr. Osborn says with disarming simplicity, this not only can happen here, but is happening here and every day.

So please ignore "Our Plundered Planet." Like Newton Galileo, Darwin and others, Mr. Osborn speaks truth and we, being human beings, don't like truth. It injures vanities, pricks reputations, punctures self-importance. Besides it just isn't nice to say that we, being immortal beings created in the image of the Almighty, could be such consummate nincompoops about our land.

The Editor's Plow 'Chair'

Something to think about, all those firsts, as are Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady's remarks this week about land.

"Most men claim the land has been used too hard during the years of national emergency," he said. "By this they mean that they've used up much more of the organic matter than during normal years of cropping and destroying the soil structure that goes with the better rotations. It isn't that corn and beans take from the land a greater amount of plant food for the production of the crop because the reverse is true. But through heavy intertilled cropping the plant food taken from the ground by corn or beans, plus the accelerated erosion of the soil, which carries with it a heavy toll of phosphorus, potassium, nitrogen and calcium, is much greater than the amount of plant food lost from an acre of growing a good pasture or hay crop."

Glenn continued: "Practically 100 per cent of the organic matter and the large per cent of the plant food nutrients available to the crops were originally in the top 12 to 14 inches of topsoil. Today, as one drives past the fields he sees light colored spots on many of the slopes. This means that erosion has taken off most of the topsoil, and the men farming these fields verify the fact that this ground yields sometimes less than 50 per cent as much corn or beans as the land does where most of the black topsoil remains. Before some 200 farmers at various contour demonstrations this spring the soil conservationists showed where even on slopes not yet showing indications that the subsoil was about to protrude through to the surface that it was showing up at plow depth and will be showing up on the surface in the not too distant future."

Glenn said that the speeded-up erosion will be checked on a good many farms in Benton county with good conservation practices coupled with proper rotations. "The reasoning behind a rotation carrying a couple of years of hay crop in a four-year rotation," he said, "is in the fact that an acre of land in hay will produce as many dollars as an acre of land in corn or beans during normal years. This, of course, means a greater number of livestock on the farms to utilize the additional hay and pasture."

The Farmer's Opinion

Question: Have you been able to make conservation practices work on the farm you operate?

locust trees. I think people around here are really beginning to see the benefit of conservation practices.

Edwin Hill, operator of 240 acres, Mt. Auburn: "My land is fairly level and I haven't found contouring necessary so far. I do keep my waterways filled and grassed, and I always grow a pretty big percentage of grass, alfalfa and clover. Conservation practices are fine as far as I'm concerned. The only trouble is that we woke up too late. But that shouldn't stop us from doing what we can toward conserving the land now."



EDWIN HILL

Merl Thorman, owner of 255 acres, Blairtown: "I went into the SCS program for the first time this year. My farm is pretty flat—less than 3 percent slope—so my practices are concerned with better rotation. I have a drainage problem rather than too much washing. I think more grass and legumes is what we're headed toward to keep a good supply of organic matter in the soil. I've noticed on my farm that some of the soil was getting too tight to take water well."



MERL THORMAN

Arthur A. Wilson, operator of 387 acres, Mt. Auburn: "I've been on my present farm two years and there hadn't been anything done toward conservation before I came. The fields hadn't even been limed. There is about 60 acres of permanent pasture on the farm which makes it a little hard for me to grow more forage—I already have too much for the livestock I have. It's a little harder for a renter to practice conservation, but my farm is listed with the SCS and I'm doing what I can."



ARTHUR WILSON

George W. Raabe, operator of 240 acres, Belle Plaine: "My son and I have tried about all of the conservation practices and we find all of them very good. In fact we wouldn't farm without practicing conservation. Conservation practices save money in the form of topsoil and moisture. If every farmer would get up in the morning after a rain and find the same amount of loss in dead livestock as he had in soil washed away he would really be impressed."



GEORGE RAABE

Have Your Soil Tested
So You'll Know What
Fertilizers Will
Be the Best.

Bromegrass and alfalfa make a good forage combination.

This is a good clover year, even though it's short because of the dry spring. White and red clovers are thick as wool blankets in the fields, and sweet clovers are blooming like mad along highways in many parts of the county.

A big saving in cost of production is made by plow planting. By this method of planting corn only two tillage operations are required prior to planting; that is, disk the ground followed by plowing.

We've had letters from Mary Glenn of Watkins and Sharon Turner of Garrison this week. Both wanted more information on soil conservation to use in their school.

nd turn or as
ters to e, est
a fox Bento
ut sure lectric
s given er
unters. we tra

ave not
to Ben-
Club
meet-
mois-
water
ected
due to
frozen.
em."

water
haven't
to help
state
to kill
let the
pond
recomm-
the
This
gen for
meet-

es for
erways
nd this
ch ran-
nd Carl
is Mey-
uch of
Dysart
er Ris-

Atkins
s and
last
uring
This
Russell
Vinton,
e City.

en th-
stone
l con-
on fill-
the din-
lets." County
n, is
plemen-
percent
Benton
lanterns.
Vinton
past 2
o-row.

idwest
ected
s corn
cent of
Plant-
average
eather.
U. S. De-
s and
work

cent of the
by this past week.
will be in full swing

rs are
achers
camp
Miss
stown;
s and
n.

ed con-
f years
a part
teach-
camp,
m, and
on at-
ney will
will cre-
dit.

Clair
Virginia
grade
of the
a con-
firm. They
erman-
ces be-
east of

ult on
ld of
er this
lines
ms of
on, of
Mar-
inton;
Porte

erial
we've
photo
w con-
shows
les of
county.
0 per-
around
added
their
Benton
ules of
oil dis-
active
notice
e con-
der-
Har-
emont
Vinton
past 2
o-row.

idwest
ected
s corn
cent of
Plant-
average
eather.
U. S. De-
s and
work

cent of the
by this past week.
will be in full swing

24
had
enter-
this
Rus-

is to
live-
s pas-
as not
provide
e the
school
attend
camp.
He
as he
by the
variation
than
between
h," he

ly one,
John
as the
e first
revolu-
ry.

is all
the
races.
der by
arrison,
ek in
the
Wolfe,
lwerth
ity is
ork on
at the
Ronald
ne of
rbana
eal of
s. He
fences
station
in this
on a
roduc-
their
lets. A
een or
of this
quite
a State
Sheaf
of the
as will
reach
proved
far-
end to
ation."

recasts
million
each for
the
ed and
of last
growth

County
e they
e mois-
letters
k were

most in-
through
nd in a
and north
are of
in these
le from
Town-
Taylor
of Har-

ment-
Commis-
o hear
on unities
e diff-
erence
nd and
arming
m con-
33 in
corner
more
were
John
ow on
tent of

is a
the
races.
der by
arrison,
ek in
the
Wolfe,
lwerth
ity is
ork on
at the
Ronald
ne of
rbana
eal of
s. He
fences
station
in this
on a
roduc-
their
lets. A
een or
of this
quite
a State
Sheaf
of the
as will
reach
proved
far-
end to
ation."

recasts
million
each for
the
ed and
of last
growth

County
e they
e mois-
letters
k were

of Van-
res of the
Bossler,
unning his
sheller, as

our lines
where
Byron will
watering
ure.

will add
ing to his
activities
out in a

om Mary
aron Tur-
reek. Both
on on soil
eir school
of Urbana
in and
er.

Herb
supp, all
up to in-
ures on
ity filled
ways on

Raphael
ve both
o see a-
on their

nts took
out of
of Iowa
quivalent
al crop

nd Mrs.
account
ng Brook
annual
on. The
ish and
h would
tion pic-
age sur-
of last
s. He
s and
work

ubs hope
several
ke applica-
tion this
summer.

by next week.

of the
house-
and milk
land is

aid out
of rans
all, Ivan
Hed-
awn of
1 living
and f up
and
are was
the Han-
nd will
Carl
Consi-
own in
on a
tour al-
acher,
d giv-
uct in
onsen-
taking
week
he tui-
State
Spring-
f leara
f the
pres-

sts Bel-
farm
Rudy
ke and
live in

iving a
arm this
luzerne.

structed
m this
out of

ssioners
week
th, and
on ac-
schools
Fish &
Van
express-
were
d work
eachers.
ated for
a.

Dysart
onstruc-
arm has
be hav-
control

some
is corn
erialize,
far-
end to
this

County
e they
e mois-
letters
k were

point of gov-
rendered.

Big Grove Farmers Fly to Syria; See Relatives Suffering from Malnutrition Because of Soils

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

When Mr. and Mrs. Abdo Omar, Big Grove township farmers, recently left Syria on their return flight to America, the entire village of Camid, some 1,500 souls, turned out to bid them a sad farewell.

"They cried like it was a funeral," Mrs. Omar recalled.

And for good reasons. For the generous Omars had paid to replace the crumbling Moslem church roof in the town, arranged to have the schoolhouse repaired and had bought food and clothing for many. The residents of Camid were saying goodbye to the greatest benefactors they had ever known. For the Omars this was perhaps the most unforgettable experience of their 12,000-mile trip that lasted eight weeks.

Mr. Omar returned the first of this week, his wife and little daughter, Allea, 3, several days before. He had gone to see a cousin in Nova Scotia about helping pay for the work on the Camid school.

Methods Unchanged

For Mr. Omar, returning to his native land to see his brother and three sisters for the first time in 39 years, the trip had another depressing side.

He found farming methods unchanged from the time he as a boy had worked his father's acres in the rough, rocky terrain, and he found that the loss of the richness of the soil in the intervening years had sharply changed both the health and welfare of his people.

Rickets were common among children in the village. Lacking in minerals and protein, they had pot bellies and thin, drawn faces. Mr. Omar's brother and sisters, though younger than he, looked shockingly aged.

Leave Nothing in Earth

"They haven't taken care of the soil," he explained. "They overcrop it and they don't use fertilizer. They pull the wheat out of the ground, leaving nothing in the soil. They do this to get all the straw they can to feed their cattle. That is the only feed there is."

Mr. Omar said that for every bushel of wheat planted, only five bushels are returned by the soil. For every bushel of oats, the return is 3½ bushels. When he worked his father's 40 acres years ago the harvest ran about 25 bushels to the acre for wheat and about 22 bushels for oats.

Harvesting is still done by hand, just as it has been for centuries, he said, and the ground is still worked with a forked stick behind an ox. For an American farmer accustomed to using the most modern agricultural implements this was disturbing to see.

Process Own Grain

"It is a hand-to-mouth existence" on the farms over there, Mr. Omar went on. "They process what little grain there is for their own food. Their only cash crop is the grapes."

From these are made syrup, raisins and wine in the towns. The farmers use the proceeds to buy cloth to make their clothing and for other necessities of life. Arbors are deep-rooted, tough plants that endure longer than the people. Mr. Omar had the experience of eating grapes from an arbor he had planted as a boy more than 40 years ago.

Only one crop is raised a year in the Camid neighborhood. That is during the three winter months when the rains and snow come. There is not enough moisture during the rest of the year. Along the river valleys, however, it is a different story. There two crops are produced annually and the farmers are relatively prosperous.



BACK FROM a 12,000-mile flight to Syria to visit relatives, Mr. and Mrs. Abdo Omar and their youngest child, Allea, 3, relax at their Big Grove farm home, five miles southwest of Vinton. The Omars hopped from New York to Beirut in less than 24 hours. In Syria they visited the graves of the Biblical prophets, observed farming conditions, were treated "like kings." He had not been back for nearly 40 years. It was Mrs. Omar's first trip abroad.

Creaminess Milk

Mr. Omar said he would "just as soon not have seen" the stock on the farms. "They are skin and bones," he explained, "and there is no cream in the milk." Besides the straw from the oats and wheat, they get a bitter, thistle-like weed which is cut and ground. Like the people, the cattle lack proper nutrition.

The Big Grove farmers were treated, as they said, like royalty. They were constantly invited to dinners, sometimes to eat alone for the Syrians felt they were too important to dine with mere residents of Camid. Mrs. Omar's handkerchief would be snatched from her by willing housewives, carefully washed and returned several times almost daily, and the Americans were always politely declining to have their feet washed, another act of courtesy and hospitality. Village minstrels sang to them, praising even the great plane that brought them such a distance and heaping encomiums upon wonderful America.

"It Must Be Heaven"

According to the Omars, everyone in the village would give his life to become an American citizen. They told of 35 youths who offered to go to the Korean front lines for the U. S. in exchange for citizenship. Many of them were married and had families. Some of Mr. Omar's nephews were even afraid to speak with him, "so big" was he considered. "It must be heaven over there," the women told Mrs. Omar as they explained their daily life on the Big Grove farm.

It was Mrs. Omar's first time to Syria. A native of Cedar Rapids, she went back to visit her father, Joe Madlom, whom she had not seen for 17 years. For 30 years he lived in Cedar Rapids, going back finally to spend the rest of his days on a Syrian farm.

The Omars left New York on August 3, stopped at Gander, N. F., and London, England, and arrived in Beirut, Syria, on August 5. Neither had ever flown before. They loved the Pan American service. From Beirut they traveled the 28 miles to Camid.

\$4,000 for Repairs

They gave the equivalent of \$4,000 in Syrian money to repair the church which Mr. Omar had attended as a young man. This ran to about \$800 in U. S. currency. The schoolhouse, which he did not attend, has 250 pupils and will cost around \$275 in American money to repair. His Nova Scotia cousin will take care of that, he said.

Mr. Omar, a veteran of World War I, former packing house worker and Cedar Rapids groverman, came to Benton county to settle on the soil he loves in 1945. He came to America in 1911 from a Syrian farm, became naturalized a few years later and worked hard to become eventually a successful grocer retailer. When the opportunity came, he bought the 200-acre Big Grove farm and moved there with his family. Besides Allea, he has another daughter, Marriam, 14, an active 4-H girl, and a son, Hommy, 26, marine in World War II and a promising young grower now taking on-the-farm training for veterans.

Mr. Omar appreciates his America as few other citizens can. His appreciation further, was increased, if that were possible, by his visit to his native land.

"It was pretty touching," the Omars said, "to see the love of" the Syrians for America and their almost fanatical desire to become residents of the Land of Opportunity.

MILK PRODUCER

VINTON NEWS

Goldie Baron, a registered Brown Swiss cow owned by Elmer E. Mussman of Vinton, has recently completed a 305-day lactation record on herd test of 11,311.5 pounds of milk and 531.07 pounds of butterfat on twice-a-day milking, according to the Brown Swiss Breeders association. Goldie is a seven-year-old.

Calves between 4 and 6 months of age should have a concentrate mixture and hay in addition to pasture, says Ray Murley, Iowa State college extension dairyman.

Three SCS Men Now Serving Benton



THREE MEN ARE NOW HELPING BENTON FARMERS prepare long range programs to maintain the productivity of their lands as soil conservation continues to take hold in this county. Left to right are Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady, director of the USDA's Benton office, Soil Conservationist John Safranek and Conservation Aid Chester McNelly who are shown as they checked some terracing operations on the Harold Miller farm southeast of Vinton. Safranek comes from Cedar Rapids, McNelly from Anoka, Minn. The men work in conjunction with the Benton County Soil Conservation District Commission and cooperating farmers anxious to keep the good soil they have.

Soil Conservation Contest Winners Announced Today

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Winners in the Benton county soil conservation district commission's scrap book and essay contest for school children in the county were announced today.

Norway and Shellsburg were the two schools receiving cash prizes for having the greatest participation in the contest. Each school was awarded \$7, the money to be used for the purchase of books on soil conservation.

In the junior high scrapbook division Russell Werning of Vinton was awarded a first prize of \$5 and Rose Mary Becker and Margaret Lefebure, both of Norway, each were awarded \$3.

In the intermediate grades Dennis Beatty, Shellsburg 6th grade student, was awarded a first prize of \$5 for his scrapbook. Second was Agnes Mae Suchy of Keystone, a 5th grade pupil, who will receive \$3; and third was Barbara Jean Hatfield, Shellsburg 4th grade pupil, who will receive \$2.

The essay contest was won by Victor Sebetka of Norway, a junior high school pupil, who will receive \$5. Bonnie Brecht, also of Norway, will receive \$3 for placing second. She is also a junior high student. The winning essays will be put on display at the fairgrounds during the 1950 fair by County Supt. Ella Mehlhaus.

Schools participating in the contests included Belle Plaine, Vinton, Garrison, Keystone, Norway and Shellsburg. Twenty-two scrapbooks and essays were sent in for judging by the commissioners.

Norway Youth Tells How to Stop Erosion

(Ed. Note: Here is another winning essay in the contest recently held by the Benton County Soil Conservation District Commission on saving our soils. The author is a Norway student.)

By VICTOR SEBETKA

This broad, rich valley is a bit of American land, beautiful to see and yielding bountiful harvests. The prairie states are nearly level fields of crops. Many of the mountains are covered by forests of different kinds of trees. In early times men had enough land and no erosion going on. It is no longer true. The land must produce food for 150 million people.

Long ago people got all their food and clothing from the land. But still now our food comes from the land. Three centuries ago the land was covered with forests.

The long insect were in a inch was

and ing it is sin dre aw

wa sh fa it ra se

g

Mass production of paper cups started in 1911, about the time that state boards of health took up the campaign of Dr. Samuel J. Crumrine of Kansas, against the common drinking cup in public places.

Paper Cups

J. Fix, ss	3	0
D. Emanuel, p	3	0
Iowa Mfg. (3)	29	0
M. Benhart, rf	4	1
Waycott, ss	4	0
Cypre, lf	4	2
Trvdik, 3b	4	0
L. Benhart, cf	4	0
Rucker, lb	4	0
Currell, 3b	4	0
Seabrook, c	4	0
Brown, p	36	3

NORWAY PUPIL WRITES ABOUT SAVING SOILS

(Ed. Note: Bonnie Brecht of Norway was one of the winners in the essay contest on soil conservation recently conducted by the Benton County Soil Conservation District Commission. The essay points up the value of education needed to keep Benton's rich soils.)

By BONNIE BRECHT

We can use the land and save it if we can prevent soil erosion. Land-productive land on which good crops, pastures or forests will grow, is the most valuable resource on earth. Whether you live in the city or country, the land feeds and clothes you and gives you most of the things you

W. L. Pct.	National League	American League
40	74	351
38	70	352
44	70	386
50	60	455
68	48	586
68	44	607
70	44	614
70	38	648
W. L. Pct.	National League	American League

BASEBALL STANDINGS

Yesterday's star—Jim Hearn of the Giants, who topped the lead- ing Phillies, 7 to 4, with a five- inning no-hitter, was the first pitcher to beat them for the sec- ond time in five days and a defeat in his career.

But Boston only six games out of first place.

The Red Sox made it six straight victories, all over second division clubs, when they topped the Senators, 7 to 6, in 10 innings.

at Boston as Bobby Doerr broke up the game with a homer. Ear- lier, Sherry Robertson had kept the Nats in the game by batting in five runs with homers in the sixth and eighth innings. The win- ning run was scored in the eighth.

The league leading Tigers were in four games of first place.

as the Yankees moved to with- in four games of first place.

eer, Eddie Joost homered for the



Over

VINTON, IOWA, Dec. 12 1950 No. 132

BENTON COUNTY BANK & TRUST COMPANY

PAY TO THE ORDER OF The French Bay Printing Co. \$4 50

Four and fifty two hundredths DOLLARS

FOR Over

Alvin F. Hardy

Soil Conservation Contest Winners Announced Today

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Winners in the Benton county soil conservation district commission's scrap book and essay contest for school children in the county were announced today.

Norway and Shellsburg were the two schools receiving cash prizes for having the greatest participation in the contest. Each school was awarded \$7, the money to be used for the purchase of books on soil conservation.

In the junior high scrapbook division Russell Werning of Vinton was awarded a first prize of \$5 and Rose Mary Becker and Margaret Lefebure, both of Norway, each were awarded \$3.

In the intermediate grades Dennis Beatty, Shellsburg 6th grade student, was awarded a first prize of \$5 for his scrapbook. Second was Agnes Mae Suchy of Keystone, a 5th grade pupil, who will receive \$3; and third was Barbara Jean Hatfield, Shellsburg 4th grade pupil, who will receive \$2.

The essay contest was won by Victor Sebetka of Norway, a junior high school pupil, who will receive \$5. Bonnie Brecht, also of Norway, will receive \$3 for placing second. She is also a junior high student. The winning essays will be put on display at the fairgrounds during the 1950 fair by County Supt. Ella Mehlhaus.

Schools participating in the contests included Belle Plaine, Vinton, Garrison, Keystone, Norway and Shellsburg. Twenty-two scrapbooks and essays were sent in for judging by the commissioners.

Norway Youth Tells How to Stop Erosion

(Ed. Note: Here is another winning essay in the contest recently held by the Benton County Soil Conservation District Commission on saving our soils. The author is a Norway student.)

By VICTOR SEBETKA

This broad, rich valley is a bit of American land, beautiful to see and yielding bountiful harvests. The prairie states are nearly level fields of crops. Many of the mountains are covered by forests of different kinds of trees. In early times men had enough land and no erosion going on. It is no longer true. The land must produce food for 150 million people.

Long ago people got all their food and clothing from the land. But still now our food comes from the land. Three centuries ago if people didn't have enough land they moved. Freedom started from land itself.

The soil of America takes a long time to form. All kinds of insects, animals and other things were decayed. The top-most soil in an average is six to seven inches. The soil of the prairies was seven feet deep.

Land Once Free

In the early days land was free and people had enough for farming. When rain falls on bare soil it washes it away. When water is dirty, it is carrying soil. The simple process is erosion. Hundreds of tons may be washed away in one rainfall.

On large fields that are bare water carries off soil in great sheets. As water pours over the falls it tears out the soil behind it. Big gullies are formed. Rain-water running through soil. The water flows along bottom and tears the walls. Roads, houses, fields, everything goes into the gully as it eats its way along. Two of our Presidents knew that erosion was dangerous.

The water that runs off the land has to go somewhere. It spreads along low fields. Thus the topsoil is then covered with sub-soil from the hill. Many of our rivers and dams are filling with soil from the hills. When it gets filled with dirt, it is difficult for boats to travel on.

Two Kinds of Erosion

When the subsoil is washed off it makes the rivers and creeks flow over because it piles up in one place. Floods cause tremendous damage. It washes all the buildings and causes lots of damage.

The two kinds of erosion are water and wind.

When a dust storm is in full swing you can see only a few yards. Some 10 million acres of land in the United States have been seriously worn by wind erosion alone. Several inches is removed during a few hours of strong steady winds.

In the high plains around Texas and Oklahoma—the dust bowl—erosion was very bad. Dust clouds swept over two-thirds of the U. S. All the buildings were covered with soil and dust. In May of 1934, the wind dropped about 100 tons of soil per square mile. Then they had soil conservation—most of the land had to be in grass.

Urges Stripping

Strip cropping is good for soil safety. This method will hold the water from washing down the hill.

A good pasture is a good protector of the soil. It takes skill and great care to develop and to use a really fine pasture. Pasture plants should be fertilized just like any crop. But if the plants are a few feet or a few inches tall they still should be in good condition.

When it rains on a road the water has to run off and it usually flows on the side. Keeping the road in good shape is very costly. There should be grass planted in the ditch. The grass can be mowed more easily than having gullies.

From a gully to a pond is a good idea. Ponds are useful in many ways. They can provide a farm family with fish. It's a good place for cows to drink.

I think that the farmers should have soil conservation to save the soil. They should plant grass to stop erosion.

NORWAY PUPIL WRITES ABOUT SAVING SOILS

(Ed. Note: Bonnie Brecht of Norway was one of the winners in the essay contest on soil conservation recently conducted by the Benton County Soil Conservation District Commission. The essay points up the value of education needed to keep Benton's rich soils.)

By BONNIE BRECHT

We can use the land and save it if we can prevent soil erosion. Land-productive land on which good crops, pastures or forests will grow, is the most valuable resource on earth. Whether you live in the city or country, the land feeds and clothes you and gives you most of the things you use.

Good topsoil and water are the main elements that make land productive. That's why we say soil conservation does more than safeguard land. It directly or indirectly causes a wide variety of benefits. It increases crop yields and lowers the cost of production. It helps check drought damage to crops, pastures, and meadows.

Farmers, who are practicing conservation farming, estimate that it has increased their yields by more than 30 per cent. Conservation also increases the yields of grazing and forest lands. Soil conservation didn't get much attention in the United States until the 1930s. As long as we had plenty of unsettled land, conservation did not seem important.

Why Farmers Contour

Probably the principal reason for contouring is to reduce soil washing. Uncontrolled water always runs down hill. By farming around the slope each furrow and mark left by tillage equipment becomes a tiny basin to catch and hold any water that falls into it.

Soil tests were taken at Bethany, Mo., on soils similar to those found in southern Iowa, indicate that the topsoil which remains can be made to last twice as long by changing to contouring tillage.

The accuracy of a contour line depends upon having a level which is true and upon using it carefully close to the top of the slope. This will provide greater protection against runoff since the rows planted up from this line will be more nearly on the level.

The 7 chief planting rules on contouring are:

- (1) Check the planting rate.
- (2) Start planting by straddling the first guide.
- (3) Return to the second guide line and plant up until the rows formed above are joined.
- (4) Then start at the second down until the rows formed below are joined.
- (5) Plant point rows in the irregular area between the full-length rows, going around it.
- (6) Continue in the same way with other contour lines until the planting is completed.
- (7) Use fill-in rows where necessary to eliminate sharp turns on a ridge when planting up from a guide line.

How Conservation Work is Done By the end of 1948 more than 700,000 detailed conservation farm planting plans had been prepared by the soil conservation service. These plans covered about 210 million acres—almost 20 per cent of the land in the nation. Most farmers using soil conservation measures receive conservation payments under the Agriculture Conservation Program of the United States Department of Agriculture or received assistance on their conservation work from some other federal or state agency. Each year from 1946 through 1948, conservation farm plans were made for about 3 per cent of the nation's farm land. The conservation treatment will be installed on most of this land within 1 to 5 years after the plans are made. It usually takes a farmer about that long to put all of his conservation plans into effect.

I believe the value of soil conservation will soon be recognized by everyone. It conserves water, and wildlife. Conservation is a very important thing in this fast changing world.



OWA, Dec 12 1950 No. 132

COUNTY BANK & TRUST COMPANY

Two hundred and fifty dollars

DOLLARS

Alvin F. Hardy

Big Erosion Damage in Benton Rain

By GLENN HEADY

Benton County Conservationist

The fact that the heavy rain of last week caused an immense amount of erosion over Benton county has become all too evident. Although Monroe township seems to have been hit hardest, reports of soil washing have come in from all parts of the county.

Most spectacular to most farmers and the public in general who noticed the results of the very heavy rain was the gullying of fields and the great silt deposits left when the water flow slowed. Lack of grassed waterways was also very noticeable. A large amount of corn in the bare waterways was washed or laid flat.

The true villain of last week's rain and of most heavy rains has been scarcely noticed. That is the amount of sheet erosion which occurs in the intertilled crop fields. The first friend of mind to call sheet erosion to my attention (it is hard to believe) was a traveling salesman working for an advertising company who never lived a day of his life on a farm.

The happy group of men who talked of lack of sheet erosion on their farms were the farmers with terraces on the land.

As I traveled over Benton county last Saturday morning, June 24, with a five-state representation of the Izaak Walton league, I had the opportunity to show them not only a lot of good soil conservation and how it prevents erosion, but also the vast amount of erosion on non-conservation farms. Several hundred thousand tons of good top soil from Benton county were leaving the county via the over-taxed streams. Not only were the streams carrying a capacity load of silt, but were also laden with a great amount of organic matter which is so important to our production, and probably most important was the plant food nutrients that left our county for the gulf of Mexico.

It's important to have some supplementary feed available, such as grass, silage, when pastures get short this summer.

Removing cows from the pasture a few hours before milking will help eliminate objectionable milk flavors which are caused by some pastures.

Pasture Patter

By EVERETT CREE

Here it is, the season of sprouting corn. Some fields are up far enough to row already. There will be some folks who will sight across their fields and feel a surge of pride as they see how straight a check they got when they planted. Others will look at their sloping fields and feel equally proud of the contoured plantings they have made. By the way... each one of those persons will be quite sure that he planted his corn the way corn should be planted.

Pasture Patter

By EVERETT CREE

Once in a while one bumps into a thought or idea that seems to carry the concentrated wisdom of much observation and experience. Not long ago I was in the Soil Conservation office and Glenn Heady came... not with one observation... but many. I'd like to share them with you.

"Prosperity does not start at the factory pay roll window, but comes from the ground up—soil makes big business possible."

"The perpetuation of America and the nation depends upon the perpetuation of physical America—the land itself."

"Our civilization depends upon the top eight inches of the earth's surface. We cannot exist without it. We live on the top eight inches, when we die we are buried in what is below."

"The soil is one natural resource that does not have to wear out to be used up."

"Engineers report... After one large rain the Cedar River at Waterloo was carrying fifty three thousand tons of silt per hour. Another check at Cedar Rapids after the same rain showed the river to be carrying seventy three thousand tons per hour. This was an increase of twenty thousand tons of silt which was added between the two points."

Results of checks show that on the average of every day of the year enough silt flows under the bridge at Vinton to cover a two hundred fifty acre farm with six inches of silt a day... enough in a year to cover that farm to a depth of one hundred eighty two and one half feet.

As the Mississippi river flows past New Orleans it carries into the Gulf the equivalent of all the top soil of one quarter section farm every ten minute period of the day."

Just imagine a two hundred and fifty acre farm having one hundred and eighty feet or more of silt piled on it in the course of a year. That would be equal to three, sixty foot windmill towers standing one on top of the other! And then some people still protest that all will be well in the future and that there is really nothing to be very concerned about.

Seems to me that there is one place where we shouldn't be too conservative in our thinking... that's about Conservation.

Practice Soil Conservation.

Pasture Patter

By EVERETT CREE

I stopped in at a friend's home the other day and what do you suppose he was doing? No—guess again. He was poring over the plan of his farm that the soil conservation office had made up for him. "I'm going to be seeding clovers and grasses in a big way," he chuckled as he showed the plan toward me.

"Maybe you will get some of that soil stopped that has been heading for the river the past year," I told him. "Grass roots can do a lot toward helping keep top soil at home."

He was happy to get the farm plan. I was happy to see him get it and I am very sure this particular farm of his would heave a sigh of relief (if land could do such a thing) to know that the burden of constant crops of corn, soybeans and oats would soon be taken away.

I couldn't help thinking as I scanned his plan what a large number of grasses and legumes we do have available when the time does come for planning crop rotations. There is:

Red clover. It's still a mighty important hay from the Corn Belt over and there is much that can be said for it. Seeded on well cared for ground with an inoculant to make sure the bacteria on the roots can store the atmospheric nitrogen, it can help keep soils up in fertility. The feed chemists tell us there are 10 pounds of digestible protein in every 100 pounds of average red clover hay. That's not so bad, but not the best.

Alfalfa is better. There are around 10.5 pounds of digestible protein in every 100 pounds of average hay—more pounds per acre, too, as a rule. I don't know why some folks seed alfalfa and then proudly point to it as a soil holding crop. Take a look at those tap roots and it is pretty evident that alfalfa needs something like the matted root system of brome grass to help it hold soil.

Brome grass doesn't run so high in protein—5 pounds of it in a hundred pounds of hay. But there are many pounds of other feed nutrients. Livestock like brome grass as well as the soil does.

Alsike clover isn't so bad either. It's worth a pound of seed to the acre just to have the fragrance of the blossoms at the proper season. Besides, there are 8.1 pounds of digestible protein in the average 100 pounds of hay. More than red clover. It has a niche to fill in most meadow seedings.

Sweet clover? Yes, there are yellow blossom, white blossom, annual and biennial. It wasn't many years ago that people were shaking a threatening fist at sweet clover. It was a WEED! It was terrible. It was going to ruin the country. Now, most people are delighted when they can plow under a good growth of it. Hay? Cut the first year, there are almost 12 pounds of protein in a hundred pounds of it.

But—talk about protein—look at Ladino clover—14.2 pounds of protein to 100 pounds. If you can get it cured! A close relative of the white Dutch clover, ladino is becoming more and more popular these last few years. It's worth trying and keeping a watchful eye toward others who have already tried it.

That is saying nothing about lespedeza, birds foot trefoil, vetch and crimson clover—a little of which is grown hereabouts from time to time. All legumes, all able to utilize the atmosphere as a source of nitrogen.

That isn't saying anything about the grasses that have their place to fill in most meadow seedings, too. I think my friend can spend several of these snowy evenings considering the kinds and amounts of seed he is going to purchase for the new plans on his farm. Ten years from now none of us will be able to recognize the place—legumes and grasses will have done their work.

Heavy Rains Wash Out Benton Corn



PART OF THIS field south of Vinton was badly eroded by recent torrential rains. Note the heavy accumulation of rich topsoil at the right center of the picture. Much of the valuable, irreplaceable loam was washed into a ditch in the foreground. Corn and topsoil would both have been spared here with a properly sodded waterway. Many fields over the county were similarly washed. While the corn loss was not great, the topsoil loss was far more than it should have been.

Practice Soil Conservation

Cedar Valley Times Farmer

VINTON, IOWA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1950

New Shellsburg Dairy Production Unit to Make Milking a Pleasure



HOMER SHOWMAN stands at the entrance to the milking parlor through the loafing shed. Note twin ramps, area for grain feeding over the parlor.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Shellsburg, Nov. 4.—Four miles southwest of Shellsburg Donald Showman and his 21-year-old son Homer this week were finishing up a brand new milk production building that will have all the latest equipment and one or two special features when operations start.

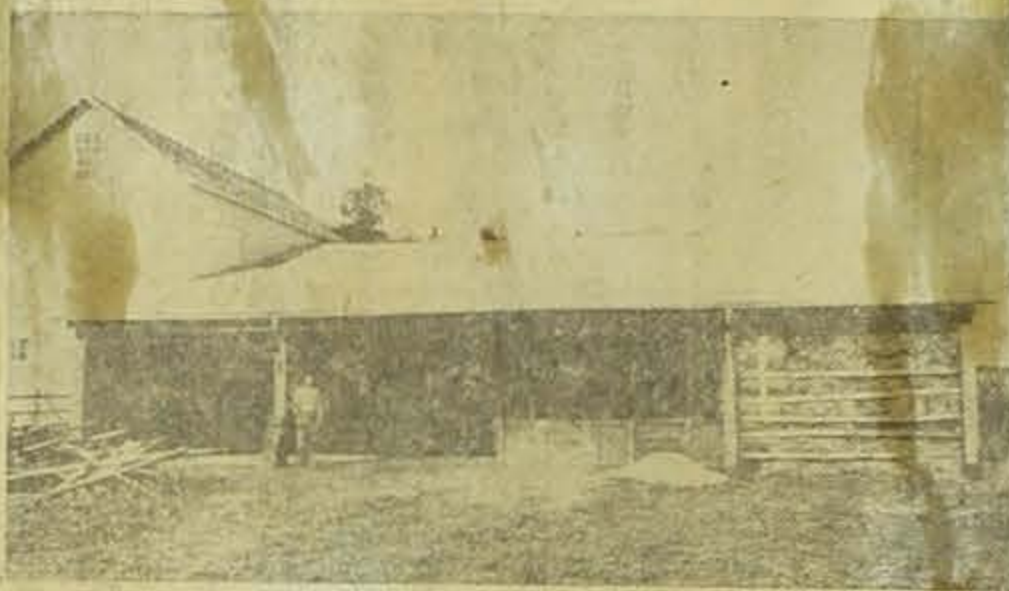
Actually the building is a combination milking parlor and loafing shed with the shed completely open on the south end to simplify ventilation.

The unit is a perfect square, 52 by 52 feet, with an area 52 by 39 feet devoted to the shed which will house a herd of 20 cows, a mixture of Guernseys and Jerseys. Homer, who is handling the dairy production, is now milking 12 cows and selling to a Cedar Rapids co-op. The whole unit is covered with a corrugated steel roof.

The milking parlor has two rooms. One for milking three cows simultaneously in steel Surge stalls located 30 inches above the floor to take the stoop out of operations, and the second 12 by 12 feet, for processing dairy products. Overhead are grain bins reached by wooden stairs going up in the shed. Chutes are being built from the bins directly into the stalls.

The entire milking area is insulated with asbestos wall board and in both the milking parlor and the milk room are electric fans sucking out stale air. Cows will reach the milking parlor by climbing a concrete ramp at one end and going through a sliding door. When they are milked, they will pass through another sliding door at the opposite end of the room and down another cement ramp. Both ramps have grooves across them every few inches to make footing secure.

In connection with the new building an old horse barn adjoining the structure is being converted into a hay storage area. The floor of the loafing area will be covered with cement and mangers put along the side to make feeding easy from the horse barn.



THE NEW loafing shed and milk parlor as it appears looking north. To the left is the old horsebarn to be used for hay storage.

The Belle Plaine Union

"The Newspaper with the Pictures"

Est. 1866

No. 6069

Published at Belle Plaine, Iowa, by
BURROWS PUBLISHING CO., Inc.

Wednesday, JULY 5, 1950

SOIL AND GAME CONSERVATION ISSUE

Agriculture Is Foundation of Nation's Economy

Poor Soils Make Poor
People and Poor People
Make Poorer Soils.

No community, no country, can
rise above the level of the land
that supports it.

Approximately one-third of the
richest topsoil of the United States
has been washed to the foot of
the slopes, into streams and down
to the oceans.

These are alarming facts, aren't
they? Farmers and townspeople
alike who live in the Corn Belt
are becoming more conscious ev-
ery day of new and better soil
conservation measures.

This week The Belle Plaine
Union brings you a conservation
issue... an issue dedicated to
better soil conservation. It is
chock full of pictures—taken on
nearby farms—and stories of peo-
ple you know. Many of the news
stories were written by Glenn
Heady, Benton county soil con-
servationist. The United States
Conservation Service, a department
of the federal government, has
aided the publishers by supplying
information, pictures, cartoons, etc.

Many local merchants have co-
operated. Their messages are
terse and helpful. Conservation
of our soil and wildlife affects
everyone in the community, ei-
ther directly or indirectly.

We urge you to note the differ-
ent methods of farming the next
time you drive through the coun-
try. After reading the stories on
conservation it will be easy for
you to note good and bad farm-
ing practices.

It was the statesman, Patrick
Henry, who said: "Give me lib-
erty or give me death." The same
Mr. Henry also said: "He is the
great patriot who stops the most
gullies."

Soil conservation does not cost
—it pays!

TIME TO MAKE

SOME DEPOSITS

IN YOUR SOIL BANK

The urgency of all-out food production during and following the war made it necessary to draw on soil reserves. In order to do your part, you may have taken too much out of your soil bank account. Now it's time to keep down excessive soil withdrawals and keep deposits coming in by using these practices.

- Grow legumes and grasses in your rotation. Legume-grass combinations help maintain fertility and organic matter. They aid in erosion control and improve soil structure.
- Put crop residues and manure back into the soil to keep up a good supply of organic matter and plant food in your soil account.
- Get a statement of your soil account by making soil tests. Then apply commercial fertilizer where needed.
- Drain wet land and follow good tillage practices so your account will bear interest.
- Lime acid soils. The most fertile soil in the world will not produce maximum yields if it needs limestone.

- Control erosion and you guard and insure your soil against loss. Form on the contour, build terraces if needed, seed waterways to grass and strip crop.

Plant FUNK'S "G" HYBRID CORN —
"Consistently Good — Year After Year"



FUNK BROS SEED CO.

Belle Plaine, Iowa

We'll Insure
Your PROPERTY

BUT —

We Can't Insure
Your LAND

Yes, we'll insure your build-
ings, your livestock and your
life. But we can't insure you
against loss of your soil or its
fertility.

That's one kind of insurance
you'll have to carry yourself.

When you stop erosion, drain
your soil, apply lime or fer-
tilizers, follow good rotations
... you are making premium
payments on a policy that
starts paying off immediately.

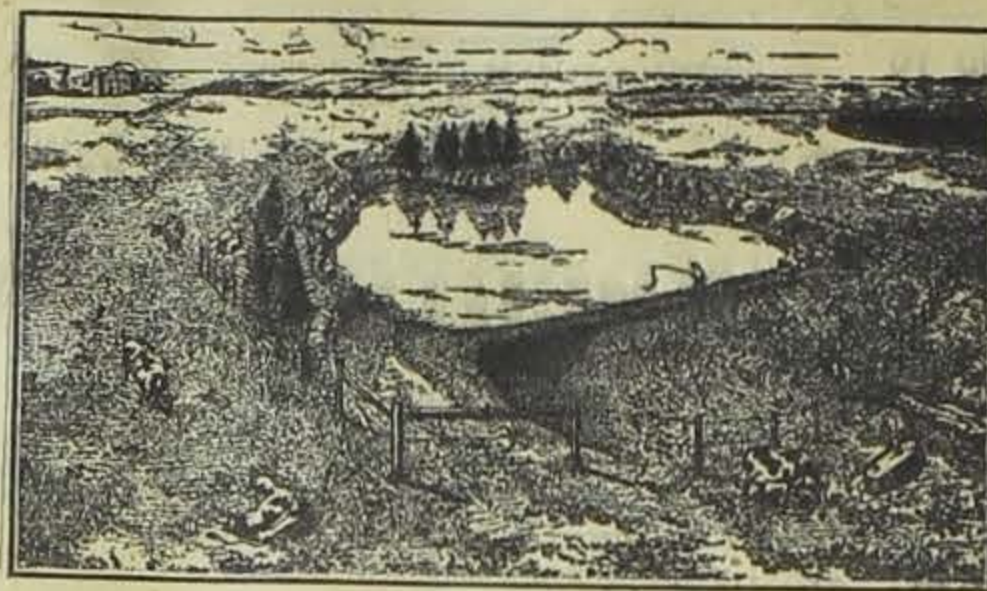
When you're in the market for
insurance, see us unless it's
soil insurance. In that case
see your county extension di-
rector or soil conservation serv-
ice technician.

CAL FULLMER
INSURANCE AGENCY

Phone 15-13

Belle Plaine, Iowa

Farm Conservation Work



Drawings by U. S. Soil Conservation Service

WE ARE IN A POSITION TO DO ALL SORTS
OF EARTH MOVING JOBS

Such as—

Ponds, Contouring, Dams, Filling Gullies

All Kinds of Drag Line Work—
Excavating, Ditching and Basements

TRENCH HOE—

Pipelines, Sewer Lines (large or small),
Septic Tanks, Drainage and Tiling

Call or See

Floyd McIlrath

Hartwick, Iowa

W. & J. TRACTOR CO.

Ford Tractors and Dearborn Farm Implements

CITIZENS STATE BANK

Creamery and Dairy

RICHARD BERGESON, Owner

LEO KELLY CO.

Marengo

— Blairstown

— Belle Plaine

Phone 125

FRANK RITNER, TIGS.

C. H. TRANBARGER, JR., Local Manager

Records
Van DeWalle's Return
From Vacation Trip
 CHELSEA—Mr. and Mrs. Pete Van DeWalle, daughters, Elaine and Mary Anne, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Carl Switzer of Victor, were on a 11 day trip. They visited Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Switzer at Baltimore, Md. They visited at Niagara Falls and drove to Niagara look in sights at

Records
LARRY POTINE
 Angel Lips, Angel Eyes
 You've Got to Take the Bitter

Records
The Marx Bros.
 FUNNIEST! FUNNIEST!
Continuous Show Sunday
JULY 9 AND 10
SUNDAY AND MONDAY



CONTOUR FARMING

pays in 3 main ways

1. Boosts Yields.

In experiments conducted for four years by Iowa State College, contouring boosted the average yield of corn by about 7.5 bushels per acre, oats by almost 5.5 bushels per acre, and soybeans by nearly 3 bushels per acre.

2. Conserves Soil and Water.

Studies at the Soil Conservation Farm in Page County have shown that soil losses can be cut in half by farming on the contour. Losses of water through runoff also are reduced.

3. Saves 10% Power and Fuel.

A tractor operated hour after hour at the same speed and pulling the same full load, performs more economically than a tractor that runs first fast, then slow, pulling changing loads from extra heavy to extra light. Farm on the level to get the most out of your Ford Tractors.

W. & J. TRACTOR CO.
 Ford Tractors and Dearborn Farm Implements

CITIZENS STATE BANK

Creamery and Dairy
 RICHARD BERGESON, Owner

LEO KELLY CO.

Marengo — Blairstown — Belle Plaine

Phone 120

FRANK PETER, Pres.

C. H. TRANBARGER, JR., Local Manager

Marengo — Blairstown — Belle Plaine

LEO KELLY CO.

RICHARD BERGESON, Owner

Creamery and Dairy

CITIZENS STATE BANK

Management of resources is our business. Whether your problem is financial or otherwise, bring it in and we'll be glad to go over it with you.

- Farming sloping ground on the contour.
- Keeping steep slopes in pasture.
- Providing proper drainage on all soils.
- Building terraces.
- Using lime and fertilizer.
- Including grasses and legumes in the rotation.

Soil Is a Priceless Resource—Use It Wisely By:

We believe any good management program has to start with good management of resources. That's why we want to lend our support to the Soil Conservation effort.

Whether it's banking, farming or any other kind of business that's measured in terms of productivity, resources are basic.

RESOURCES are a basic requirement



children, Lorna Mae, Jimmy and Mary Jo, Mrs. Julia Smith, of Lost Nation, Mr. and Mrs. Anton Jan and sons, Robert and Jackie of Maquoketa.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Jan of Montezuma, Mr. and Mrs. John Doran and children, Anita, Michele, John, Jr., of Tama, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Jan and daughters, Dorothy Jean, Ruth and Lois of Vallejo, Calif., Mr. and Mrs. Joe Jan and children, Irvin, Don and Jessie of Belle Plaine.

Keystone Girl Scouts Elect Officers

KEYSTONE—Monday afternoon ten members of the Girl Scout troop met for their first summer meeting. One visitor, Miss Shirley Wilkinson, was present.

Election of officers was held with Mardell Reinburg elected as patrol leader; JoAnn Selk, scribe; Darlys Junge, treasurer.

misfortune, he has become sort of a family pet and apparently appreciates all the attention that has been paid to him just like a human being. Yes, he even posed for this picture. —UNION photo.

IF IT'S NEWS — PHONE 62

New Officers of Legion Auxiliary Unit Were Installed July 3

The American Legion Auxiliary held their installation of officers at their regular meeting Monday evening, July 3, at the Legion home. Those installed were:

President, Adelaide Warnick; first vice president, Marian Jans; second vice president, Kenett Dally; secretary, Gretchen Strandberg; treasurer, Rosie Worth; chaplain, Dorothea Mecklenburg; historian, Leon Madeson; musician, Mary Ellen McGrew; sergeant at

Ladies Aid meets Thursday afternoon.

Walther league meets Thursday evening.

Thought for the week: An hour spent in God's house is an hour well spent.

Plan to be in church next Sunday. You are sincerely invited to worship with us.

Fred Voigtmann, pastor.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday school and Adult Bible class 9:30 a. m. Divine worship with the celebration of Holy Communion at 10:30 a. m.

Regular quarterly meeting of the voters assembly Sunday after the morning service.

Walther league social meeting Thursday at 8 p. m.

Fellowship club meets Friday at 8 p. m. with Mr. and Mrs. E. Wehrman serving as hosts.

Young Married Couples club picnic Sunday at noon.

Ladies Aid meets Wednesday at 2 p. m. with Mrs. Frank Martin serving as hostess.

MEATS
 Sliced
 BACON ENDS, Lb. 15c
 MINCED HAM, Lb. 39c

MEATS
 Each 21c

MACARONI & SPAGHETTI
 Creamettes
 2 Packages 21c

CASE OF 24 BOTTLES
 Cocoa Cola — 7-Up — Hurmon Pop
 Plus Bottle Deposit
 Campbell's
 TOMATO SOUP, 2 cans 21c

A GOOD DAIRY HERD Will Make You Money!



This herd of Holstein Dairy Cows are grazing on a brome alfalfa pasture at the Blind School Farm near Vinton. It is commonly thought that an acre of lush brome alfalfa pasture will have a greater cash return in the form of dairy products, beef or pork than an acre of corn. At the same time the cost of production of a crop of corn requires going over the ground twelve to fourteen times with tractor and equipment. With a lush pasture crop such as this, the livestock do all the harvesting of the crop converting it directly into milk, pork or beef.

We urge you to follow soil conservation practices . . . We also suggest that you sell us your Cream and Milk for a steady, dependable income.

Belle Plaine Creamery and Dairy

RICHARD BERGESON, Owner

LEO KELLY CO.

Marengo — Blairstown — Belle Plaine

Phone 126

FRANK DITNER, Pres.

C. H. TRANBARGER, JR., Local Manager

DETAASSLERS

Contract

WANTED

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

WOERDERHOFF'S SHOE STORE

\$6.95 — Second Pair 5c

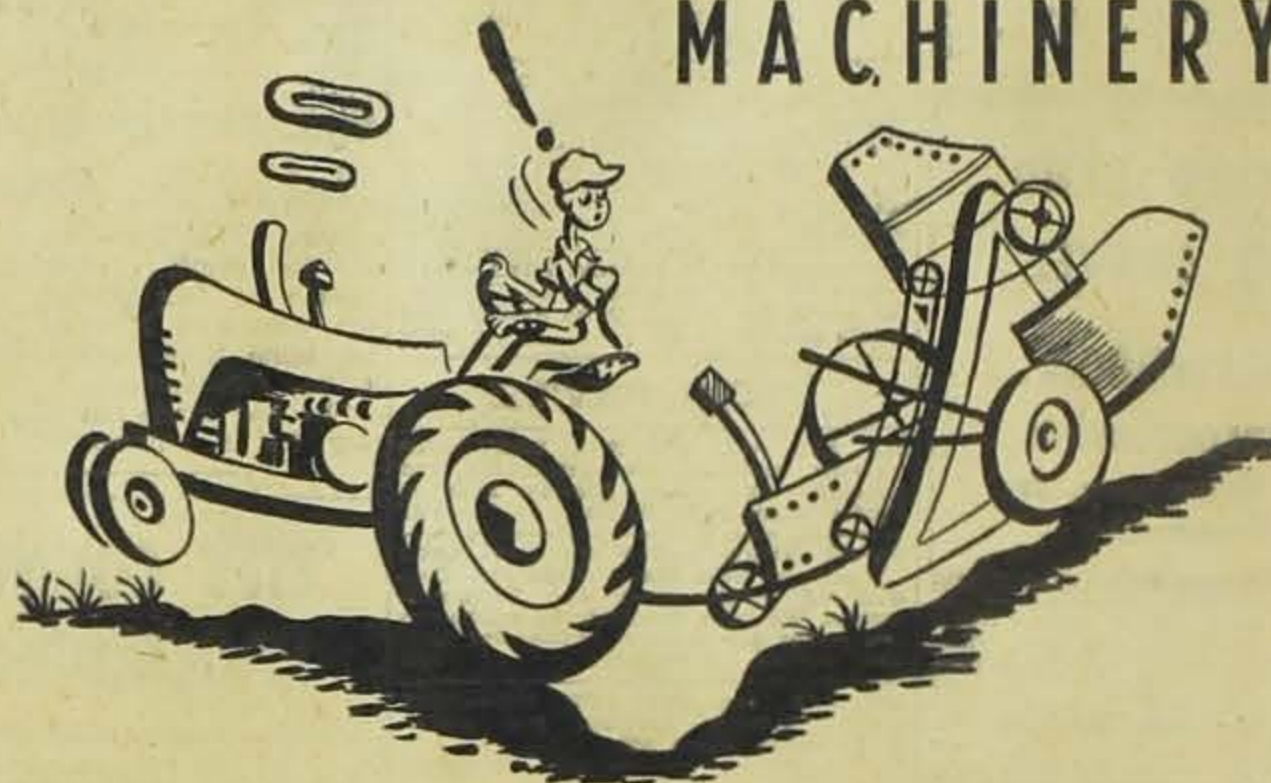
Now Only . . .

Take your vitamins the natural way. Drink milk, eat cheese, butter and ice cream. Americans eating habits aren't same as they used to be. We eat foods today that grandmas never would have dreamed of. As a last resort, if no help is available and the animal doesn't respond to other treatment insert a knife or tractor on the left side of the highest point of the

Read The Union Classifieds!

— SOIL SAVING —

SAVES MACHINERY



Gully farming is costly. Every time you slow up for a gully or turn at a gully's edge, you lose time, waste fuel, and run the chance of damaging a machine or injuring an operator.

Grassed waterways are the cure for gullies. Gullies form in natural waterways. Carpet them with grass so that water can drain off the land without taking with it valuable top soil and without cutting deep gullies. Grassed waterway farming is easy farming.

FOR TOP CROP PROFITS . . .

Turn gullies into grassed waterways. Use International Harvester machinery. It's built to give you long and faithful service.

LEO KELLY CO.

Marengo

— Blairstown —

Belle Plaine

Phone 125

FRANK HINER, MGR.

C. H. TRANBARGER, JR., Local Manager

FOR SALE: 22-FT. 20 TON TRUCK
 scale. Needs new platform. Price \$250.00 delivered within 50 miles. Will make good farm scale. Phone 92. Farmers Grain Co., Martens, Iowa.

PELLA VENETIAN BLINDS - AVAILABLE
 in wide array of colors at a price you can afford. Choice of four different types. See our display. Pedders Furniture.

NEIL STRAWHORN, JR.
 Phone 456

WASHED SAND AND GRAVEL

STRAWHORN TRANSPORTATION

F. L. SANKOT
 Case Farm Machinery -65T

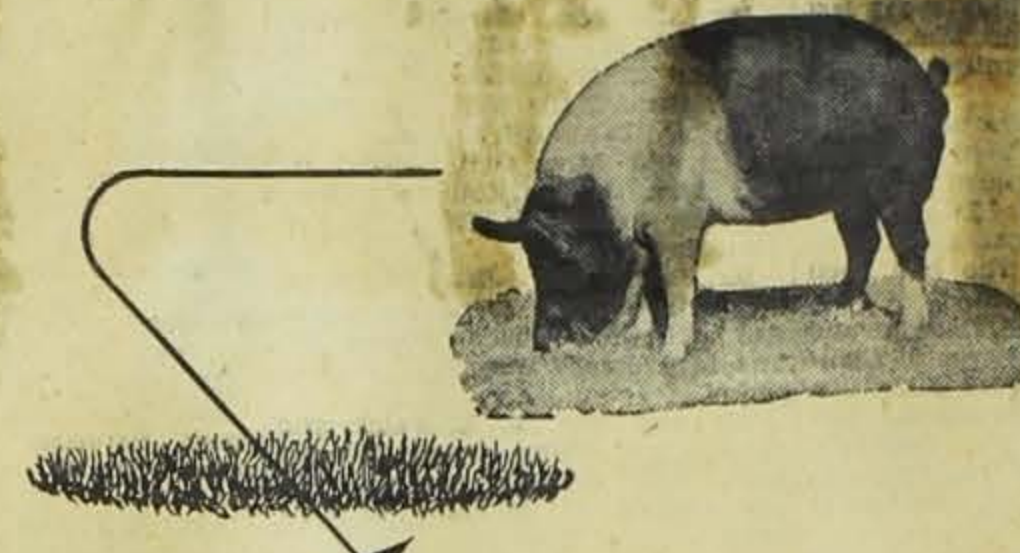
WANTED: FARMER-DEALERS FOR
 Motor Oil, grease and equipment. Exclusive territory. For information write to: Independent Petroleum Company, Ames, Iowa. 67-09

WANTED: FARMER-DEALERS FOR
 Motor Oil, grease and equipment. Exclusive territory. For information write to: Independent Petroleum Company, Ames, Iowa. 67-09

WANTED: FARMER-DEALERS FOR
 Motor Oil, grease and equipment. Exclusive territory. For information write to: Independent Petroleum Company, Ames, Iowa. 67-09

WANTED: FARMER-DEALERS FOR
 Motor Oil, grease and equipment. Exclusive territory. For information write to: Independent Petroleum Company, Ames, Iowa. 67-09

WANTED: FARMER-DEALERS FOR
 Motor Oil, grease and equipment. Exclusive territory. For information write to: Independent Petroleum Company, Ames, Iowa. 67-09



Livestock help fit farming to the land

Livestock on farms is an essential part of any good soil management program. Livestock provides the market for grasses and legumes necessary to maintain soil fertility and soil structure.

For most efficient use of grains and forage you produce, balance them with Clover Leaf feeds. It will mean more economical gains, faster gains, and more profit. Stop at our plant in Belle Plaine and get more details on Clover Leaf feeding programs that will make a good land use program pay.

THE LEADING LIVESTOCK RAISERS FEED CLOVER LEAF FEEDS!

Clover Leaf Feeds Pay Their Way—Ask the Man Who Feeds
CLOVER LEAF FEEDS—He Will Tell You!

CONSERVE YOUR SOIL . . . IT IS VITAL!

MR. HOG RAISER: All Clover Leaf protein supplements are fortified with fish solubles, liver and glandular meal (sources of vitamin B-12) formerly called ANIMAL PROTEIN FACTOR. And in addition to the ANIMAL PROTEIN FACTOR Clover Leaf Special 37 Hog Supplement and Grain Balancer and Clover Leaf 30 Supplement are fortified with seven and one-half pounds of LIVE CELL FEED YEAST CULTURE and a million units of Vitamin D for each 100 pounds of supplement.

We invite you to bring your feed problems to us. If we can assist you, we will be most happy to do so.

"ASK THE FARMER WHO FEEDS CLOVER LEAF PRODUCTS!"

Clover Leaf Products, Inc.

Phone 128 FRANK HYNEK, Pres. Belle Plaine, Iowa

C. H. TRANBARGER, JR., Local Manager

Eclipse Lumber Co.

C. H. TRANBARGER, JR., Local Manager

See us now for plans for the buildings you need to store the larger crops and to house the additional livestock your farm will carry under a good soil management program.

Build up the productivity of your land with this soil management plan. Use a rotation that puts part of the farm in legume-grass mixtures every year. Use lime and fertilizer as the need is indicated by soil tests and hunger signs shown by your crops. Keep valuable top soil at home by using cover crops, contour strips, terraces and waterways.

Good soils and good buildings work together. That's why the Eclipse Lumber Company is interested in your soil management plans as well as your building plans.

It takes a good set of farm buildings along with productive land to make a farm pay. Well managed soils produce more grain, more meat, more milk and more eggs per acre. You need good buildings to house your livestock and machinery, and to store your grain.

for better farming

BUILD



Mr. and Mrs. Pete DeRyke of Chelsea left last Sunday for Minnesota, Minn., where they attended the funeral of their uncle, Ben Vanhyst. They returned home Tuesday. Enroute home they visited relatives at Jasper, Minn.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Fisher and daughter, Karmelita, and son, Keith, and Mr. and Mrs. Don Hite and daughter, Cheryl, of North English accompanied the former's daughter, Kathleen, to Cedar Rapids Sunday. Kathleen had been enjoying a two weeks' vacation with her parents, from her duties at St. Luke's hospital.

Carol Ann Novotny, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent B. Novotny of

and with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Bergstrom in Waterloo.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Falck and Norma and John, spent Sunday with Mrs. Falck's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. McLaury at Oelwein.

Miss Virginia Chambers left on Tuesday evening, June 27, for San Antonio, Texas, where she will make her home with her brother, Capt. George Chambers.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Weymer and Connie Lou, of Chicago arrived Saturday to spend the holiday with their cousins, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Craig.

Dr. and Mrs. Donald Paulsen and family of Cleveland, O., and

Mr. and Mrs. George Lamb and with other relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Kasch spent Saturday evening at Luzerne with Mr. and Mrs. Don Shedenhelm.

Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy J. Bird and daughter, Janet, of Cedar Rapids, attended the funeral services of the latter's grandfather, Frank Novak, sr., held Saturday morning at the Hrabak funeral home.

Della Adams of Marshalltown spent the weekend with her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. James Polka.

Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Hurka of Cedar Rapids were callers here on Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. David Lamb and family left Friday for their home, in Kansas City, after visiting in the home of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Lamb and family and with other relatives and friends.

Mrs. O. A. Madeson and son, Lyle, and daughter, Susan, returned home Saturday from Los Angeles, Calif., where they had spent two weeks visiting.

Walter Herring spent Friday and Saturday at Atlantic where he was a guest of Walnut Grove Products Co.

Dr. and Mrs. Raymond Kelsey of Las Vegas, N. M., spent last week with the former's mother, Mrs. T. B. Kelsey.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rohr and daughter, Phyllis of Boone spent the Fourth of July weekend with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hinkle.

Mrs. J. E. Sullivan left Saturday for Cedar Rapids where she will spend the Fourth of July weekend with her son, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hite and son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Lortscher.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford L. Donovan of Des Moines spent Wednesday with the latter's mother, Mrs. Laura Wehrman and with other relatives and friends.

Mark Greenlee spent the Fourth of July holiday in Chicago with his son, Huron and family.

Mr. and Mrs. John E. Becker had as their guests Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. Ora Kimm and family, of Norway.

Chris Moeller of Portsmouth, Col.



COMPLETE SERVICE

The Home of Dignified, Distinctive and Kindly Service.

24 Hour Ambulance Service

HRABAK FUNERAL HOME

1704 7th Avenue Phone 57 Belle Plaine, Iowa

Enjoy An Exciting

CHICAGO HOLIDAY
at the world famous HOTEL SHERMAN

YOUR CHOICE OF A 3, 5, OR 8 DAY HOLIDAY

Yes, from the Hotel Sherman right in the "center of things" more fun than you have ever had awaits you on this wondrously planned Chicago Holiday. See all Chicago—dine at the famous Blackhawk Cafe, see the Cubs or Sox play ball, or just have fun in Chicago's Vacation Playground.

SEE THE CHICAGO FAIR OF 1950

Included on your Holiday is a visit to the fabulous Chicago Fair where you'll marvel at the industrial achievement of America and spend a happy time.

DINE AND DANCE AT THE FAMOUS BLACKHAWK

A "top" floor show with rollicking entertainment and luring dance music is yours this night along with a superb dinner in the famous Blackhawk Restaurant.

ATTEND THE HIT SHOW OF THE SEASON

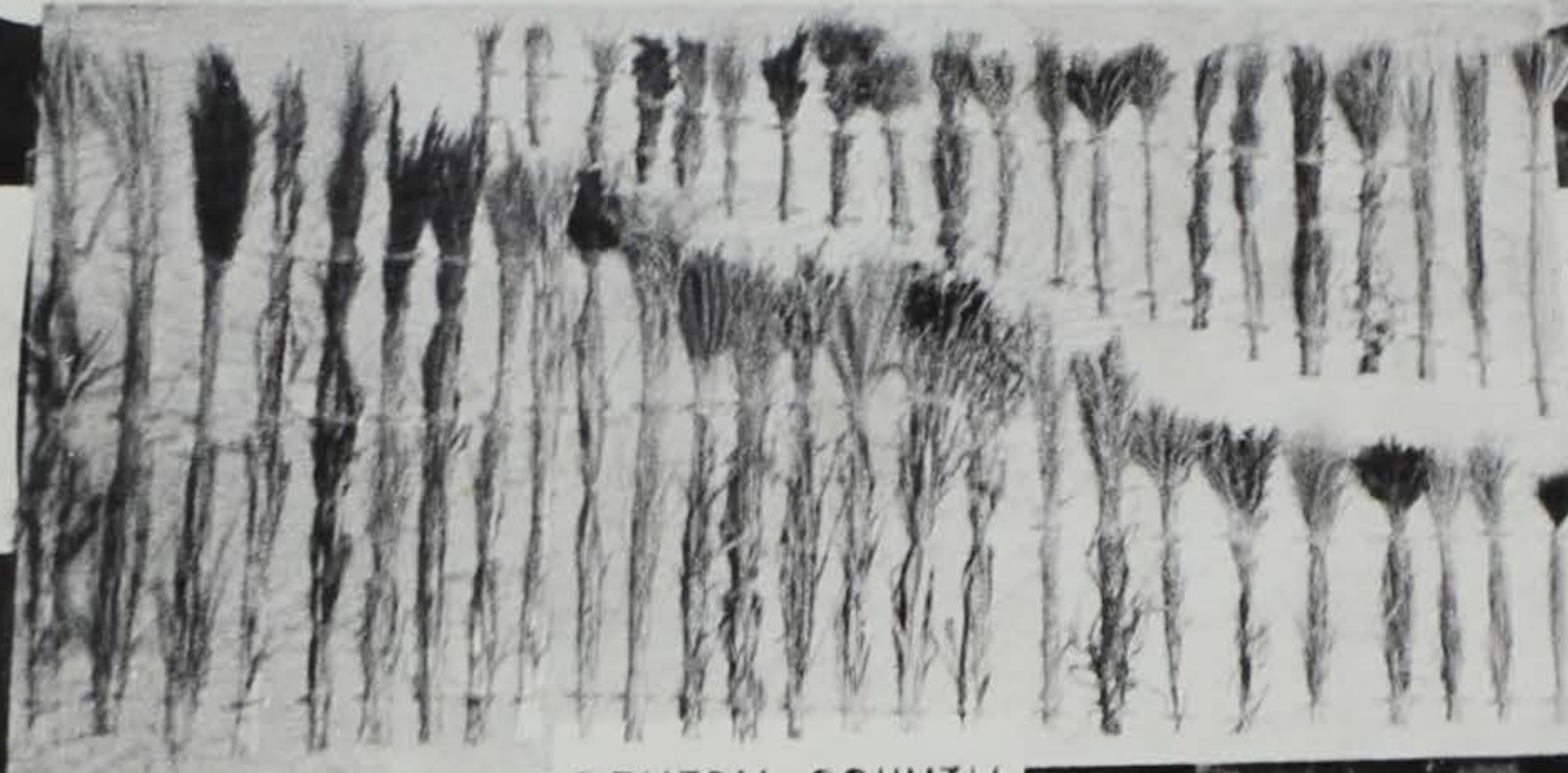
Your Happiness Tours representative will obtain tickets for all shows playing in Chicago—just take your pick and thrill to either a "hit" musical or stage drama. Baseball or football tickets are available.



BENTON COUNTY
SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

DOWN
IVATION

OP YIELDS
VALUES



AROUND 14
HILL CULTIVAT

WATER
2.5 INCHES DEEP
WATER, 10 INCHES
WATER, 10 INCHES
WATER, 10 INCHES

BENTON COUNTY
GRASSES

BENTON COUNTY
SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

DOWN
IVATION

OP YIELDS
VALUES



AROUND 14
HILL CULTIVAT

WATER
2.5 INCHES DEEP
WATER, 10 INCHES
WATER, 10 INCHES
WATER, 10 INCHES

BENTON COUNTY
GRASSES

PRESIDENT
MURRAY RUSSELL
NEWTON, IOWA

VICE PRESIDENT
PAUL BECK
SIOUX CITY, IOWA

VICE PRESIDENT
WALTER J. TEISCH
CLINTON, IOWA

SECRETARY
A. KIRBY SKOW
NEWTON, IOWA

TREASURER
E. H. KETELSEN
DAVENPORT, IOWA

DIRECTORS

M. G. BOCK
STORM LAKE, IOWA
R. F. CHAMBERS
OSKAHOOGA, IOWA
H. D. CLINE
WEST LIBERTY, IOWA
HUGH E. GILDER
FORT DODGE, IOWA

IOWA DIVISION

Izaak Walton League of America, Inc.

DEFENDER OF SOIL, WOODS, WATERS AND WILDLIFE

J. N. DARLING
HONORARY PRESIDENT
DES MOINES, IOWA



HARRY E. RECTOR
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
VINTON, IOWA

DIRECTORS

ROBERT MCBRIDE
INDIANOLA, IOWA
ADOLPH PFLEISER
MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA
CLARK REED
OUTHRIE CENTER, IOWA
LESTER TEEBE
MAQUOKETA, IOWA

July 11th, 1950

NATIONAL VICE PRES.
C. R. HALLOWELL
DUBUQUE, IOWA

NATIONAL EXEC. BOARD
DR. HENRY WOLFE
MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA

NATIONAL DIRECTORS
J. N. DARLING
DES MOINES, IOWA

ARTHUR W. SMITH
EMMETTSBURG, IOWA

RIES TUTTLE
DES MOINES, IOWA

JAMES VORHIES
NEWTON, IOWA

Glen Heady,
Vinton, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Heady,

I attended part of Harry Rector's wild life school but didn't arrive in time to attend any of the sessions on Soil Conservation.

Harry tells me that your assistance was invaluable and I want to personally thank you for your contribution toward the success of the school.

Yours very truly,

Murray Russell
Murray Russell, President
Iowa Division- Izaak Walton League

Pasture Patter

By EVERETT CREE

We stopped by to see Uncle Ben and Aunt Mary the other day. It was the first time we had been around for several weeks and we were beginning to wonder how they were getting along—what with rain—and more rain—and more rain—and—
"He's out to the big barn," Aunt Mary told me when I stuck my head in the kitchen door and inquired his whereabouts.
So, I headed for the big barn.

"Oh, things are not so bad," Uncle Ben said. "We didn't get quite as much corn planted as we hoped, but there will probably be some weather favorable enough to plant soybeans before it gets too late."

"But, soybeans!" I protested. "How many times have I heard you proclaim to all and sundry that no beans would get planted on any land of yours?"

"I know, I know," Uncle Ben admitted. "But, I believe they will be all right if we seed rye on the ground right after we combine the beans. That way, there will be very little chance for the soil to wash. There will be some kind of roots holding on to the ground all of the time except when we're plowing and seeding. I have sort of changed my mind about beans, now the season is so late."

I looked out of the big door toward the south slope fields. The corn was up enough so that the curved rows of the contours bent around the field in gentle lines. It was a pretty sight. "Corn looks good," I ventured. "Any troubles yet?"

"A few cutworms," replied, "but not about."

"You're

tin

10 LINCOLN

JOURNAL

October 1950

Farm Lands In Midwest Are Booming

Price Doubled In Ten Years

OMAHA (UP). A boom in midwest farm land was attributed Wednesday by realtors to a desire by investors to put their money into something that will increase in value as inflation chips away the buying power of the dollar.

The boom has doubled the value of most farms since 1940-41 and in some cases land is selling for three times the prewar price. Land which couldn't be peddled for \$75 an acre 20 years ago is bringing bids of \$250 to \$300 or more, a United Press survey said.

ONE FARM IN eastern Iowa sold recently for \$450 an acre. Realtors said the sale was "not typical" but illustrated the "general inflationary picture" in the corn belt.

A farm management company official said that a year ago, the owner rejected an offer of \$250-an-acre for the same farm.

The farmer still didn't want to sell this year but "couldn't resist" when some "Chicago interests" came up with their big offer. The "Chicago interests" merely were putting their cash into land as a hedge against further inflation, the realtor said.

WITH THE SAME intention to protect their money, hundreds of other investors are bidding against each other for land in Iowa, eastern Nebraska, Illinois and Indiana.

Choice acreage is bringing \$300 or more while average-producing land seldom brings below \$200. Surveys have shown that the brisk market has made it difficult to buy farms in most midwest states.

The market is not speculative, however. Buyers want the land for investment rather than for re-sale.

REALTORS IN the cornbelt reported "sharp increases" in land values since the Korean war.

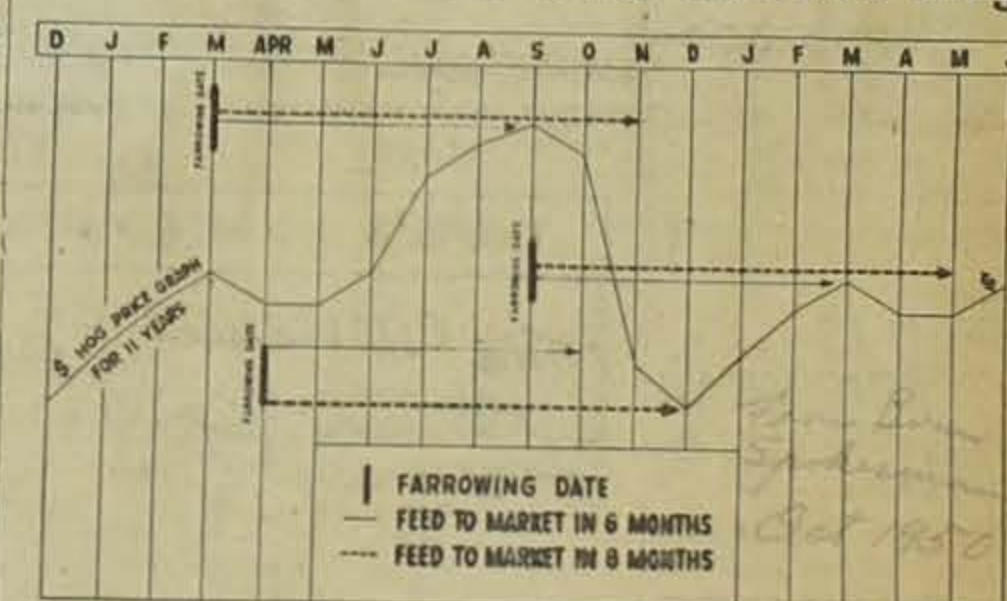
Land values in most sections, however, still have not hit the boom levels of the period following World War I. In Minnesota, for example, prices have doubled the 1933 lows but still are not as high as the levels of 1920.

AN OMAHA farm management expert said he "wouldn't be surprised if the \$250-\$300 prices being paid today will double in the next ten years."

Farmers are in strong positions financially, due to several years of good crops and high prices, and are able to resist "fantas-

tically high offers" in hopes of big profits in the future. Their resistance tends to force bids for their land even higher.

When To Farrow And Market Hogs



Everyone advises farmers to ly pigs farrowed in April and fed breed sows to farrow early, get out in 8 months reached market pigs grown to market weight quickly. But this chart graphically illustrates how it has paid farmers to have pigs farrowed at the right time and fed to market weight in 6 months.

The graph charts the annual trend in hog prices, month by month throughout past years, based on records over 11 non-war years. The solid bars indicate hogs fed to market weight in 6 months, broken bars, hogs fed to same weight in 8 months. It is readily seen that pigs farrowed in March and fed out in 6 months caught the top of the year's market. But similar pigs, if fed out in 8 months, reached market in November well below the yearly average. Similar-

More Benton Farmers Than Ever Are Having Their Soils Tested



—Daily Times Photo-Engraving

MANY BENTON FARMERS who couldn't get into their wet fields to cultivate this week, were taking advantage of the time available by getting soil samples taken for analysis by the Iowa State College lab at Cedar Rapids. Ray Ferguson, special program man for the PMA, is shown above taking a sample on the Charles Leo farm, 3 1/4 miles southeast of Dysart, while the operator of the farm, Leo's son, Wayne, looks on. Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady said soil tests made now should be good for showing fertility needs for five years. Some 75 Benton farmers out of the SCS office alone have been having tests done. Soils are analyzed for lime, phosphate and potash requirements, take the guesswork out of fertilizing, save farmers tens of thousands of dollars. No one questions the value of the service anymore, but some farmers are still a little slow to have it done. Cost is \$1 to cover charges and the results are generally back within a period of three weeks. Ferguson is specially trained as a technician for taking tests and represents part of the cooperative program set up between the SCS and the PMA by Secretary Brannan. Leo as a young, progressive farmer has had samples taken before on the 270-acre Monroe township farm. Soil needs, however, change with the years and cropping, require periodic checks to determine chemical deficiencies.

Heavy Rains Damage Cornfields Throughout County



—Daily Times Photo-Engraving

THIS PHOTO SHOWS HOW rains washed a big cornfield on the Herbert Schroeder farm in Monroe township near Dysart. Other fields in various parts of the county suffered more damage even than this. Corn development was retarded during the week by the cold weather and in many places it was still too wet to get into the fields to start the first cultivation.

SOIL SAVING TOURS ARE SET

Conservation Week Will Be
Observed Tues.-Wed.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Next week is soil conservation week in Benton county and the SCS office here will mark it with special tours on Tuesday and Wednesday together with the showing of films.

Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady said that next Tuesday a tour of farms to show conservation work will be arranged for ministers and bankers in the county. In the event of rain it will be held Thursday.

Wednesday a tour will be arranged for implement and feed dealers in the county. In the event of rain this will be held on Friday.

Films on conservation work will be shown in the basement of the Methodist church in Vinton at 10 o'clock on both days. Then the parties will go to the Harold Miller farm to see terraces and learn how they fit into farm programs.

From there the groups will go to the Hugo Lindahl farm to see his practices and continue to the Swede Cantonwine place east of Vinton to see his farm pond and enjoy a picnic dinner.

Additional farms will be inspected in that area to observe tiling, stripcropping, contouring and waterway construction.

IOWA STATE COLLEGE
OF AGRICULTURE AND MECHANIC ARTS
AMES, IOWA

February 15, 1951

DEPT. OF AGRONOMY

Mr. Glenn Heady
Soil Conservation Service
District Office
Vinton, Iowa

Dear Glenn:

Enclosed are the photographs which were lent me by your office. These were of real assistance to me in my work in Vinton County. I certainly appreciate your cooperation and conveniences you made available to me in your office. I believe that this is all of the photographs which I have borrowed from your office.

I have turned the colored slides, which you lent me, to the Visual Instruction Department for duplication and I should have them back within a few days. As soon as I receive the slides I will return the originals to your office. Thanking you again for your very kind assistance, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Wayne H. Scholties

Wayne H. Scholties
Assistant Professor

WHS:eeh

Enclosure

Have Trouble Get a C

By W

WASHINGTON, D.

ing the grocery bill? O

Get a job with the fe

government. The pay is

up. And there are perqui

Lots of perquisites.

Take, for example, the

dent of the United States

gets \$75,000 a year, plus a

free \$50,000. Also a spec

fitted DC-6 airplane, a y

and assorted chauffeur-d

automobiles.

Then there's the vice-pres

He collects \$30,000 a year,

a tax-free \$19,000. And the

tomy automobile and c

four.

Mineral Water.

Members of congress get

000, of which \$2,500 is ex

from income taxes. They

get free mineral water, snuff,

and assorted other privileges,

but they have to provide their

own automobiles and drivers.

Last week, the senate joined

the house in voting to boost

the salaries of cabinet officers

and other leading officials.

Most of these are also supplied

with automobiles and chauffeurs.

The cars are supposed to be

used only on official business,

but you wouldn't know that.

At cocktail parties or other

social events, the line of limou-

sines bearing "government" tags

is always long. Sometimes these

cars are even seen outside of

Washington, such as at the race

tracks or at football stadiums.

26 Automobiles.

In the White House garage

alone, there are 26 automobiles.

Each of President Truman's

secretaries has a limousine, plus

chauffeur, at his call. The gov-

ernment pays the tab.

Under the new pay scale

voted by the senate, cabinet

officers henceforth will get

\$22,500 a year instead of

their present \$15,000.

The under-secretary of defense

will be paid \$20,000, instead of

\$12,000, while under-secretaries

and assistant secretaries of oth-

er departments will have to get

along on \$15,000 instead of their

present \$10,000 or \$10,330.

The secretaries of the army, air

force and navy, who no longer

have cabinet status, will neverthe-

less get more money. They will

be raised to \$18,000 from their

present \$15,000.

President Truman's immediate

aides should be able, henceforth,

to buy the little woman an ex-

U. S. PAY—

Continued on Page Ten.

Washington	29	475	Harder, Robert M. T. P.
Boston	33	541	Poor Medical
Cleveland	32	542	Haves, William P. M. D.
Detroit	34	543	Hazleton Elevator For Fuel
Philadelphia	35	544	M.L. & Exp.
New York	40	545	Healy, John Soc. Wel. Meet
American League	W. L.	Pct.	Assessor Claim
			Superior Claim
			Hartman, Harold J. County
			Healy, John W. Board of
			Sup
Pittsburgh	25	403	Hopp, H. B. Crl. House
Cincinnati	25	417	Magazine for Children
New York	30	492	Highlights for Children
Boston	36	547	Claim
Philadelphia	36	555	Sup

ing their stock fresh grass in the cold months. The feed is stored in almost a natural state. Consequently it contains several times more carotin (Vitamin A) than ordinary hay.

Pasture Patter

BY EVERETT CREE

Once in a while one bumps into a thought or idea that seems to carry the concentrated wisdom of much observation and experience. Not long ago I was in the Soil Conservation office and Glenn Heady came . . . not with one observation . . . but many. I'd like to share them with you.

"Prosperity does not start at the factory pay roll window, but comes from the ground up—soil makes big business possible."

"The perpetuation of America and the nation depends upon the perpetuation of physical America—the land itself."

"Our civilization depends upon the top eight inches of the earth's surface. We cannot exist without it. We live on the top eight inches, when we die we are buried in what is below."

"The soil is one natural resource that does not have to wear out to be used up."

Engineers report . . . After one large rain the Cedar River at Waterloo was carrying fifty three thousand tons of silt per hour. Another check at Cedar Rapids after the same rain showed the river to be carrying seventy three thousand tons per hour. This was an increase of twenty thousand tons of silt which was added between the two points.

Results of checks show that on the average of every day of the year enough silt flows under the bridge at Vinton to cover the hundred fifty acre farm with six inches of silt a day . . . enough in a year to cover that farm to a depth of one hundred eighty two and one half feet.

As the Mississippi river flows past New Orleans it carries into the Gulf the equivalent of all the top soil of one quarter section farm every ten minute period of the day.

Just imagine a two hundred and fifty acre farm having one hundred and eighty feet or more of silt piled on it in the course of a year. That would be equal to three, sixty foot windmill towers standing one on top of the other! And then some people still protest that all will be well in the future and that there is really nothing to be very concerned about.

Seems to me that there is one place where we shouldn't be too conservative in our thinking . . . that's about Conservation.

Practice Soil Conservation.

The growing number of Benton farmers who are being attracted to the use of bromegrass may be interested in knowing that there are many different kinds of brome. The type grown in the county is the smooth brome, or (*bromus inermis*). Among others that are well known are the mountain brome (*bromus marginatus*), the rescue grass (*bromus catharticus*) and the weedy, downy brome (*bromus tectorum*).

Virgil B. Hawk, manager of the soil conservation nursery at Ames, says that mountain and smooth bromegrass are different not only in growth habit and longevity, but also in winter hardiness and adaptation. It is doubtful, he says, if the short-lived mountain strain should be used in place of the long-lived smooth variety. Mountain brome was developed in the Pacific northwest from native collections. Because it is rapid-developing, it has been used as a biennial crop for mixture with sweetclover, but it can't hold a candle to the smooth crop type so widespread in the Midwest.

More Benton farmers than ever are putting their hay in their silos this year for winter feeding. There are more hay choppers around than ever before, too.

By ensiling, farmers get about as close as they can to giving their stock fresh grass in the cold months. The feed is stored in almost a natural state. Consequently it contains several times more carotin (Vitamin A) than ordinary hay.

In order to get fermentation started in the newly-cut clovers and alfalfa some growers are putting dehydrated molasses in it, others are putting in corn which absorbs moisture from the hay and starts the process and still others are putting it in silos without anything—after they allow the hay to wilt down to 68 per cent moisture. Hay with a higher moisture content (It's about 80 per cent generally when it's cut) will run into mold trouble when put in a silo.

This is a good clover year, even though it's short because of the dry spring. White and red clovers are thick as wool blankets in the fields, and sweet clovers are blooming like mad along highways in many parts of the county.

Have Trouble Get a C

By W

(Of The Rea

WASHINGTON, D.

ing the grocery bill? O

Get a job with the fe

government. The pay is

up. And there are perqu

Lots of perquisites.

Take, for example, the

dent of the United States

gets \$75,000 a year, plus a

free \$50,000. Also a spec

fitted DC-6 airplane, a y

and assorted chauffeur-d

automobiles.

Then there's the vice-pres

He collects \$30,000 a year,

a tax-free \$10,000. And the

tomary automobile and c

four.

Mineral Water.

Members of congress get 000, of which \$2,500 is ex from income taxes. They get free mineral water, snuff, and assorted other privileges, but they have to provide their own automobiles and drivers.

Last week, the senate joined the house in voting to boost the salaries of cabinet officers and other leading officials.

Most of these are also supplied with automobiles and chauffeurs. The cars are supposed to be used only on official business, but you wouldn't know that.

At cocktail parties or other social events, the line of limousines bearing "government" tags is always long. Sometimes these cars are even seen outside of Washington, such as at the race tracks or at football stadiums.

26 Automobiles.

In the White House garage alone, there are 26 automobiles. Each of President Truman's secretaries has a limousine, plus chauffeur, at his call. The government pays the tab.

Under the new pay scale voted by the senate, cabinet officers henceforth will get \$22,500 a year instead of their present \$15,000.

The under-secretary of defense will be paid \$20,000, instead of \$12,000, while under-secretaries and assistant secretaries of other departments will have to get along on \$15,000 instead of their present \$10,000 or \$10,330.

The secretaries of the army, air force and navy, who no longer have cabinet status, will nevertheless get more money. They will be raised to \$18,000 from their present \$15,000.

President Truman's immediate aides should be able, henceforth, to buy the little woman an ex-

U. S. PAY—

Continued on Page Ten.

Fix Shellsburg Sand Blowout



TWO YEARS AGO THE ABOVE AREA ON THE JAY NABHOLZ FARM, two and a half miles north of Shellsburg, was two and a half acres of sand. Today, as a result of putting a soil conservation plan into practice, the sand knoll, with a blowout on top, is covered with a dense growth of 2,500 black locust and oak trees. Rapid runoff and wind erosion have been stopped, and a good wildlife refuge has been provided. Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady is shown measuring one of the many locusts in the area that have shot up ten feet in two years. He said it was one of the most amazing transformations he had ever seen. Since the first of the year, the trees, which were planted as foot-high seedlings, have grown about two feet. The place was once heavily populated by oaks and other trees. In fact, as a boy Nabholz helped cut timber there. The refuge is known in the Shellsburg area as an old Indian camp. Flint arrow heads are still found in the sand from time to time. Heady said the project was a good example of what other Benton farmers could do with sand blowouts that are causing them trouble.

Aug. 31, 1951



—Gazette photo.

TERRACES built this week on the Larry Becker farm two miles north of Norway were another step in Becker's farm conservation plan prepared by SCS technicians in cooperation with the Benton County Soil Conservation Service.

Becker Completes Another Step in Soil Conservation

NORWAY — Larry Becker this week completed another step in his soil conservation program. A 20-acre meadow was terraced and a waterway built across the bottom.

Becker said the Soil Conservation Service prepared the land-use program for his farm. He has been using contour farming for some time and he has planted trees in almost all corners of his farm. They will provide shelter for wildlife and shade for his livestock in years to come, he said.

The 20-acre field just completed will be in corn next year. The terraces will be his contour lines for the corn. This part of his farm is on a three year rotation of corn, oats and meadow. Next year another meadow will get the terracing treatment.

Becker believes that the frontier for new farms is gone and we have to take care of what we have. That is why he is doing everything possible to build up his farm, he said.

The work was done by Schuler Brothers of Independence, who specialize in terracing and waterway construction.



Daily Times Photos-Engravings
CHECKING TERRACING work on his farm. Wallace Newton, right, talks with Contractor Leo Schuler of Independence, left, and James Gibney, Benton PMA chairman. The PMA pays farmers two cents for every foot of terrace made on their farms.

4-H Youth Uses Poetry To Tell of Conservatio

By K. LAMES

(Editor's note: K. Lames is the 18-year-old son of Dr. and Mrs. H. S. Lames of Dy-sart. He is a member of the Monroe Happy Hustlers 4-H club and has been closely connected with conservation through working on his father's farms.)

Unlike the tranquil streams of yore, the rivers of today Turn into seething monsters, pouncing on their prey. Like drowned-out rats the people flee these rivers of despair. The only things left for them are wait and hope and prayer.

With water all around them these poor devils thirst and shrink In all this waste and smelly hell there's not a drop to drink. When at last the waters leave, if there still be a place called home They'll all wade back and dig it out, that "farmer's precious loam."

How many people say to you, "Too much rain I guess— Glad I live in the country instead of that mess." But why were the rivers tranquil and peace o'er the land? It was because of Dame Nature's wise and ruling hand.

She had green carpet laid on all her hills and dales Which caught the rain and held it like trillions of tiny pails. But now her carpet's cut and torn, her pails are only hundreds

'Cause all that Mr. Farmer do is plow and plant and plunder

Up the hill he'll drive the plow and then he'll plant his beans. Then let the next good rain come down and wash out his only means.

He'll plow up and down his country hills for maybe quite a while But won't be long till he'll be saying: "Can't raise nothin' on that clay pile."

When people lose their homes and farmers lose their soil It's time the vandal is thrown in jail and put to heavy toil. He's a menace to society 'til he's practicing conservation That means farming around the hills and promoting reforestation.

The man who wants to save his soil will be blest with big returns

With larger yields and better land, as quickly as he learns. He'll befriend his city neighbor by cutting the river's pace And give him the assurance of a clean and homey place.

CONSERVATION is the answer, there are no two ways about it Once you've learned the knack you'll say, "Don't know how I did without it."

The Lord and Mother Nature knew what was best for this old earth These, my sentiments exactly,— take them for all they're worth.

WE CONQUERED THE WILDERNESS -



...OR DID WE?



The Belle Plaine Union

BURROWS PUBLISHING CO., INC., PUBLISHERS

BELLE PLAINE, IOWA

August 22, 1950

Glenn Heady
Vinton, Iowa

Dear Glenn

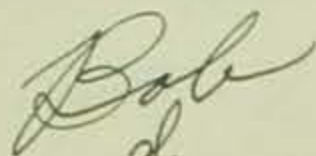
I am enclosing prints of the pictures I took at the Howard McLeod farm on Monday. These are for you with our compliments.

I want to especially express my appreciation of the fine story you brought down on the operations at the field day.

Yours very truly

THE BELLE PLAINE UNION

By



R. O. Burrows, Sr.

rob/d
enclosures

outh Uses Poetry o Tell of Conservatio

LAMES

K. Lames is son of Dr. Lames of Dy-member of the Hustlers 4-H been closely conservation on his fath-

'Cause all that Mr. Farmer do is plow and plant and plunder

Up the hill he'll drive the plow and then he'll plant his beans Then let the next good rain come down and wash out his only means.

He'll plow up and down his country hills for maybe quite a while But won't be long till he'll be saying: "Can't raise nothin' on that clay pile."

When people lose their homes and farmers lose their soil It's time the vandal is thrown in jail and put to heavy toil. He's a menace to society 'til he's practicing conservation That means farming around the hills and promoting reforestation.

The man who wants to save his soil will be blest with big returns

With larger yields and better land, as quickly as he learns. He'll befriend his city neighbor by cutting the river's pace And give him the assurance of a clean and homey place.

CONSERVATION is the answer, there are no two ways about it Once you've learned the knack you'll say, "Don't know how I did without it."

The Lord and Mother Nature knew what was best for this old earth These, my sentiments exactly,— take them for all they're worth.

quail streams of s of today thing monsters, their prey. t rats the people rs of despair left for them are and prayer.

round them these rst and shrink and smelly hell drop to drink.

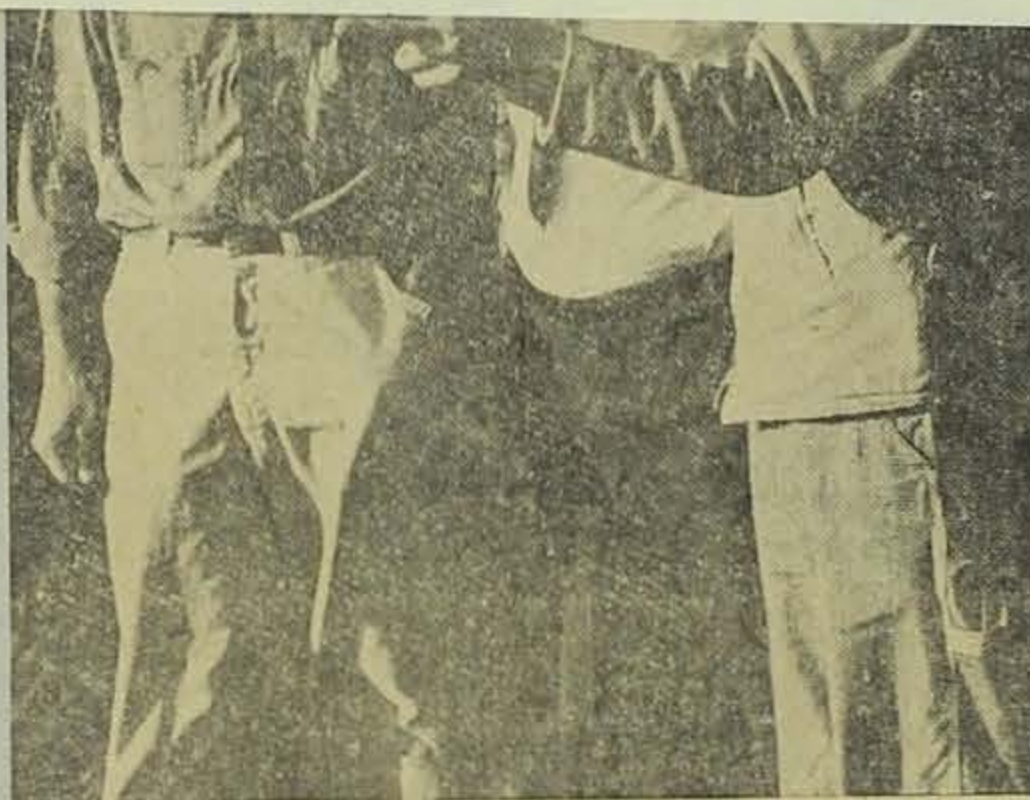
e waters leave, if place called home back and dig it armer's precious

ple say to you, in I guess— e country instead

he rivers tranquil s o'er the land? of Dame Nature's ng hand.

carpet laid on all dales he rain and held s of tiny pails. pet's cut and torn, only hundreds

The work was done by Schuler Brothers of Independence, who specialize in terracing and waterway construction.



Daily Times Photos-Engravings
CHECKING TERRACING work on his farm, Wallace New-ion, right, talks with Contractor Leo Schuler of Independence, left, and James Gibney, Benton PMA chairman. The PMA pays farmers two cents for every foot of terrace made on their farms.

WE CONQUERED THE WILDERNESS -



...OR DID WE?



Nearly 24 Miles of Tile Has Been Laid In Benton County Farm Fields This Year



CHECKING THE GRADE of tile being laid at a farm operated by Archie Dunkelberger 2 1/4 miles northwest of Mt. Auburn are Clarence Byer, left, and

Clyde Merchant. Byer and Merchant are state conservation committee employees assigned to assist the Benton soil conservation district.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Nearly twenty-four miles of tile has been laid in Benton county farm fields thus far this year and another 10 miles of tile is expected to be laid before January, the Benton soil conservation office reported today.

The year's largest single project in Benton county was on the Fred Hoffman farm located on the Buchanan-Benton county line, one half mile west of highway 150, where 42,000 feet of tile was laid in 40 acres.

Approximately 30 Benton farms have had tiling projects completed this year and another 20 projects are expected to be done before the end of the year.

\$3.00 to \$3.25 Per Rod

On the average, Benton farmers have been paying from \$3 to \$3.25 per rod for tiling, according to Conservationist Glenn Heady. This includes cost of tile, digging, placing tile in the ground and filling the ditches. The PMA office pays farmers 60 cents a rod for having tiling done.

The price for tiling depends upon the depth of cuts needed and also the size of tile to be used.

Depth of cuts range from 5 1/2 feet, usually caused by high spots, down to 2 1/2 feet. The average depth is from three to four feet.

Although there are a large number of Benton farmers that are now on the waiting list to have tiling done it is a simple procedure for a farmer to enter the tiling program.

Free Services

Benton farmers desiring tiling make application at the SCS office in Vinton. An SCS man then goes out with the farmer to outline wet areas to be drained. The engineer runs a line stake survey and figures the depth of cuts needed.

The fieldmen then figure how far apart lines should be to adequately drain the area. The average lines are about four to five rods apart and depend upon the depth of the cuts.

The only expense to the farmer in the preparation for the actual tiling is the cost of the laths used for stakes to direct the tilers.

Farmers are asked to make certain that excessively high vegetation in the area to be tiled is cut and also that old tile lines are located if they are to be hooked up with new tile lines, before the SCS workers go to the farm.

Tilers Listed

Farmers may get any tiler they want to do the actual job. A list of tilers operating in Benton county is kept at the PMA office in Vinton. There are now five tiling operators working in this county.

Farmers are advised to check on the work done by tilers in determining who they want to do their job. The SCS office in Vinton keeps tab on where the various tilers are working and interested farmers may inspect the tilers' work while it is being done on other farms.

Farmers are responsible to check the work of tilers and make certain the project is being done correctly. This can be done by checking to see if the tiler is following stake lines, uses correct outlets and following other instructions.

Outlet is Important

The SCS office recommends that tile run on both sides of waterways. Formerly tile was placed down the middle of waterways but this has proven unsatisfactory. Tile on the side



DIGGING TRENCHES and laying tile is done in the same operation by Otis Hilmer of Dysart and his two helpers, Tom Winters and Claus Mueller both of Dysart. While Hilmer operates the digging machine, Winters keeps Mueller, who places

the tile in place, supplied with tile. Hilmer is purchasing a new \$11,000 tiler and plans to keep both machines and two crews in operation.

keeps seeping water from entering the ditch and thus helps stop erosion while tile laid in waterways is washed and exposed by the water.

The outlet is responsible for about 90 per cent of the efficiency of the tiling system, according to Todd Race of the SCS office in Vinton.

Race said that the outlet should not be submerged and should flow with the current and not at right angles or against the stream.

Stop Animals

Outlets should be protected by putting tile in corrugated steel pipe not less than 10 feet long, to prevent tiling from unraveling.

Action should also be taken to stop animals from being able to enter the outlets, in which they like to make nests. Race recommends that the end of the corrugated steel pipe be out at a slant so that a hinge can be welded onto the top with which a tin lid can be held over the slope, with gravity keeping the lid closed until pressure from water inside the pipe pushes it open.

Fill Ditches

Bars over the end of outlets are not recommended by Race since they become clogged by moss, small roots, etc. that find their way into the tile.

Ditches should be filled with dirt as soon as possible after the tile has been laid to prevent livestock from breaking tile and moving tile out of line.

Six men are working through the Benton SCS office in setting up tiling programs in this county. Two of the men are SCS employees, two state employees and two PMA employees. The men are Glenn Heady, SCS; Todd Race, SCS; Clarence Byer, state; Clyde Merchant, state; Lloyd Welch, PMA; Willard Mussman, PMA.



TILER OTIS HILMER works on a junction of two lines of tile on the L. J. Robertson farm near Mt. Auburn as farm operator Archie Dunkelberger, helper Tom Winters, PMA committee-man Earl Wallace and conservationist Glenn Heady watch.

Te 16-4-1950
Tel 62 Met

cc: Lloyd Tyler, Marion, Iowa
Again, Glenn, I am sure that this type of an approach pays big dividends.
they did not approach you regarding fall layout.
In my opinion, if you did not indicate that you would contact them it
to the 175? Also, your last statement in red would be strengthened.
plans on 225 of the farms. One might raise the question "what happened
operating statement you indicated there are 400 cooperators, with farm
I do have one or two suggestions for your consideration. In your
cooperators regarding their layout work. In my opinion it is something
that more of the districts should be using.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
Glenn F. Heady, Soil Conservationist, SCS
W. W. Wells, Zone Conservationist, SCS
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN
DATE: September 29, 1950
SUBJECT: Follow-up Letter

Business & Professional Directory

SHOE REPAIR

HARRIS THARP
"Buster's" Shoe Shop
Where competent shoe repairing
is done at a reasonable price.
Opposite Palace Theater

PLUMBING

EHLINGER'S
PLUMBING & HEATING
508 1st Ave. Phone 92
W. A. EDWARDS
GENERAL PLUMBING WORK
Stokers, Oil Burners, Heating,
Sheet Metal
Round Oak Furnaces &
Weil-McLain Boilers
Phone 25 Vinton, Ia

GARRISON HDW. & APPLIANCE
OIL-O-MATIC HEATING
Plumbing, Pump and Windmill
Service.
Phone 20 Garrison

OPTOMETRISTS

DR. V. L. WESTPHAL
OPTOMETRIST
New Location—Corner 4th St. and
A Ave.
Formerly Vinton Beauty Shoppe

DR. H. R. SUECHTING
Optometrist
Across From the Post Office,
Vinton, Iowa
"The opportunity of serving you
is welcomed—the responsibility
of pleasing you is accepted."

VETERINARIANS

A. W. KURTZ
VETERINARIAN
Office in McVey Feed Store

Have You Investigated
The White Cross
Hospitalization
Plan?

PHYSICIANS SURGEONS - DENTISTS

Dr. Stanley R. Woodhouse
DENTIST
Over Faraway Store
Phone 74

DR. D. H. HIBES
DENTIST
Office Phone 827
(Over LaGrange Drug Store)

Dr. D. T. Smith
DENTIST
504 West 4th St.
Phone 84

DR. H. P. HOUSER
DENTIST
Specializing in plate work.
Hours: 8:30 till 12—1 to 4 p. m.
Mondays Thru Friday
432 1/2—First Ave.

MEMORIALS
CHESTER TUTTLE
Newhall, Iowa
Rep. of Iowa Memorial Co.
Authorized "Rock of Ages" Dealer
Builders of Family
Memorials & Markers



NICK'S APPLIANCE
Phone 98 Vinton

K&I RANZIE
COUNTY TECHNICIAN-PHONE 1019, Vinton
814 B-AVENUE

SULLIVAN BROS. CLOSING OUT

PUBLIC SALE

The undersigned will sell at public auction the following property located three miles north and one mile west of Brandon, or 5 miles west of Independence and 7 miles south and one mile west, on

Wed., October 10

Starting at 12 o'clock

60—HEAD FINE SHORTHORN CATTLE—60

34 head of choice Shorthorn cows, 24 of which have raised calves this summer and are re-bred; 8 head to calve this fall or have calves at side by sale day; 2 head of fat dry cows; 11 head of heifer calves weighing about 650; 7 steer calves weighing about 650; 3 heifer calves weighing about 250; 2 bull calves weighing 250; 1 fat heifer, been on feed all summer; registered Shorthorn bull 5 years old a Goldfinger bull from Holz Bros. at Ripley, Iowa. Many of these cows have been registered but the papers have not been kept up on the younger stock. Nothing but the best of registered bulls have been used for a number of years. No finer set of Shorthorn cattle will be sold at a farm sale this year. Several good 4-H club calf prospects will be found in this offering. This cattle sale will be worth driving miles to attend.

20—HEAD OF SPOTTED POLAND CHINA FEEDER PIGS—20

Included in this offering will be a nice pen of gilts weighing about 150 to 175.

MACHINERY AND MISCELLANEOUS

1944 Model A John Deere tractor, good rubber, hydraulic lift, starter, lights and hydraulic seat, in perfect shape; 2-row tractor cultivator for Model A or Model B tractor; 16-in. two-bottom J. D. tractor plow; set of tractor chains; Case 8-ft. tandem disc; 20-ft. flexible harrow; J. D. 999 corn planter; Mc-D. 10-ft. disc; J. D. manure spreader; J. D. tractor hay rake; J. D. manure loader for model A or model B tractor, 2 years old; J. D. 6-ft. mower; good wood wheel truck wagon with triple box; 2 J. D. steel wheel wagons, one with triple box, one with hay rack; J. D. corn binder with power bundle carrier; J. D. grain binder with good canvas; 2 single row cultivators; practically new 16-in. Moline sulky plow; small portable elevator with motor; antique sheep tread power cider mill; dinner bell; sleigh; bobsled; 2 good sets harness; 350 gal. gas tank and hose on stand; 4 feed bunks; one 3-pen hog house; single pen hog house with floor; Mc-D. silo filler with 50 feet of pipe; Mc-D power corn binder on rubber with bundle loader; small tools and miscellaneous articles too numerous to mention. Also some household goods.

HAY AND GRAIN

About 900 bales of timothy and clover hay; about 600 bales of alfalfa hay, and cuttings; 800 bu. of Clinton oats; 44 acres of corn in corn, inspect before day of sale.

Lunch Stand on Grounds

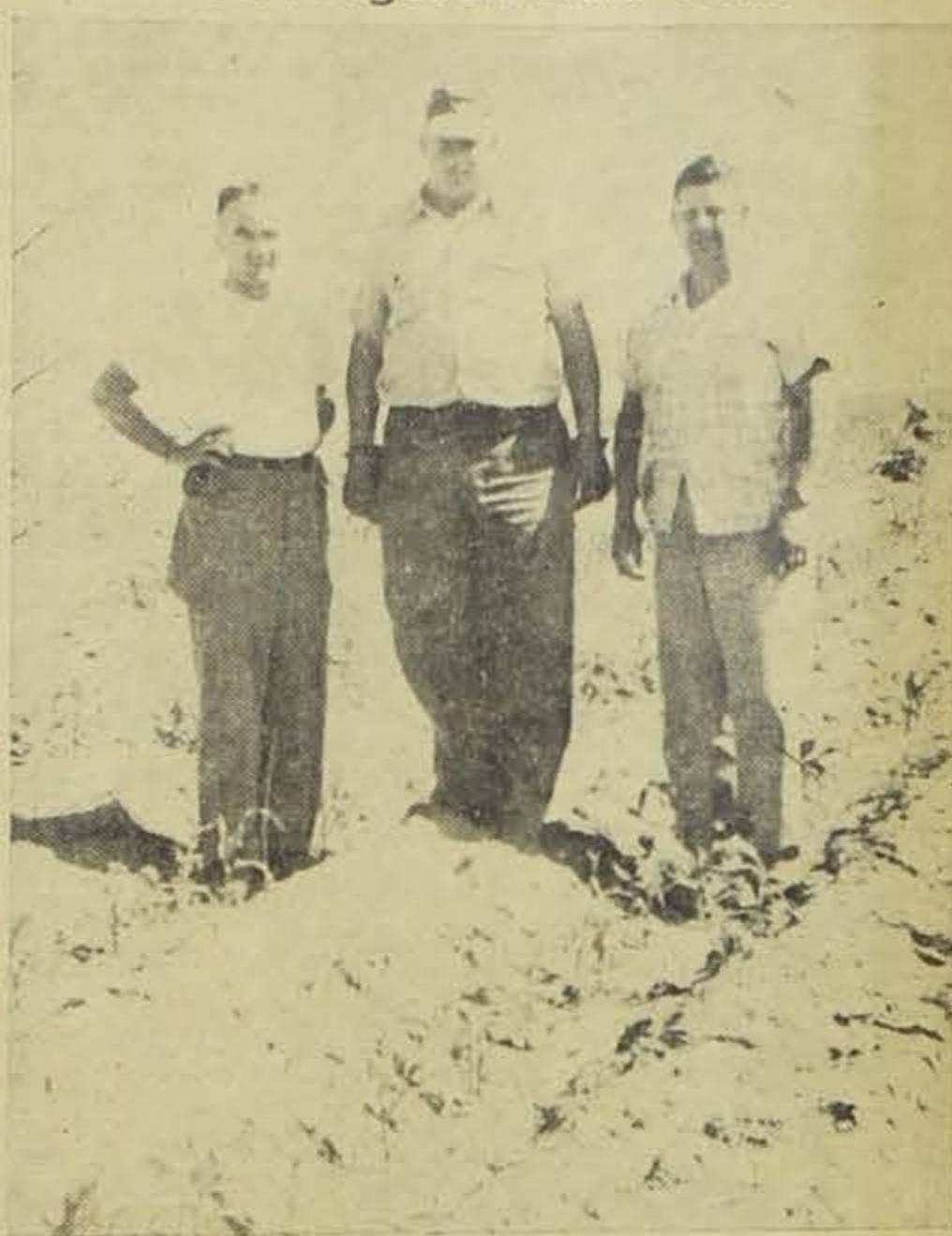
BROTHERS, Owners

ERCHANT.

Farmers State Savings Bank
of Independence, Clerk

of Tile Has Been Laid
nty Farm Fields This Year

Ken Ferguson Lists Corn



Daily Times Photos-Engravings
LISTING CORN is being tried at the Kenneth Ferguson farm north of Urbana. Used extensively in other parts of the corn belt, listing is being done experimentally in Benton this year on the Ferguson farm. Showing ridges created by listing are soil workers, left to right, Glenn Heady, Dale Winger of Ames, and Lloyd Welch.

involves no cost of equipment for storage and a minimum of expense to harvesting. A mowing machine and a buck for picking up and hauling are the only harvesting equipment.

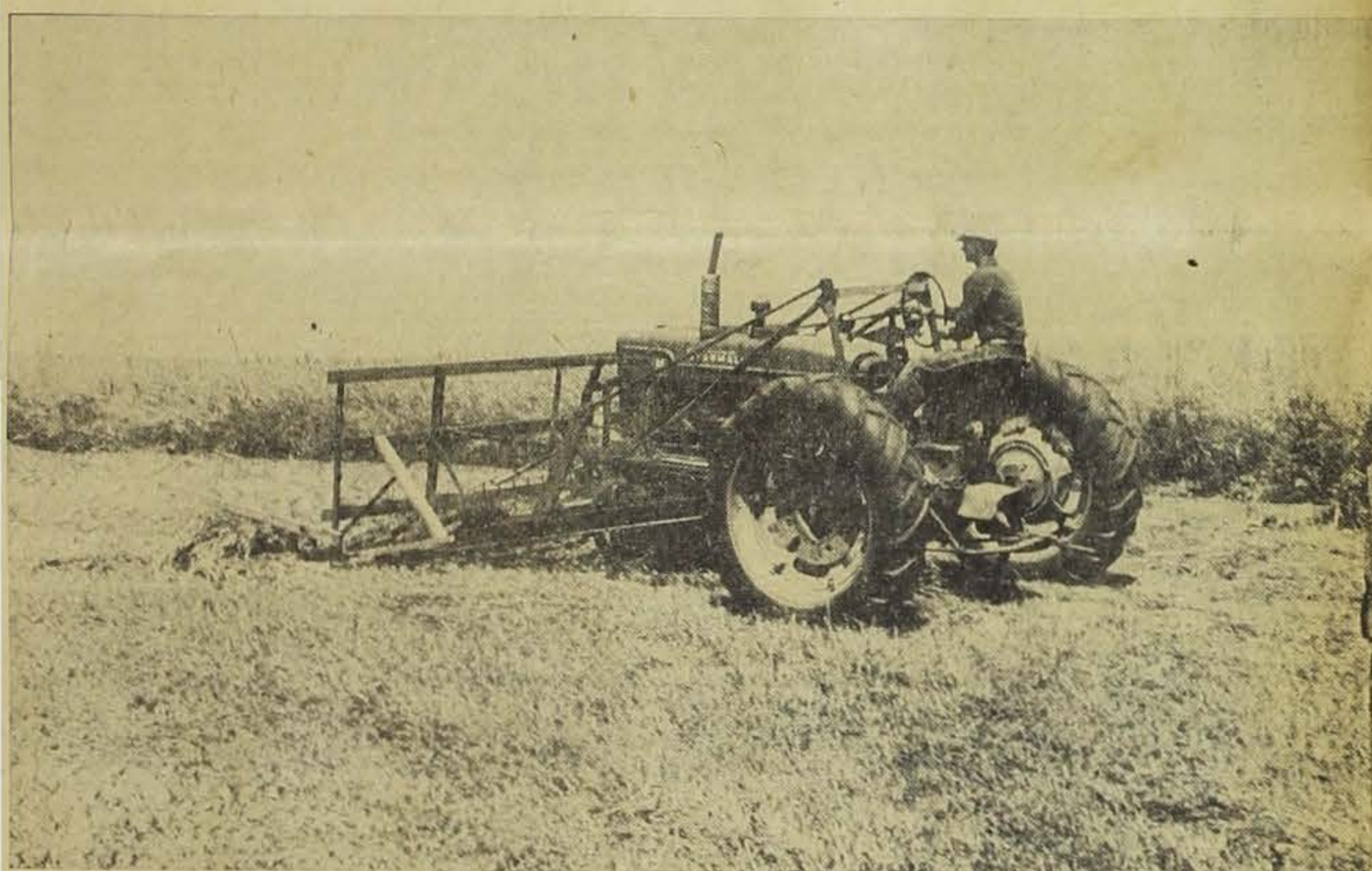
The "long grass" system of harvesting and storing the hay crop originated five or six years ago, and has been gaining momentum since. It is especially attractive

because of the low costs of hay making and of the high feeding value of the crop where too much spoilage does not occur.

MAN-MADE SWIMMING HOLE is a wonderful attraction at the H. G. Grunwald & Sons farm 4 1/2 miles southwest of Blairstown. The farm pond, designed by the Benton soil conservation office, is 15 1/2 feet deep. There are nearly 24 similar

farm ponds in Benton county. The ponds are excellent for stock watering, and if near buildings, to help fight fires, as well as provide swimming and fishing.

WALTER BOEHMKE of north Iowa township shows square tile he found while repairing an old spring which is still in operation on his farm. Benton soil conservationist Glenn Heady estimated the tile was at least 100 years old.



'LONG GRASS' SILAGE BEING put up on the W. A. Drake farm southeast of Blairstown features no cost for special equipment or storage, and a minimum of expense for harvesting. In above photo, hired hand Jim Whitworth gathers up the hay in

the field. Photo below shows Whitworth taking a load of hay onto the stack which is being packed down by a tractor driven by Carlus Meyer, hand on the Drake farm.



K. FERGUSON LISTS CORN

Benton Farmer Aids Experiments.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

The practice of listing corn has been in use for many years in various parts of the corn belt, and is becoming more popular in some areas where farmers learn of the merits of listing. Iowa State college and the soil conservation service are working in conjunction with one another to develop experimental data on listing corn in various parts of the state, including Benton county.

With contour farming in the western part of the state farmers find that each ridge between the corn rows is a miniature terrace, and helps preserve moisture for short periods of drought and also controls erosion, although the listing does not displace terraces.

The listing ridges are effective up to the period of laying the corn by, when they are pulled into the furrow to cover the weeds that might be growing in the corn row.

Besides the advantages listing corn has in weed eradication, preserving moisture and erosion control, the economy of production is expected to become one of the major factors in its use, since farmers using the listed corn method go over the ground only about one-half as many times in raising corn by this means.

Although corn ground can be plowed for listing also, it is normally disked before listing. Tillage practices after planting corn normally include two cultivations and two draggings. Thus, seven times over the ground from the time a farmer starts corn ground preparation until it is picked in the fall are all that is required in producing listed corn. Normally, many farmers have gone over their corn ground this number of times in many cases by the time they have planted the corn, by surface planting.

Listing corn in Benton county area may be in its infancy, or may never become popular, but this may become a practice that in the years to come will be standard procedure, as it has in other areas.

The equipment being used in growing listed corn on the Kenneth Ferguson farm is being loaned by Iowa State college and the soil conservation service.

Joins Holstein Association

Wilfred Becker, Van Horne farmer, has joined the Holstein-Friesian Association of America, it was announced at a recent meeting of the association's board of directors in Roanoke, Va.

The association is the world's largest dairy cattle breeders' registry organization. Membership now totals over 42,300, representing every state in the country.

Nearly Two Dozen Farm Ponds Built In Benton County

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

There are nearly two dozen farm ponds in Benton county serving as stock water supply and for recreational purposes for the farm family. Costs of farm ponds vary according to the character of the soil and amount of fill dirt required to construct the dam. These range from \$500 to \$1,000 in Benton county.

Although many articles have been printed in magazines which bring in inquiries regarding the desire for a farm pond on a farm, the areas in Benton county where a pond is possible, are quite scarce. Roughly estimating, there may be only about two hundred farms on which the conditions would be right for a pond. There is an occasional farm which have two or three areas suitable for ponds.

The southern hill area of Benton has the greatest number of possibilities for farm ponds, although there are a half dozen farm ponds in the north part of the county that are serving very successfully.

Chief requisites for a farm pond are a small watershed of not over thirty acres, a tight subsoil, (and especially non-containing veins of sand), and slopes that are relatively close together. Such sites are normally found in the Fayette and Lindley hill areas.

Besides the use for stock water the ponds have many other uses, most of which are recreational. Occasionally they are near enough to a set of buildings to serve as water supplies in case of fire.

BIG GROVE CLOVERETTES

The Cloverettes held their all-day meeting June 11 at the home of Marlys Fennern. Roll call of "what I am going to make" was answered by 10 members and a leader. Ann Fry gave a demonstration on bias binding. Jancie Weaver gave a demonstration of laying and cutting out a pattern. All the members cut out patterns and then sewed them. Our leaders Mrs. Weaver and Mrs. Thiher, left for convention. The next meeting will be held at Gale Gillow's house July 3, by Judy Relf.

POLK PALS

The June meeting of the Polk Pals was June 14 at the home of Patricia Roll with nine members answering roll call.

Plans were made to have a bake sale every fourth Saturday of each month. The first sale will be June 28 at Miller's Grocery in Urbana.

Patricia Roll gave a talk on posture improvement. Nancy Roll spoke on deodorants. The next meeting is scheduled for July 18 with Mrs. Leland Hansen, leader.

By Mildred Long.

TILING LASTS IF DONE RIGHT

Unless Specifications Met, Systems Doomed.

Proper tiling of wet or poor drainage areas requires a number of specifications among which if not followed, the tile system is doomed for failure sooner or later. All too often such system will last a minimum of four or five years, or may last for ten years before failing. In many cases failure to follow just one of the single rules of good tiling may cause a system to become useless.

Lack of size is the cause of the greatest number of tile failures, whereas, improper grade and too shallow tiling follow closely in causes of tile failures.

Blinding the tile with top soil rather than soil from the bottom of the trench where there may be soil of a clay texture often adds to the speed of drainage after a rain, and prolongs better drainage. Keeping the tile lines well out away from the waterway assures depth of soil over the tile, due to the fact that erosion in, and along the sides of the waterway, may in time cause the tile to be too shallow to drain well.

Negligence in maintaining a tile outlet frequently is a major cause of tile system failures, and to be regularly inspected should be a "must" on the list of every farmer who has tile outlets on his farm. Steel tube outlets cause the least number of failures, and more especially if they are equipped with baffles which prevent rodents and small animals from getting up in them.

Additional factors in maintaining a tile system that will prolong its usefulness are the eradication of willows and weeds that send roots into the system. Neglecting broken and plugged tile often contribute to failure by additional silt, "boiling up" and freezing that add to the complete failure.

With the present high cost of tiling it seems to be imperative that farmers be especially particular that all of their tile specifications be met without question. Good tiling and proper maintenance is just insurance that the drainage system will last longer.

FLORENCE GO-GETTERS

Mary Jane Schulte was hostess to the Florence Go-Getters at their regular meeting June 12. Roll call, "What I have sewed, or plan to sew," was answered by 11 members.

The senior demonstration team this year is Mary Jane Schulte and Marice Kimm. Shirley and Colleen Hoyt will be on the junior demonstration team.

Lois Larson gave a talk on "Care of Sweaters." Le Anna

Soil Conservation Week in Benton Co.

By S. E. VALLCE
Chairman Benton Soil Conservation Week

By a proclamation of the governor of the state of Iowa this week is Soil Conservation week.

This is also soil Conservation week all over the nation. It is a week set aside by the many varied agencies who are behind this great movement to call attention to the American public the need of the preservation of one of our greatest natural resources—THE SOIL.

The district commissioners of the Benton county soil conservation district are desirous through the publication of this issue of the Cedar Valley Times to call to the attention of our Benton county people the work of our group, the soil conservation technicians and the varied cooperating agencies of the work that is being accomplished in the conservation of essentially our only national resource—THE SOIL.

The acceptance of soil conservation on their farms by the Benton county farmers is purely on a voluntary basis and it is gratifying to know that they are applying for this service to our group at a rate that keeps the staff of technicians very busy—often requiring them to work overtime in the field.

The commissioners are especially grateful to the FMA from their organization to assist in this very important work. These men are Clarence Beyer and Lloyd Welch who very ably assist the district in the technical conservation layout, or the services of Glenn Heady, soil conservationist and Darrell Race, conservation aid and to the state soil conservation committee for Mrs. Ora Shirley who serves as clerk-typist to the district.

It is no exaggeration to say that soil conservation is one of the paramount long-time problems confronting our district, state and nation. Our strength as a nation, in fact our very existence, will depend at some future time on how well we succeed in solving our soil conservation problem.

It behooves each of us to put forth some effort to better acquaint our friends and neighbors with this very important problem and to encourage them to participate in it.

McArton and May Brecht gave a demonstration in posture control. Mary Pickens and Barbara Schulte demonstrated foot exercises.

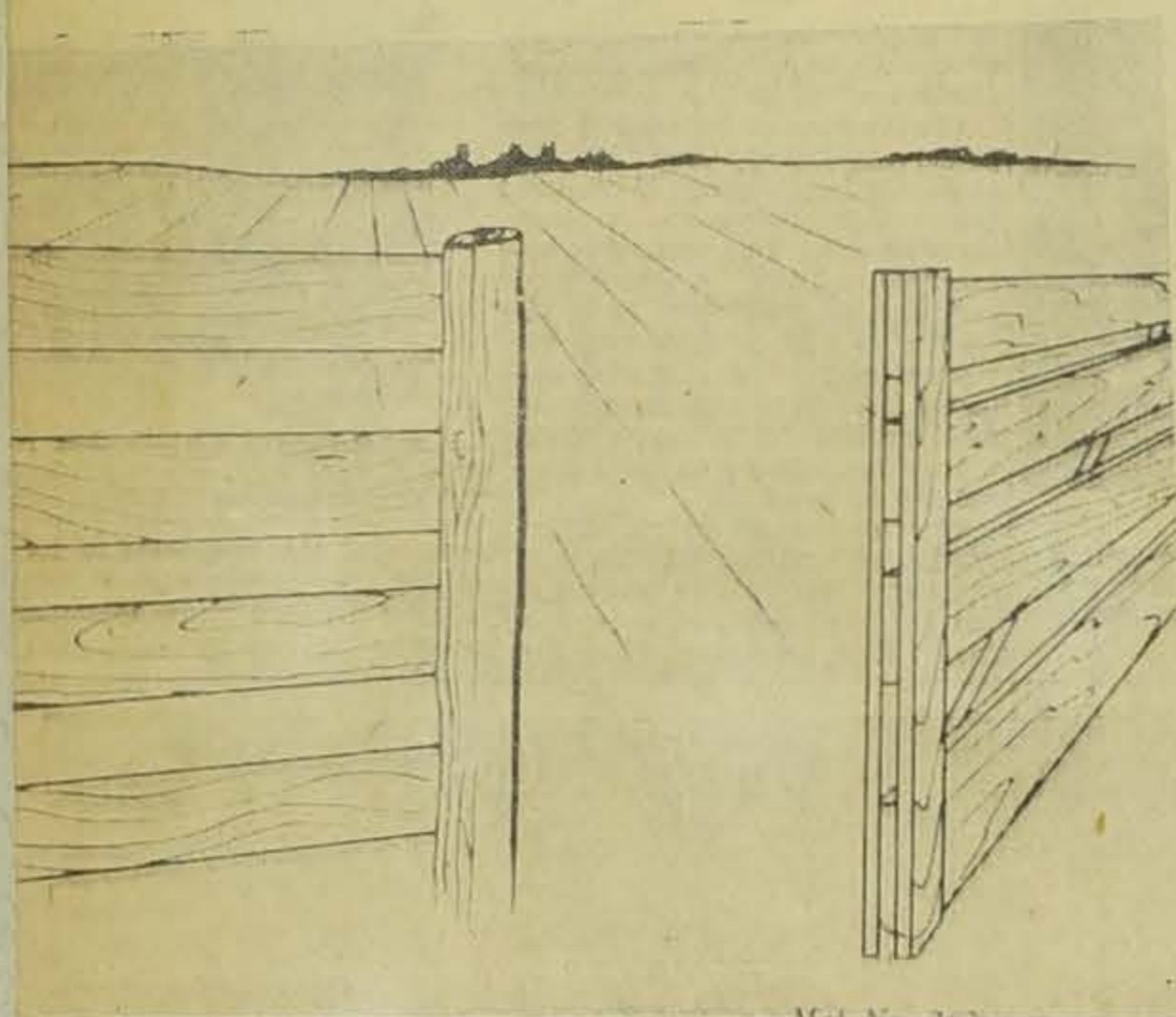
By Mary Jane Schulte.

PRACTICE SOIL CONSERVATION — — IT PAYS

L CONSERVATION WEEK

T'S

OOK AHEAD



Soil Conservationist To Talk at Dysart

TAMA COUNTY NEWS
Special to Daily Times

Dysart, Feb. 8.—Wednesday evening, Feb. 14, and Tuesday evening, Feb. 20, Glenn F. Heady of Vinton, district soil conservationist, will appear at a combined meeting of adult farmer and veterans' classes in the vocational agriculture room of the Dysart school. The meetings will begin at 8 p. m.

Heady will show colored slides of soil conservation work under way in this area and will discuss the many phases and advantages of soil conservation. He has consented to appear at two meetings so that he can cover the field more fully and have more time for any questions.

Both meetings will be informative to those present whether or not they have done any work of this nature or whether they plan to do so in the future. An invitation is extended to anyone interested.

Plan Five Contour Demonstrations in Benton This Week

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Five contour demonstrations will be held by the Benton county soil conservation service Tuesday and Wednesday, it was announced today by Conservationist Glenn Heady.

Tuesday's demonstrations are as follows: 10 a. m. Bill Bendull farm, Dysart; 1:30 p. m., Lester Henkle, Garrison; and 3 p. m., Roger Rickart, La Porte City.

Wednesday's demonstrations will be: 8 a. m., Kenneth Ferguson farm, north of Urbana; and 1 p. m., Howard Knupp, southeast of Vinton.

Soil Saver Solicits Aid Of Ministers

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady is leaving no stone unturned in his constant campaign to promote the preservation of Benton county's sole heritage—its corn-hog producing land.

Today Heady had sent ministers in Benton county a list of Bible texts that may be used in preparing sermons on soil and water husbandry. References were from both testaments.

With the references was a form letter pointing out that already soil conservation in Benton county had received a good boost among farmers as a result of messages from various pulpits.

"I feel that by sending this mimeographed sheet to you stating the Bible texts from which many additional passages might be taken, I can expect to hear of still more sermons on the subject of God's gift to man—the soil," Heady wrote in part.

Among the texts listed were "trees protect wildlife" from Matthew, Mark, Luke, Ezekiel and Psalms, "Planted in good soil" from Ezekiel, "land cry against me" from Job, "proper cultivation of ground" from Isaiah, "grass food for cattle" from Deuteronomy and Psalms, "field, condition of slothful man" from Proverbs, "effect of sin upon earth" from Isaiah, "profit of the earth for all" from Ecclesiastes, "ground varies in productivity" from Matthew, "good ground necessary to growth of seed" from Luke and Matthew, "ground cursed because of sin" from Genesis and Psalms, and a number of others.

Church Has Unusual Sign

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Not all Benton county's conservation work goes into the soil! On a stone post in front of the little six-sided Prairie Creek church northeast of Vinton on highway 101 a sign reads: "Soul Conservation Services Here."

The thought-provoking little sign was put up about a year ago by the pastor of this open country Church of Christ, the Rev. Ernest L. Shaffer. The idea for the slogan came to him through a letter on soil conservation by Glenn Heady, of Benton county's Soil Conservation service.

Though the sign is relatively new, the Prairie Creek church has been working at "soul conservation" for some time. The church is 94 years old. The present odd-shaped little building was erected in 1897. Rev. Shaffer has been serving its 50 members for the past seven years.

The stone post that holds the sign has an interesting past too. It was brought to the church by the pastor from a home in Vinton, where it had done service for many years as a hitching post.



REV. E. L. SHAFFER

IOWA
BENTON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
1952 ANNUAL REPORT



Outstanding New
Farm Pond Built
By C. Oberreuter



CLEMENT OBERREUTER
BENTON COUNTY NEWS
BLAIRSTOWN — One of the outstanding new farm ponds in Benton county covers four-fifths of an acre on the Clement Oberreuter place five miles southeast of Blairstown.

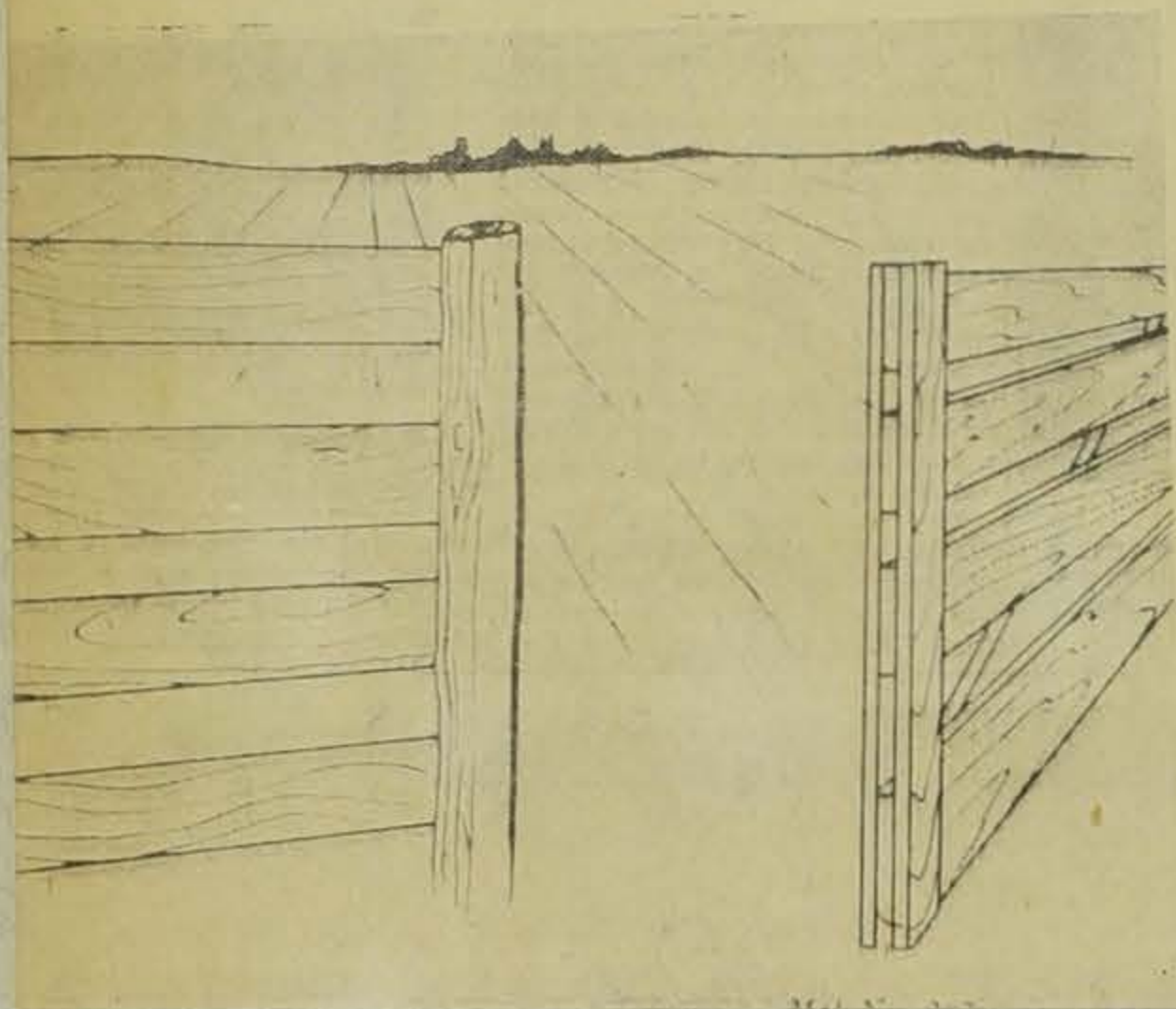
Oberreuter's pond was constructed last fall with the assistance of the Benton conservation office. The pond is 22 feet deep and is stocked with bass and bluegill.

Three farm ponds
er a farm pond
ed on a farm of
soil terrace area
drainage area
ervation aid
Practice
aid
100
ye
le
ction Co.

L CONSERVATION WEEK

T'S

OOK AHEAD



Soil Conservationist To Talk at Dysart

TAMA COUNTY NEWS
Special to Daily Times
Dysart, Feb. 8.—Wednesday evening, Feb. 14, and Tuesday evening Feb. 20, Glenn F. Heady of Vinton district soil conservationist, will appear at a combined meeting of adult farmer and veterans classes in the vocational agriculture room of the Dysart school. The meetings will begin at 8 p. m.

Heady will show colored slides of soil conservation work under way in this area and will discuss the many phases and advantages of soil conservation. He has consented to appear at two meetings so that he can cover the field more fully and have more time for any questions.

Both meetings will be informative to those present whether or not they have done any work of this nature or whether they plan to do so in the future. An invitation is extended to anyone interested.

Plan Five Contour Demonstrations in Benton This Week

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
Five contour demonstrations will be held by the Benton county soil conservation service Tuesday and Wednesday, it was announced today by Conservationist Glenn Heady.

Tuesday's demonstrations are as follows: 10 a. m. Bill Bendull farm, Dysart; 1:30 p. m., Lester Henkle, Garrison; and 3 p. m., Roger Rickart, La Porte City.

Wednesday's demonstrations will be: 8 a. m., Kenneth Ferguson farm, north of Urbana; and 1 p. m., Howard Knupp, southeast of Vinton.

Soil Saver Solicits Aid Of Ministers

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady is leaving no stone unturned in his constant campaign to promote the preservation of Benton county's sole heritage—its corn-hog producing land.

Today Heady had sent ministers in Benton county a list of Bible texts that may be used in preparing sermons on soil and water husbandry. References were from both testaments.

With the references was a form letter pointing out that already soil conservation in Benton county had received a good boost among farmers as a result of messages from various pulpits.

"I feel that by sending this mimeographed sheet to you stating the Bible texts from which many additional passages might be taken, I can expect to hear of still more sermons on the subject of God's gift to man—the soil," Heady wrote in part.

Among the texts listed were "trees protect wildlife" from Matthew 6:26, Luke 12:24, and

*planted in the land. Good. The better would
cultivating & this one we should have now put.
plant on top of ridge rather than in lower bottom.
Also there was placed to see with up in long
slope in back farm. At put soil ridge
paved up against the side of not always done. Also
the get an analysis, some feeding at home. measuring
in particular during low water.*

*Glenn Heady
you are*

WM. S. BEARDSLEY
GOVERNOR OF IOWA

State Conservation Commission

EAST 7TH AND COURT AVENUE
Des Moines 9, Iowa

MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION
EWALD G. TROST, CHAIRMAN, FORT DOGUE
J. D. REYNOLDS, VICE-CHAIRMAN, CRESTON
C. A. DINGES, EMMETSBURG
WM. F. FRUDEGER, BURLINGTON
MRS. EMMETT HANNAN, COUNCIL BLUFFS
FLOYD S. PEARSON, DECORAH
JOSEPH STANTON, DES MOINES

BRUCE F. STILES, DIRECTOR
J. R. HARLAN, ASST. DIRECTOR
K. M. KREZEK, CHIEF
DIV. OF ADMINISTRATION
R. W. BECKMAN, CHIEF
DIV. OF FISH AND GAME
WILBUR A. RUSH, CHIEF
DIV. OF LANDS AND WATERS

February 24, 1953

Mr. Glenn F. Heady
Work Unit Conservationist
Soil Conservation Service
Vinton, Iowa

Dear Glenn:

Thanks for sending me a copy of your latest effort to get your cooperators to become more active in the tree and shrub planting program. I showed the information to Paul Leaverton, Superintendent of Game, and he felt like I do that you should be complimented on your effort.

If there is any way in which I can assist you in making it easier in regard to shipping the trees from the Nursery, please let me know.

Still hoping to see you sometime this next spring or summer.

Yours,

Mans
M. A. Ellerhoff
Supt. of Forests

MAE:sm

Outstanding New Farm Pond Built By C. Oberreuter



CLEMENT OBERREUTER
BENTON COUNTY NEWS
BLAIRSTOWN — One of the outstanding new farm ponds in Benton county covers four-fifths of an acre on the Clement Oberreuter place five miles southeast of Blairstown.
Oberreuter's pond was constructed last fall with the assistance of the Benton conservation office. The pond is 22 feet deep and is stocked with bass and bluegills.
Oberreuter paid \$50 for 100 bass and 200 bluegills recently. He has constructed a pier on the pond and has a boat at the pond. The pond is about 500 feet from Oberreuter's house and is along side a county road.
In addition to being a swimming and fishing recreation area the pond is expected to be a good duck hunting location.
Conservation officials estimated the total cost of the pond for Oberreuter would be about \$500. This figure includes the cost of moving dirt which was used to build the pond.

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Glenn Heady
FROM : Matt Weiss
SUBJECT: Soil Cons. Web-Clipping

DATE: 2-5-52

Dear Glenn & Staff.

I was glad to receive the newspaper - and you will be interested to know that a copy was posted on the Bul. board. The listing sounded interesting & I'm sure we should have more of it.

My impression is that listing was to plant on top of ridge rather than in lower bottom.

Tile Outlets Key to Systems



Benton Supply Inc.

Store

February, 1952.

of Agriculture, at the Na-

Mr. Robert M. Salter, Chief,

Discussion of "America's Cap-

county people, share in
"foundation"-building
education, conserva-
financial assistance to
soil-building programs

BENTON'S SOIL
REPORTED DRYMoisture Is Especially
Low in Cropland.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Despite the two-foot fall of snow and some subsequent melting this week, tests show that Benton county's soil is badly in need of moisture.

Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady reported only two inches of moisture on the slopes and 14 inches on slopes of less than three per cent. He added, however, that if the snow doesn't run off too rapidly, some moisture will get into the soil to help build up the supply.

Benton county went into the winter late last fall with unusually dry conditions. Snows during the winter do not help add moisture to the soil, of course, unless the frost is out of the ground and the runoff is gradual.

Heady reported that most of the frost was out of the ground this week. Warm weather and long, quiet rains are now in order to give the moisture needed for spring and early summer growths.

PREDICTS LOTS
OF SOFT CORNSoil Man Pessimistic
Over Benton Crop.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady today came out flat-footedly with the prediction that there "will be a lot of soft corn in Benton county this fall."

Heady based his admittedly pessimistic forecast on the current weather.

"The warm days are undoubtedly helping to mature corn and mature it fast," he said. "However, the cool nights are bringing frost on the ground, and one of these nights that frost is going to climb right up into the corn."

Heady said he realized that his prediction was at variance with the more or less optimistic views held by many farmers throughout the county. "However," he added, "most anyone will agree that if we get a rain, that rain will be followed by a killing frost, and the dry spell we're now having won't last forever."

Most corn in Benton county is still in the dough and early denting stage. At least two weeks of continued dry weather, without a frost, will be necessary to assure a reasonably good crop.

"Quite a little corn, in fact, needs a full month of continued dryness," Heady said, "and that is almost too much of a good thing to expect."

Soft corn will mean that the corn will have to be cut for silage, or picked and ground for feed or hogged down in the field by cattle and pigs. Soft corn will affect, eventually, the economy of almost everyone living in Benton county.

Students at
Ames Study
Benton Farms

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Conservation pictures taken of operations on Benton county farms are being used at Iowa State college to instruct ag students on proper soil-saving practices.

This was announced today by Glenn Heady, U. S. soil conservationist for Benton county, who said that the pictures were being used at Ames by Wayne Schultes, conservation instructor.

Pictures being used are those taken on the following farms: John Schild, Belle Plaine; Harland Harper and Cable Waldorf, Vinton; Everett Wayman, Elberton; Walter Heineman, Garrison; Orville Fish, Shellsburg; Howard McLeod, Belle Plaine; Dr. H. S. Lames, Dysart; Glenn Christy, Garrison; Dr. W. D. Martin and Bernard Burris, Vinton; Don Boddicker, Charles Sauer, Dr. U. H. Hoefle and Richard Gillow, Vinton; Robert Allers, Keystone; and R. F. Englebrecht and Henry Junge, both of Keystone.

Photos cover all phases of conservation from growing corn on the contour to terracing, pasture renovation, grassing waterways, establishing field boundaries on contour, etc.

17,850 Trees
And Shrubs in
1951 Plantings

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Benton farmers, in cooperation with the Benton County Fish and Game club, are planting 17,850 trees and multiflora rose shrubs this year in the constant war being waged against erosion and the destruction of wildlife cover.

Farmers and the plantings anticipated follow:

Jay Nabholz, Shellsburg, 250 multiflora roses, 250 red pines.

Harry Carr, Shellsburg, 1,000 multiflora roses, 250 red pines, 250 Russian olives.

Kirk and Graydon McQuilken, La Porte City, 4,000 multiflora roses.

Ralph Little, Shellsburg, 1,000 multiflora roses, 250 black locusts, 500 jack pines, 250 black walnuts.

Ivan Davis, Vinton, 1,750 multiflora roses, 250 red pines, 250 Russian olives.

Leroy Robbins, Urbana, 1,000 multiflora roses, 250 dogwoods.

Merle Weir, Mt. Auburn, 700 multiflora roses, 250 green ash and 350 red pines.

Dr. Harry S. Lames, Mt. Auburn, 1,000 multiflora roses, 250 red pines and 250 green ash.

Lloyd Lovell, Center Point, 1,000 multiflora roses, 250 black locusts, 250 Russian olives and 250 red pines.

Rex Mayhew, Blairstown, 1,700 multiflora roses.

Total cost of all trees and shrubs comes to \$274.10.

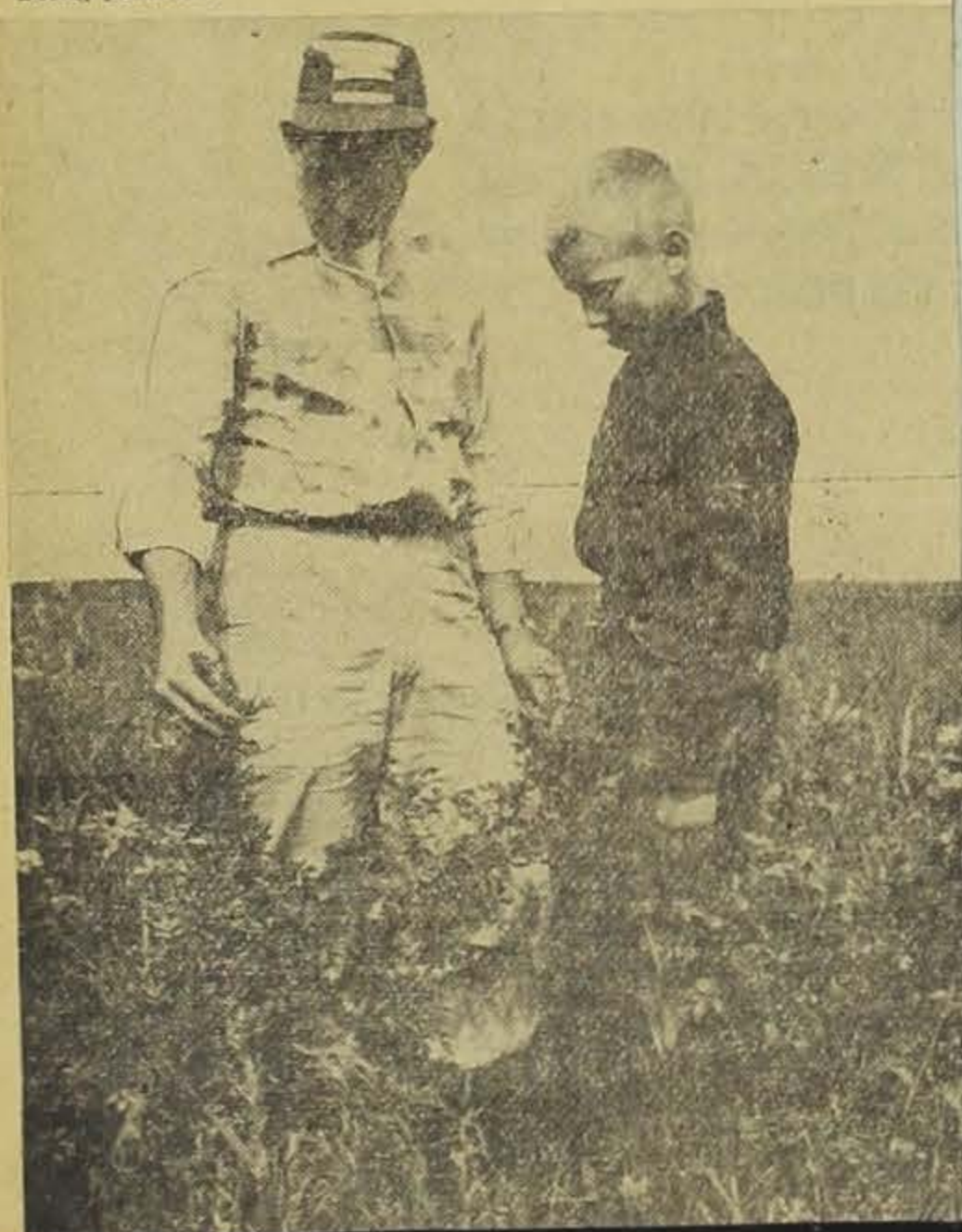
Tile Outlets Key to Systems



GOOD TILE OUTLET is 90 per cent of any tile system, Benton conservation aide Darrell Race declares. An example of an excellent outlet is shown being checked by Race on the Lloyd Shorren farm, four miles south of Vinton. The outlet has a 12-foot long metal pipe from the end of the tile extending out to a small creek to keep the end of the tile from unravelling. The end of the outlet is covered with hardware cloth screen to prevent rodents from entering and plugging the tile system. A perforated metal clamp holding the screen on can be loosened or tightened with a screwdriver, making it easy to clean out small roots in the mouth of the outlet. Race emphasized that good tile outlets are NOT submerged.



MOST IMPORTANT key to having a successful multi-flora rose growth is the care taken before and during planting of the seedlings. Photo shows a lush multi-flora rose "fence" on the Howard Knupp farm six and a half miles southeast of Vinton being examined by Conservation Aide Darrell Race, left. Knupp's son Tom and Knupp. Below, Vinton high agriculture teacher Virgil Christianson and Tom Knupp look over a poor growth of multi-flora rose which was planted the same day as the above rose on the same kind of soil with seedlings from the same shipment. However, methods of planting were different as is testified by the fourth-season rose above compared with the same age plant below. Race said the plants must be planted as deep or deeper than they were in the nursery and the soil must be compacted around the roots to press out air pockets. He stressed the importance of keeping the seedlings moist while being planted.

PREDICTS LOTS
OF SOFT CORN

Soil Man Pessimistic
Over Benton Crop.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady today came out flat-footedly with the prediction that there "will be a lot of soft corn in Benton county this fall."

Heady based his admittedly pessimistic forecast on the current weather.

"The warm days are undoubtedly helping to mature corn and mature it fast," he said. "However, the cool nights are bringing frost on the ground, and one of these nights that frost is going to climb right up into the corn."

Heady said he realized that his prediction was at variance with the more or less optimistic views held by many farmers throughout the county. "However," he added, "most anyone will agree that if we get a rain, that rain will be followed by a killing frost, and the dry spell we're now having won't last forever."

Most corn in Benton county is still in the dough and early denting stage. At least two weeks of continued dry weather, without a frost, will be necessary to assure a reasonably good crop.

"Quite a little corn, in fact, needs a full month of continued dryness," Heady said, "and that is almost too much of a good thing to expect."

Soft corn will mean that the corn will have to be cut for silage, or picked and ground for feed or hogged down in the field by cattle and pigs. Soft corn will affect, eventually, the economy of almost everyone living in Benton county.

Students at
Ames Study
Benton Farms

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Conservation pictures taken of operations on Benton county farms are being used at Iowa State college to instruct ag students on proper soil-saving practices.

This was announced today by Glenn Heady, U. S. soil conservationist for Benton county, who said that the pictures were being used at Ames by Wayne Schultes, conservation instructor.

Pictures being used are those taken on the following farms: John Schild, Belle Plaine; Harland Harper and Cable Waldorf, Vinton; Everett Wayman, Elberon; Walter Heineman, Garrison; Orville Fish, Shellsburg; Howard McLeod, Belle Plaine; Dr. H. S. Lames, Dysart; Glenn Christy, Garrison; Dr. W. D. Martin and Bernard Burris, Vinton; Don Boddicker, Charles Sauer, Dr. U. H. Hoefle and Richard Gillow, Vinton; Robert Allers, Keystone; and R. F. Englebrecht and Henry Junge, both of Keystone.

Photos cover all phases of conservation from growing corn on the contour to terracing, pasture renovation, grassing waterways, establishing field boundaries on contour, etc.

17,850 Trees
And Shrubs in
1951 Plantings

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Benton farmers, in cooperation with the Benton County Fish and Game club, are planting 17,850 trees and multiflora rose shrubs this year in the constant war being waged against erosion and the destruction of wildlife cover.

Farmers and the plantings anticipated follow:

Jay Nabholz, Shellsburg, 250 multiflora roses, 250 red pines.

Harry Carr, Shellsburg, 1,000 multiflora roses, 250 red pines, 250 Russian olives.

Kirk and Graydon McQuilken, La Porte City, 4,000 multiflora roses.

Ralph Little, Shellsburg, 1,000 multiflora roses, 250 black locusts, 500 jack pines, 250 black walnuts.

Ivan Davis, Vinton, 1,750 multiflora roses, 250 red pines, 250 Russian olives.

Leroy Robbins, Urbana, 1,000 multiflora roses, 250 dogwoods.

Merle Weir, Mt. Auburn, 700 multiflora roses, 250 green ash and 350 red pines.

Dr. Harry S. Lames, Mt. Auburn, 1,000 multiflora roses, 250 red pines and 250 green ash.

Lloyd Lovell, Center Point, 1,000 multiflora roses, 250 black locusts, 250 Russian olives and 250 red pines.

Rex Mayhew, Blairtown, 1,700 multiflora roses.

Total cost of all trees and shrubs comes to \$274.10.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Milwaukee, Wis.
Nov. 15, 1951

Dear Glen:

I just remembered that I promised you gang some pictures of the Long Grass Silage Pilot at Ft. Dodge. Here they are.

We are opening the pile on Dec. 7 & shall have done as to spoilage, how to get it out etc at that time.

Always

Walt Weiss

Zone Com.

P.S.

It looks very ~~very~~ good to me. I know of 4 in Ia - 2 in Minn & 1 in Wis. who have made long silage. They all like it very much. More later I hope
Wm

Belle Plaine, Iowa
May 13, 1953

Mr. Glenn J. Heady
Work Unit Conservationist
Vinton, Iowa

Dear Mr. Heady:

We would be glad to have you spend two days with us next week. Day two of the first four days of the week will be alright. I can arrange my plans to fit yours when I hear from you.

I have two classes. The morning class meets 10:30 to 12:00 and the afternoon class meets 1:00 to 2:20.

11-12 graders are in the morning class and 9-10 graders in the afternoon class.

I would like to have you meet with both classes if possible. Several boys in each class have very little background and experience in conservation,

Phone # 435
87111 - State House

WM. S. BEARDSLEY
GOVERNOR OF IOWA

State Conservation Commission

MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION
EWALD G. TROST, CHAIRMAN, FORT DODGE
J. D. REYNOLDS, VICE-CHAIRMAN, CRESTON
C. A. DINGES, EMMETTSBURG
A. C. GINGERICH, WELLMAN
FLOYD S. PEARSON, DECORAH
MRS. EMMETT RYAN, UNDERWOOD
JOE S. STANTON, DES MOINES

EAST 7TH AND COURT AVENUE
Des Moines 9, Iowa

December 21, 1951

BRUCE F. STILES, DIRECTOR
J. R. HARLAN, ASST. DIRECTOR
K. M. KREZEK, CHIEF
DIV. OF ADMINISTRATION
R. W. BECKMAN, CHIEF
DIV. OF FISH AND GAME
WILBUR A. RUSH, CHIEF
DIV. OF LANDS AND WATERS

Mr. Glenn F. Heady
Soil Conservationist
Soil Conservation Service
Vinton, Iowa

Dear Glenn:

In reply to your letter of December 19th concerning a price list on trees, you should receive one in the very near future through the state Soil Conservation Service office of Ames.

How are things going down around Vinton? It seems a long time since I visited with you. Is your tree and shrub planting program going along as well as it looked like it would the last time I visited you?

Knowing you will hear from the state office soon and wishing you and the family a Merry Christmas, I am,

Yours,

Mans

M. A. Ellerhoff
Supt. of Forests

MAE/dc





PAUL GROSZKRUGER
PRESIDENT

*read at May meeting of
District Commissioners*
THE CITIZENS STATE BANK
AT BELLE PLAINE

BELLE PLAINE, IOWA

May 8, 1952

Mr. Glenn F. Heady
Vinton, Iowa

Dear Glenn:

I have your letter of the 6th at hand per-
taining to the soil conservation program.

I do not believe that it is necessary for
me to tell you that I am very much sold
upon this program, and we in Belle Plaine
have had a good opportunity to see the
results of this program. You may rest
assured that we will do everything we
can to be helpful.

Should you have occasion to be in our
vicinity, I hope that you will stop in
and see us.

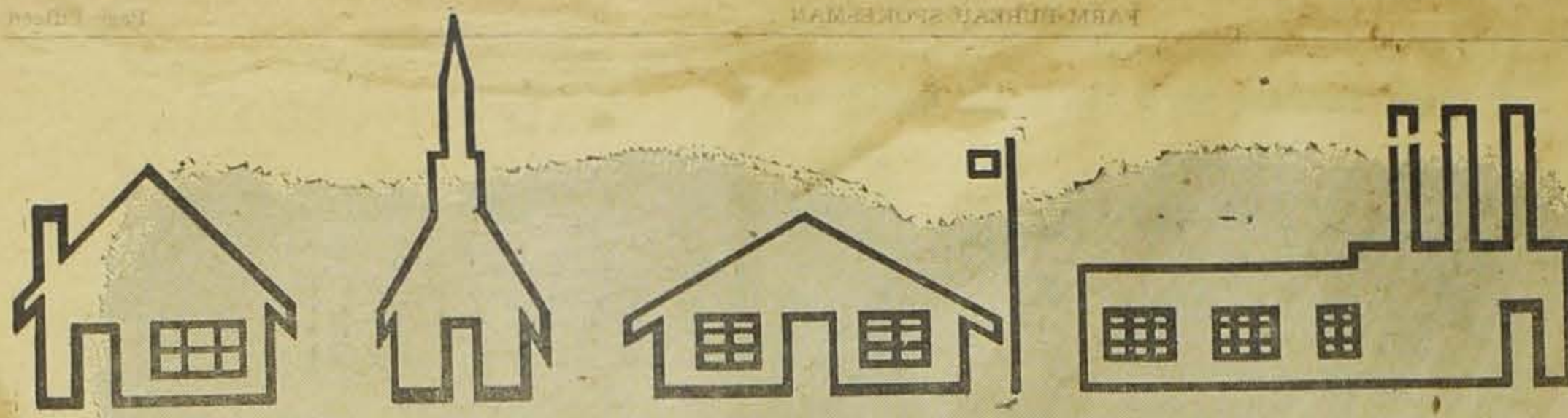
With kindest regards, I am

Yours very truly,

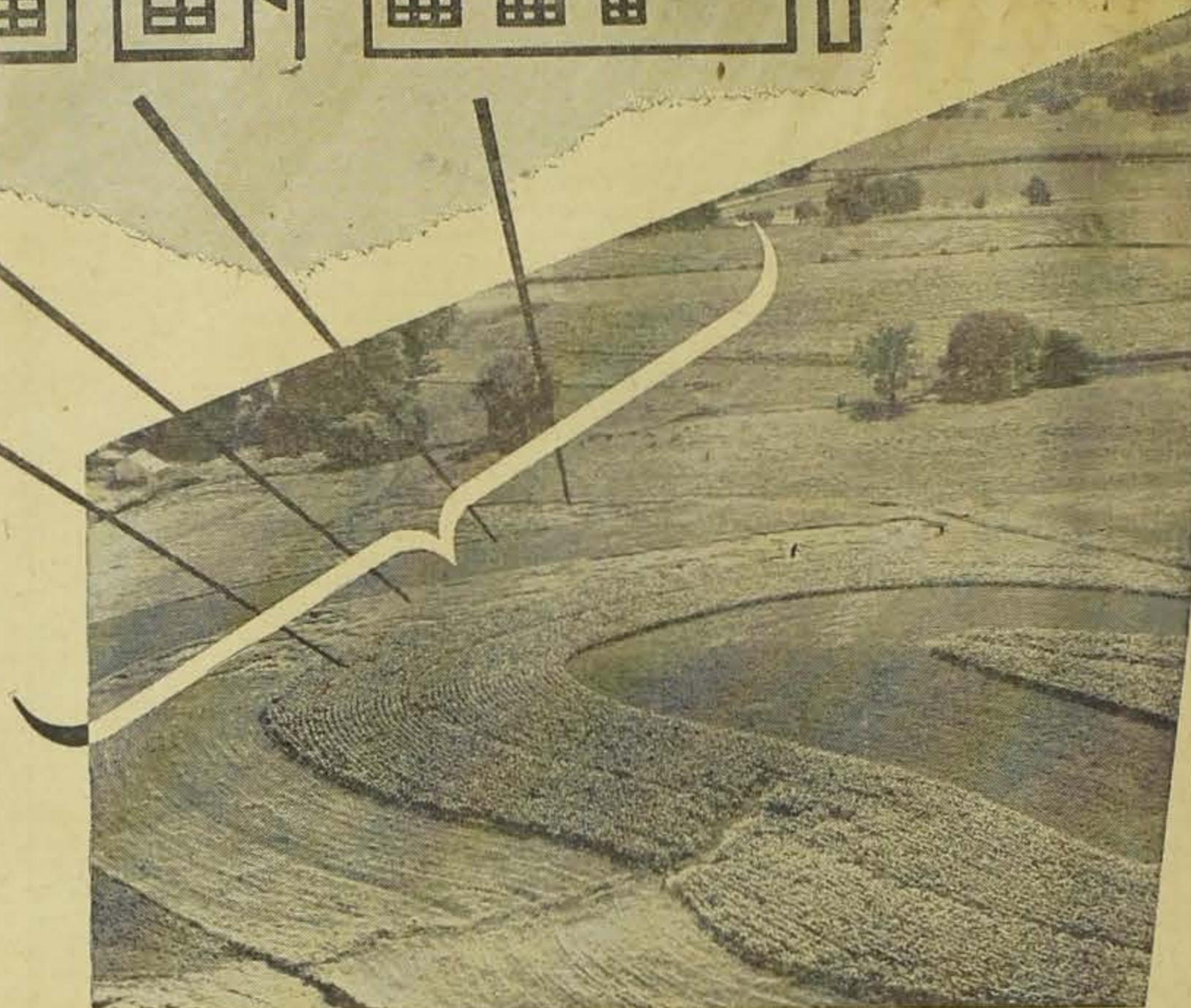
Paul Groszkruger
Paul Groszkruger
President

PG:jaw

June 13, 1953



PRODUCTIVE SOIL IS OUR FOUNDATION

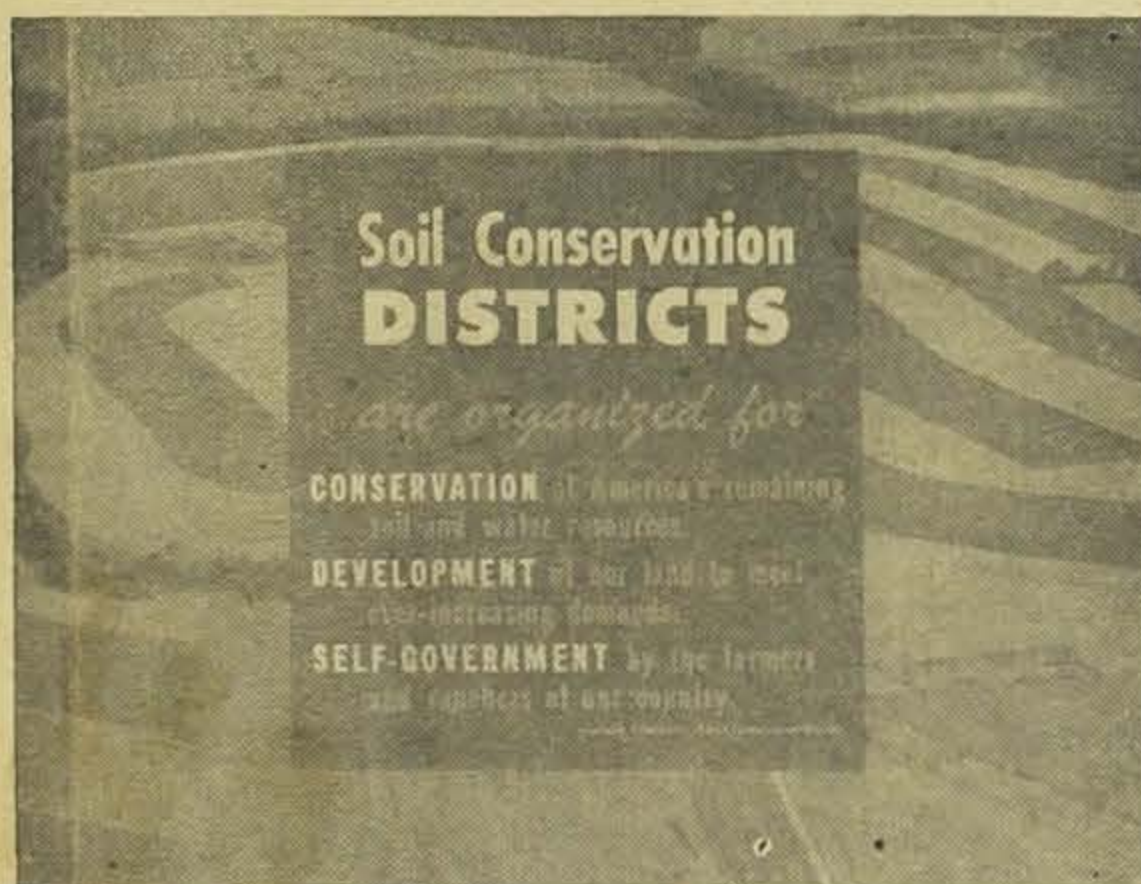


To build strength in our soils for efficient and abundant production — now and in the future — is really what soil conservation is all about.

Everyone who farms, everyone who serves farmers and everyone who just likes to eat good food has a share in the job of building permanent strength in our land. Farmers need adequate prices to keep such a soil conservation plan in operation. They sometimes need financial assistance, because steps toward improved farming often require some financial investment. Such steps even require temporary financial sacrifice, since time may be needed to realize full returns from the conservation plan on any farm — particularly on small farms where the improvements are most needed. *

All of us, both town and country people, share in this community's soil-building or "foundation"-building job by supporting conservation education, conservation technical assistance and financial assistance to farmers when they undertake soil-building programs that benefit the community.

* The foregoing is adapted from the discussion of "America's Capacity to Produce Food" delivered by Dr. Robert M. Salter, Chief, Conservation Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, at the National Farm Institute in Des Moines in February, 1952.



This Advertisement Sponsored by

Your Soil Conservation District

in

BENTON COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS

S. Earl Wallace, Chairman
Henry Grunewald, Jr.
Glenn Christy

HARDIN COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS

Bernard Reese, Chairman
Lloyd Roland
Kenneth Meier

BLACK HAWK COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS

J. E. Entz, Chairman
Harold Bauer
Ernest Sage

MARSHALL COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS

Corwin Springer, Chairman
Myron Roseland
Florian Wilcox

GRUNDY COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS

W. R. Mitchell, Chairman
Ralph Schildroth
George Berends

TAMA COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS

John Norton, Chairman
Forrest Hill
George Kos

Benton Man Wins State Soil Contest

(Courier Special Service)
VINTON — Benton county's soil conservation director, Glenn Heady, stated Saturday that he had been notified by Allan Schrader, executive director of the Iowa Soil Conservation Commission, that this county's conservation programs and the cooperating farmers head the 1953 state conservation contest which is based on "outstanding balanced forage, livestock, and soil conservation program" on farms.

Winning the state individual championship in the contest is Gram Lanam, south slope farmer in the Blairstown community, and he, with nine other Benton soil tillers, won the state group contest over entries from 11 sections of Iowa, Heady explained.

Team Members Listed.

Comprising the 10-farm team listed as the outstanding such entry besides Lanam were: Walter Boehmke, Belle Plaine; Kozik, Luzerne; W. A. Drake, farm No. 3, Blairstown; H. J. Runewald & Sons (Hill Farm), Blairstown; S. Earl Wallace, Vinton; McQuilkin & Sons, La Porte; Ralph Little, Shellsburg; Harry Lamas and George Brock, Mt. Auburn; A. B. Kirk (Benton City farm), Vinton.

Heady explained that the average acreage size of the group was 265 acres and each farm averaged the following number of livestock: 31 beef cows, nine beef heifers, 23 beef calves, one beef bull, 286 market hogs, 143 hens, 225 baby chicks, 16 dairy cows, six dairy heifers, six dairy calves, one-half dairy bull, one-fifth riding horse, one-half work horse, 72 steers.

The state-wide conservation contest was sponsored by the state soil conservation committee, Iowa association of soil conservation district commissioners, Dodge newspapers and two radio stations.

First Applied in 1947.

Records in the Benton soil conservation office indicate that state Champion Lanam first applied for his soil conservation plan in 1947, after purchasing the farm which he had rented for 10 years.

At the advice of soil conservation personnel, 44 acres of the land is strip cropped with the rest of such nature it does not need to be farmed on the contour.

The rotation selected by Lanam was corn-corn-oats, and three years of meadow. He has been following this rotation consistently since the spring of 1948, and says he would never go back to the old method of farming. He contends that the productivity of his land has increased tremendously.

Lanam was born on a Linn county farm and moved with his parents when a small child to the Belle Plaine community.

Future Farmers of America



"Learning to do,
Doing to learn;"

Steady Progress In Soil District

The Benton County Soil Conservation district recognizes the constant progress being made in the application of more and more soil conservation on the farms of the county as the seasons pass.

Over the past 7 years there have been over 600,000 feet of terraces laid by the Soil Conservation technicians; 5,000 acres of strip cropping; 47,000 acres of land contoured; 189 acres of trees planted for erosion control, and wildlife habitat; and 1,052 acres of permanent pastures renovated, along with many miles of waterways constructed and seeded along with several hundred thousand feet of tile drainage laid out.

Farming around the slopes is becoming a common sight in Benton county, and in some communities practically all of the farmers are conservation farmers.

The district was ably assisted this spring by a number of farmers in the county who laid contour lines in their various neighborhoods, while the technicians were busy on terrace, strip crop and tile layout. Thus there was less waiting for help by those who wished to have their contour lines laid out.

OFFICIAL SCRAP BOOK

NAME _____

LOCATION _____

PRESIDENT _____

REPORTER _____

Period Covered _____

MONTH _____

YEAR _____

Available From

FUTURE FARMERS SUPPLY SERVICE

P. O. BOX 1180

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

401 East Fifth
Vinton, Iowa
December 1, 1953

Ellen Heady
Soil Conservation Office
Vinton, Iowa

Dear Mr. Heady,

The enclosed letter which the children wrote pretty much explains our feelings. The strangest thing is that most of them "liked the last movie best because it taught them the most." When a group of 5th grade children make that comment the time spent can be considered worthwhile.

We'll be looking forward to your next visit. I hope it can be during the latter part of next week or soon after that. We can arrange our schedule to fit your time if that.

Thank you,
Maryanne Howard

J. H. NEIL, PRESIDENT

ARTHUR J. BIRD, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

R. W. ADAIR, VICE PRESIDENT

H. KUBICEK, CASHIER

Tama State Bank

Tama - Iowa

Oct. 9, 1953

Mr. Glenn F. Heady
Vinton, Iowa

Dear Glenn:

Many thanks for the soil survey map and the farming guide that you were kind enough to send me. After I have digested it I may have some foolish questions to ask you.

I deeply appreciate your interest in and help to Jesse and also to myself. You certainly make the managing of the farm a very simple matter for me. There are two things sadly lacking in most farm areas and those are the technical help that you give and more farmers like Jesse.

Very truly yours,

Art

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
405 Iowa Building
Des Moines, Iowa

August 31, 1953

Mr. S. E. Wallace, Chairman
Benton County Soil Conservation
District Commissioners
Vinton, Iowa

Dear Mr. Wallace:

Thanks for sending me a copy of the statements that have been made by the technicians on the status of the conservation program on farms that they visited.

This kind of contact means that the Service technicians and the commissioners have a pretty good up to date report of the condition that exists on each of the cooperator's farms. It is also encouraging to note that although there are some "sliders" among the group there are many who are following the rotations, continuing the practices and expanding the conservation measures needed on their farms.

Very truly yours,

Frank H. Mendell

Frank H. Mendell
State Conservationist

*Lally + Lally
Lally - Lorenson*

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting on a piece of paper pasted at the top of the notebook page.]

[A second piece of paper pasted below the first, containing very faint, mostly illegible handwriting.]

East School
Five A
Dec. 1, 1953

Glen Heady
Soil Conservation Office
Vinton, Iowa

Dear Mr. Heady,

We enjoyed your movies very much. We all thought they were interesting. We also liked your rope acts. We hope you can come again to tell us more about soil conservation.

Thank you,
Room Five A

Ancient Tile Found on Farm Near Belle Plaine



WALTER BOEHMKE of north Iowa township shows square tile he found while repairing an old spring which is still in operation on his farm. Benton soil conservationist Glenn Heady estimated the tile was at least 100 years old.

BENTONIANS MAKING HAY

By GLENN HEADY
BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Various methods of harvesting the hay crop are being tried in Benton county that are relatively new, of which two are pictured in this issue of the Times. It is becoming evident that there can be, and are, greater variations in hay harvest than the harvest of any other crops grown on the farm.

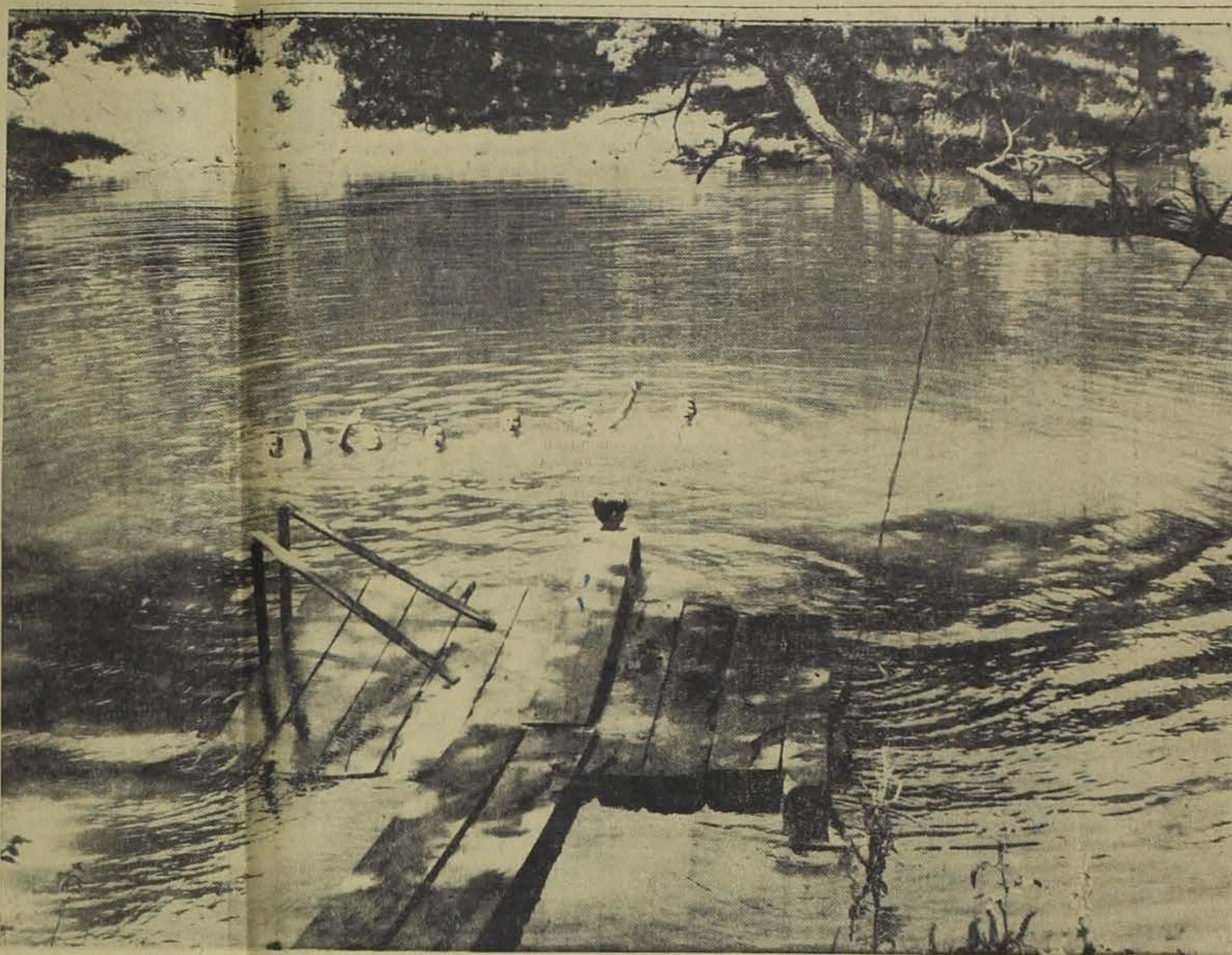
All methods being used are an attempt by the producers to preserve the maximum of feeding nutrients and vitamin content of the hay crop. The quality of the hay as a feed for livestock is largely dependent upon getting it put up as green as possible, whether it be preserved dry or as a silage crop.

The initial cost of hay making and storage equipment is high, hence we find a number of farmers in Benton county in the past two years are trying the preservation of hay crops in trench silos which in cases of well packed silage there is little spoilage, and good success.

Benton county probably has no less than two dozen trench silos now being tried by farmers, such as the trench silo shown on the Grunewald farm. Thus, if successful, a trench silo will bring the cost of storing chopped hay silage down to a minimum cost. One report comes to the Benton soil conservation office of a farmer storing square silage bales of alfalfa and clover in a trench silo.

The system of harvesting and preserving the hay crop that will entail the least expense if successful is the putting up of "long grass" silage. This method is being tried on the W. A. Drake farm southeast of Blairtown, and involves no cost of equipment for storage and a minimum of expense for harvesting. A mowing machine and a buck for picking up and hauling are the only harvesting equipment.

The "long grass" system of harvesting and storing the hay crop originated five or six years ago, and has been gaining momentum since. It is especially attractive



MAN-MADE SWIMMING HOLE is a wonderful attraction at the H. G. Grunewald & Sons farm 4 1/2 miles southwest of Blairtown. The farm pond, designed by the Benton soil conservation office, is 15 1/2 feet deep. There are nearly 24 similar

farm ponds in Benton county. The ponds are excellent for stock watering, and if near buildings, to help fight fires, as well as provide swimming and fishing.

K. FERGUSON LISTS CORN

Benton Farmer Aids Experiments.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

The practice of listing corn has been in use for many years in various parts of the corn belt, and is becoming more popular in some areas where farmers learn of the merits of listing. Iowa State college and the soil conservation service are working in conjunction with one another to develop experimental data on listing corn in various parts of the state, including Benton county.

With contour farming in the western part of the state farmers find that each ridge between the corn rows is a miniature terrace, and helps preserve moisture for short periods of drought and also controls erosion, although the listing does not displace terraces.

The listing ridges are effective up to the period of laying the corn by, when they are pulled into the furrow to cover the weeds that might be growing in the corn row.

Besides the advantages listing corn has in weed eradication, preserving moisture and erosion control, the economy of production is expected to become one of the major factors in its use, since farmers using the listed corn method go over the ground only about one-half as many times in raising corn by this means.

Although corn ground can be plowed for listing also, it is normally disked before listing. Tillage practices after planting corn normally include two cultivations and two draggings. Thus, seven times over the ground from the time a farmer starts corn ground preparation until it is picked in the fall are all that is required in producing listed corn. Normally, many farmers have gone over their corn ground this number of times in many cases by the time they have planted the corn, by surface planting.

Listing corn in Benton county area may be in its infancy, or may never become popular, but this may become a practice that in the years to come will be standard procedure, as it has in other areas.

The equipment being used in growing listed corn on the Kenneth Ferguson farm is being loaned by Iowa State college and the soil conservation service.

Joins Holstein Association
Wilfred Becker, Van Horne farmer, has joined the Holstein-Friesian Association of America, it was announced at a recent meeting of the association's board of directors in Roanoke, Va.

The association is the world's largest dairy cattle breeders' registry organization. Membership now totals over 42,300, representing every state in the country.

Nearly Two Dozen Farm Ponds Built In Benton County

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

There are nearly two dozen farm ponds in Benton county serving as stock water supply and for recreational purposes for the farm family. Costs of farm ponds vary according to the character of the soil and amount of fill dirt required to construct the dam. These range from \$500 to \$1,000 in Benton county.

Although many articles have been printed in magazines which bring in inquiries regarding the desire for a farm pond on a farm, the areas in Benton county where a pond is possible, are quite scarce. Roughly estimating, there may be only about two hundred farms on which the conditions would be right for a pond. There is an occasional farm which have two or three areas suitable for ponds.

The southern hill area of Benton has the greatest number of possibilities for farm ponds, although there are a half dozen farm ponds in the north part of the county that are serving very successfully.

Chief requisites for a farm pond are a small watershed of not over thirty acres, a tight subsoil, (and especially non-containing veins of sand), and slopes that are relatively close together. Such sites are normally found in the Fayette and Lindley hill areas.

Besides the use for stock water the ponds have many other uses, most of which are recreational. Occasionally they are near enough to a set of buildings to serve as water supplies in case of fire.

BIG GROVE CLOVERETTES

The Cloverettes held their all-day meeting June 11 at the home of Marlys Fennern, Roll call of "what I am going to make" was answered by 10 members and a leader. Ann Fry gave a demonstration on bias binding. Jancie Weaver gave a demonstration of laying and cutting out a pattern. All the members cut out patterns and then sewed them. Our leaders Mrs. Weaver and Mrs. Thibier, left for convention. The next meeting will be held at Gals. Gillow's house July 3, by Judy Relf.

POLK PAIS

The June meeting of the Polk Pais was June 14 at the home of Patricia Roll with nine members answering roll call.

Plans were made to have a bake sale every fourth Saturday of each month. The first sale will be June 28 at Miller's Grocery in Urbana.

Patricia Roll gave a talk on posture improvement. Nancy Roll spoke on deportments. The next meeting is scheduled for July 18 with Mrs. Leland Hansen, leader.

By Mildred Long.

TILING LASTS IF DONE RIGHT

Unless Specifications Met, Systems Doomed.

Proper tiling of wet or poor drainage areas requires a number of specifications among which if not followed, the tile system is doomed for failure sooner or later. All too often such system will last a minimum of four or five years, or may last for ten years before failing. In many cases failure to follow just one of the single rules of good tiling may cause a system to become useless.

Lack of size is the cause of the greatest number of tile failures, whereas, improper grade and too shallow tiling follow closely in causes of tile failures.

Blinding the tile with top soil rather than soil from the bottom of the trench where there may be soil of a clay texture often adds to the speed of drainage after a rain, and prolongs better drainage. Keeping the tile lines well out away from the waterway assures depth of soil over the tile, due to the fact that erosion in, and along the sides of the waterway, may in time cause the tile to be too shallow to drain well.

Negligence in maintaining a tile outlet frequently is a major cause of tile system failures, and to be regularly inspected should be a "must" on the list of every farmer who has tile outlets on his farm. Steel tube outlets cause the least number of failures, and more especially if they are equipped with baffles which prevent rodents and small animals from getting up in them.

Additional factors in maintaining a tile system that will prolong its usefulness are the eradication of willows and weeds that send roots into the system. Neglecting broken and plugged tile often contribute to failure by additional silting, "boiling up" and freezing that add to the complete failure.

With the present high cost of tiling it seems to be imperative that farmers be especially particular that all of their tile specifications be met without question. Good tiling and proper maintenance is just insurance that the drainage system will last longer.

FLORENCE GO-GETTERS

Mary Jane Schulte was hostess to the Florence Go-Getters at their regular meeting June 12. Roll call, "What I have sewed, or plan to sew," was answered by 11 members.

The senior demonstration team this year is Mary Jane Schulte and Marice Kimm. Shirley and Colleen Hoyt will be on the junior demonstration team.

Lois Larson gave a talk on "Care of Sweaters." Le Anna

Soil Conservation Week in Benton Co.

By S. E. WALLACE

Chairman Benton Soil Conservation Week

By a proclamation of the governor of the state of Iowa this week is Soil Conservation week.

This is also Soil Conservation week all over the nation. It is a week set aside by the many varied agencies who are behind this great movement to call attention to the American public the need of the preservation of one of our greatest natural resources—THE SOIL.

The district commissioners of the Benton county soil conservation district are desirous through the publication of this issue of the Cedar Valley Times to call to the attention of our Benton county populace the work of our group, the soil conservation technicians and the varied cooperating agencies of the work that is being accomplished in the conservation of essentially our only national resource, THE SOIL.

The acceptance of soil conservation on their farms by the Benton county farmers is purely on a voluntary basis and it is gratifying to know that they are applying for this service to our group at a rate that keeps the staff of technicians very busy—often requiring them to work overtime in the field.

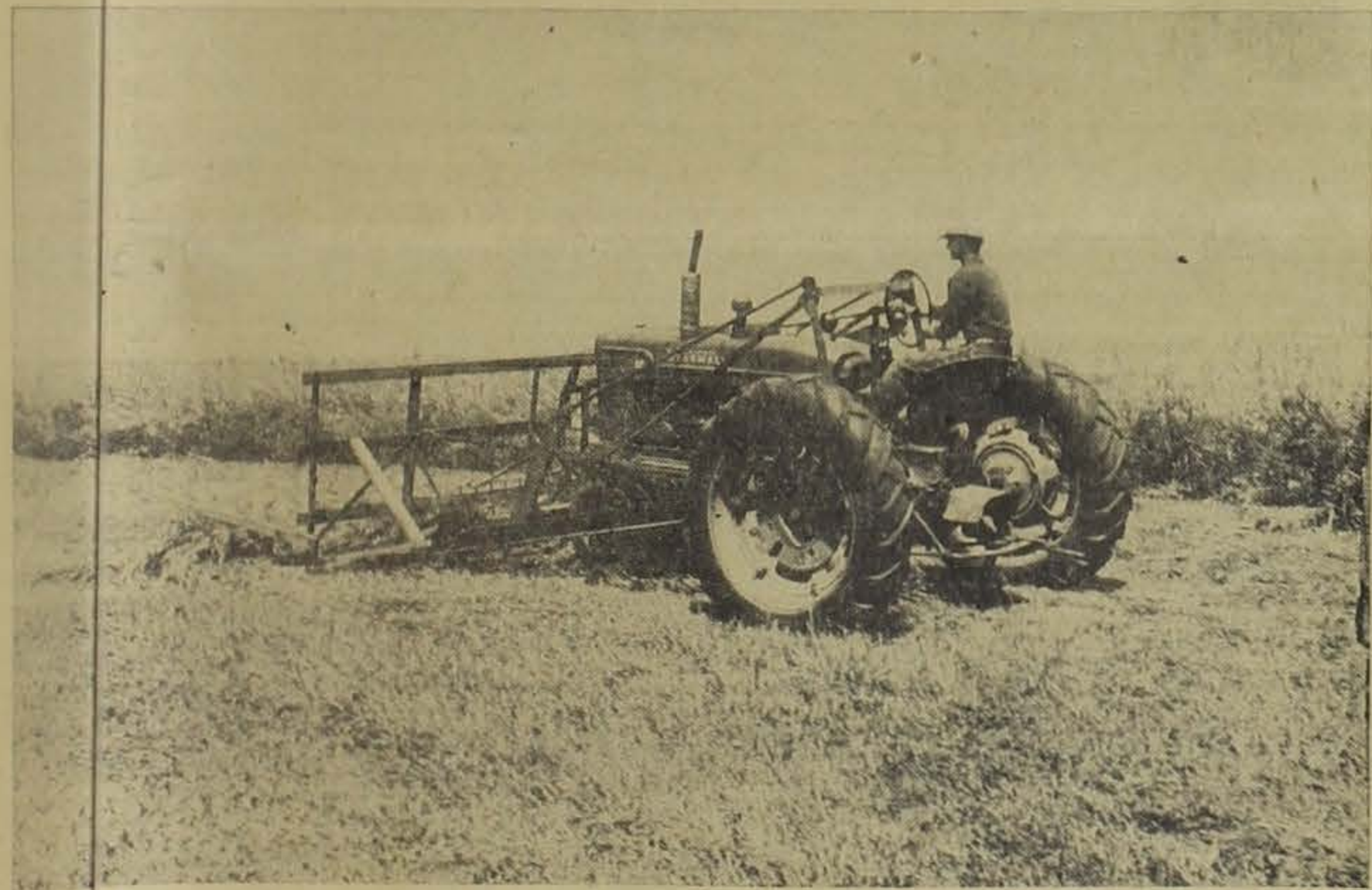
The commissioners are especially gratified to the PMA from their organization to assist in this very important work. These men are Clarence Beyer and Lloyd Welch who very ably assist the district in the technical conservation layout, for the services of Glenn Heady, soil conservationist and Darrell Race, conservation aid and to the state, soil conservation committee for Mrs. Ora Shirley who serves as clerk-typist to the district.

It is no exaggeration to say that soil conservation is one of the paramount long-time problems confronting our district, state and nation. Our strength as a nation, in fact our very existence, will depend at some future time on how well we succeed in solving our soil conservation problem.

It behooves all of us to put forth some effort to better acquaint our friends and neighbors with this very important problem and to encourage them to participate in it.

McArton and Mary Brecht gave a demonstration on posture control. Mary Pickart and Barbara Schulte demonstrated foot exercises.

By Mary Jane Schulte.



"LONG GRASS" SILAGE BEING put up on the W. A. Drake farm southeast of Blairtown features no cost for special equipment or storage, and a minimum of expense for harvesting. In above photo, hired hand Jim Whitworth gathers up the hay in

the field. Photo below shows Whitworth taking a load of hay onto the stack which is being packed down by a tractor driven by Carlaus Meyer, hand on the Drake farm.



PRACTICE SOIL CONSERVATION — — IT PAYS!

Hiram Lanam, 9 Other Benton Farmers 1953 Dominate Iowa Conservation Contest

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Benton county conservation programs and farmers completely dominated the 1953 state conservation contest based on "outstanding balanced forage, livestock and soil conservation program" on farms.

Hiram Lanam of Blairstown won the state individual championship in the contest and joined with nine other Benton farmers to win the state group contest over entries from throughout Iowa.

Included on the 10-farm team which was cited as the outstanding such entry in the state were: Walter Boehmke, Belle Plaine; Kozik brothers, Luzerne; W. A. Drake (farm No. 3), Blairstown; H. J. Grunewald & Sons (Hill farm), Blairstown; S. Earl Wallace, Vinton; McQuilkin & Sons, La Porte City; Ralph Little, Shellsburg; Dr. Harry Lames & George Vavrock, Mt. Auburn; A. B. Kirk, (Benton City farm), Vinton and Lanam.

Averaged 265 Acres

The average acreage size of this group was 265 acres and these farms averaged the following number of livestock: 31 beef cows, 9 beef heifers, 23 beef calves, 1 beef bull, 268 market hogs, 143 hens, 225 baby chicks, 16 dairy cows, 6 dairy heifers, 6 dairy calves, one-half dairy bull, one-fifth riding horse, one-half work horse, 72 steers.

The state-wide conservation contest was sponsored by the state soil conservation committee Iowa association of soil conservation district commissioners, Fort Dodge Messenger and Chronicle and radio stations KVED and KFMV.

The state champion Lanam first applied for his soil conservation plan in 1947, this year after purchasing his farm. At that time the Blairstown farmer and soil conservation personnel went over his farm to discuss and plan with him what conservation practices, crop rotation and other features of the program might be best for his farm. Lanam had rented the farm for 10 years before buying it.

Follows Rotation

Forty-four acres of land is strip cropped with the rest of the land being of such nature it does not need to be farmed on the contour. The rotation selected by Hiram was corn-corn-oats, and three years of meadow, which he has been following consistently without getting out of rotation since he began in the spring of 1948.

Yesterday Hiram made an interesting comment in regard to his farming program, and the condition of his farm prior to going into soil conservation practices. In the fall of 1947 during corn picking he passed time by shooting pigeons while he waited for two corn pickers to pick enough corn to put in the crib. The productivity of Lanam's farm has increased tremendously. Hiram states he would never go back to the old method of farming up and down hills, however, he added that he has not convinced all his neighbors that conservation farming is the right system.

Lanam was born in Linn county on a farm and moved with his parents when a small child to the Belle Plaine community where he grew up. The Lanams have a daughter, Zoe, who is 12 years old and attends the Blairstown school.



STATE CHAMPION Hiram Lanam looks over his farm plan that won him the title as the Iowa farmer with the most outstanding balanced forage, livestock and soil conservation program in the state.



HIRAM LANAM and conservationist Glenn Heady look at part of Lanam's dairy herd which helped the Blairstown farmer win state honors in a soil conservation contest.



THE HIRAM LANAM farm northeast of Blairstown which has been cited as having Iowa's best balanced forage, livestock and soil conservation program. The picture was taken facing southeast. The farm buildings are in the lower left hand corner of the photo.

Corn Maintains Green Color, Grows Despite Weather

Give Anhydrous Ammonia Credit For Extra Growth

Elmer Janes' Four-Acre Plot Stands Out Among Many Fired Fields

The recent dry, hot weather caused a considerable amount of corn in this area to fire prematurely. Many farmers have esti-

mated the cut in yield anywhere from 15 to 25 percent because of lack of rain at the crucial time. But still in some areas a person could find corn that didn't show any noticeable firing.

This was the case at the Elmer Janes farm, located four miles southwest of Belle Plaine.

Expect High Yield

Mr. Janes' particular field of corn that maintained a beautiful, rich green color during the dry spell, was atop a clay hill. It covers something like four acres. Many people have been out to the place to look over the field. Many have estimated that his yield will run as high as 90 bushels per acre. That should be a record yield for such a year as this.



PREMATURE FIRING OF CORN was very evident over this entire section of Iowa during the recent weeks of hot, dry weather. This shows a typical field. Note the leaves and stalks are so dry they are almost white.



THAT'S REAL CORN!—Here are a couple of examples of the stand of corn in the four-acre plot at the Elmer Janes farm. Some people estimate the yield will be somewhere around the 90-bushel mark.

W. N. Shellenbarger attended the school board secretaries' workshop in Ames on Monday and Tuesday. Anna Soens has resumed her sixth year of teaching at Honey Creek No. 6 school on Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Russell Gabriel and Mrs. Florence Ostrom spent Sunday in Marshalltown. Larry and Junior Simpson spent a few days with their mother in Cedar Rapids.

Miss Clara Rlenhart of Van Horne visited several days last week in the home of Martin Siek.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Grunewald entertained a group of boys and girls last Monday afternoon from 3 to 5 in honor of her daughter, Beth on her sixth birthday. Games were played after which Mrs. Grunewald served lunch and cake.



ELMER JANES is shown here looking over some of his green corn high atop a hill towards the western edge of his 140-acre farm. He never could sell him-

self on the use of commercial fertilizers until he saw on his own place what advantages they offer to increase yields and improve the soil.



GRAZING CATTLE make an attractive picture on the Elmer Janes farm southeast of Belle Plaine. Mr. Janes pastures his calves in the timber shown in the background of the picture.

The consensus of opinion is that the corn has maintained the green color and continued to grow because of the fact that the field had an application of anhydrous ammonia. The anhydrous ammonia is a supplier of nitrogen, and that, the experts say, is the reason the corn plants maintained such a healthy state of being.

Replanted June 2

The area has a rather interesting history. It was originally planted before a series of heavy rains. Because the land is clay, a hard crust formed on the surface and this would not permit the seedlings to break the ground.

Elmer then prepared the land for a second planting by going over the four-acre plot with a tandem

disc. He made his second planting June 2. The next day he applied the anhydrous ammonia at the rate of 100 pounds per acre. We might add that prior to the first planting he applied 150 pounds of 8-12-12 granular fertilizer.

Weather conditions were perfect following the second planting and by July 1, the corn was laid by.

Mr. Janes was never a believer in artificial fertilizers such as the granular and gaseous types. He always figured the natural fertilizers found on a farm were the best.

Funk Bros. Seed Co., maintains a four-acre foundation plot on his farm and they use many commercial fertilizers. Elmer says it was through their use that he saw what could be done towards increasing crop yield and at the same time, building up the soil.

His observations of the Funk's "G" plot prompted him to do a little experimenting with such things as anhydrous ammonia. He is also a great believer that you must have sufficient humus in the soil. The four-acre plot had been in birdsfoot trefoil for the past three years.

Conservationist

He follows conservation measures to a "T" on his 140-acre farm. His soils program was laid out by Glenn Heady, soil conservation officer whose office is in Vinton. He follows this procedure: Three years of alfalfa and then one year of corn.

To the north of the field of corn he has a small wildlife area that is bordered by multiflora rose bushes. Mr. Janes reports the wild animal and bird population is steadily on the increase.

Next to a patch of timber he has a small man-made pond which has a small man-made pond which is stocked with bullheads. The winter snows fill the pond to the overflow.

Mr. Janes operated a dairy in Belle Plaine a few years ago, so naturally he is interested in maintaining a dairy herd. He milks about 18 head of cows daily. He pastures the calves in the timber area.

and Kathleen J. Mo
Middle Amara.

Try The
For

DOUBLE
5% WOOD
Woodward's

SALE O.M.W.



A FOUR YEAR ROTATION WITH STRIP CROPPING IS USED ON the Kozik Bros. farm. This picture taken from U.S. 30, shows one of the fields with a pasture along side in they have part of their herd of registered Hereford cattle.



WITH THE KOZIKS FARMING IS A COOPERATIVE matter. Left to right are Don and Virgil, sons of Steve Kozik, James Kozik and Steve Kozik. A third son, Bernard, is a farm manager for the Smith Farms south of Iowa City. The group pictured above work closely together to not only make farming pay, but to preserve the good soil for generations to come.



THIS RED QUONSET HUT WITH THE WHITE LETTERING is familiar to all travelers who pass the Kozik farm on U.S. 30 north of Belle Plaine.

Select Two South Slope Farmers for Soil Conservation Awards Contest

Three Benton county farmers, two of them in this vicinity have been selected by the Benton County Soil Conservation Commission for the Regional & Tribune Soil Conservation awards contest. The contest is one in which the entries are screened on a soil conservation district area and state level. The three are: James and Steve Kozik of Elberon, as the outstanding owner-operator of the outstanding farm; Dr. H. S. Lames of Dysart, and George Vay-rock of Mt. Auburn (renter) for the outstanding owner-renter combination farm; Jesse Mapes of Luzerne as the outstanding conservation farmer who has had his farm plan less than two years.

The Koziks, who live about five miles north of Belle Plaine on U.S. 30, have lived on this farm as did their father before them since 1915. They have a total of 447 acres, of which 220 acres is in the home place, 10 acres in a farm a half mile north of the home place, and 10 acres in a third farm about two miles northwest of the home place in Tama county. In addition to the two brothers, they are aided by Steve Kozik's two sons, Don and Virgil.

Long known in Hereford cattle circles for their prize winning animals, Koziks raise a few head of hard bulls, produce an average of 250 pigs a year, and Mrs. Steve Kozik is the undisputed boss in the poultry department, which consists of about 275 laying hens and 300 pullets this year.

The Koziks use a four year rotation plan and do contour strip-cropping on all their places with frames on all the places with a corn-oats-corn-alfalfa rotation. They have also experimented the past few years with an eight acre field of birdfoot trefoil for both pasture and a hay crop and like it. Steve Kozik is a World War I veteran, and two of his sons, Bernard and Donald, are World War

second for pasture), a year of corn and a year of oats.

The entire farm is planted on the contour and terracing is used on about half the acreage.

Mr. Mapes raises annually an average of 90 head of stock cattle; and 200 head of hogs which come in four farrowings. In addition to the Goulding farm which consists of 240 acres, he also rented last year an additional 180 acres of the Scheetz farm. All this he works with the aid of a hired man and his son, Milton.

Mr. and Mrs. Mapes are the parents of four children, two of whom are students in the Belle Plaine high school. They are Milton, who is president of the LeClaire 4-H club and Gladys, who

is president of the LeRoy Luckles 4-H club, both of whom attend the Belle Plaine schools. Two other children, Mary and Ronald, attend the Luzerne public school.

Rust on Corn Is Common This Year

Corn rust appeared earlier this year and in larger amounts than Iowa State college plant pathologists have seen before—at least in recent years.

Extension plant pathologist Arden Sherf reports finding the disease in corn fields in all parts of the state he has checked. That includes all sections except extreme northwest, and he doesn't see any reason to expect that corn in that area has escaped.

Can Kill Leaves

Corn rust appears as brick red pustules (or blisters) on the leaves near the attachment to the stalk, Sherf says. If the infestation becomes heavy enough—and Sherf thinks it may in some late plantings of sweet corn—it can kill leaves.

There's no practical control, and the disease is not serious enough to cause concern, although it may hasten maturity in some areas. This is not the same rust as attacked oats.

The last abundance of corn rust was found in 1950, and that year it was August before plant pathologists noted it. This year it showed up in late June and early in July.

Humidity High

Fast growth of corn and high humidity in early summer are the reasons that this year's rust showed up early, Sherf believes. Rapid growth, produced thick foliage. And that foliage, plus high humidity, held dew on the corn leaves for a longer time. That condition helped the rust become established and spread.

Different hybrid corn varieties react differently to the rust, Sherf says, and some are more subject to infestation and damage than others.

With the rust abundance this year, he adds, corn breeders are checking their plots to compare different lines on reaction to corn rust.

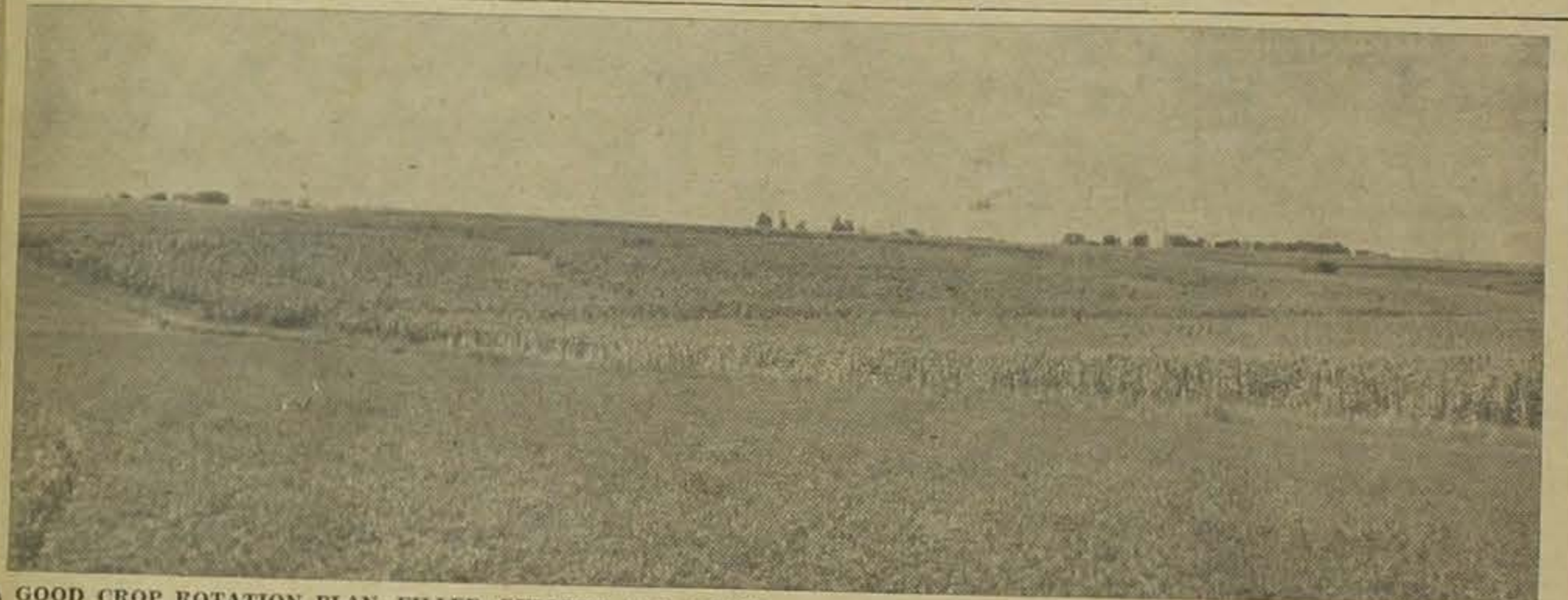


JESSE MAPES



BUILDINGS ARE NOT TOO GOOD BUT THERE IS nothing wrong with these 13 steers which belong to Mr. and Mrs. Mapes eldest son, Milton, which Jesse proudly displayed. Milton, who attends the Belle

Plaine high school, purchased these steers last October and will enter them in the Junior Cattle Feeder Show at the Belle Plaine Sales Barn next month.



A GOOD CROP ROTATION PLAN, FILLED GULLEYS AND GRASS waterways have played a part in making a good farm out of what was once considered a worn-out farm—the Goulding farm, northeast of Luzerne. When Jesse Mapes went on this place a few years ago there

was some question whether it would ever become a good producer again. Such is not the case anymore. Note the contours and grass waterways. Mapes follows a four-year rotation plan of corn, oats and alfalfa.

McCulleys Build Home of Native Lumber

7-25-53



THE DONALD McCULLEYS stand in front of the home they built out of native lumber grown on their farm north of Shellsburg.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
SHELLSBURG—With the exception of the main floor, the entire Donald McCulley Shellsburg farm home was constructed of native grown timber.

The house contains over 17,000 board feet of lumber cut from three of the 18-acre timber tracts on the McCulley farm.

The timbers under the house are two 8x8s 16 feet long. The

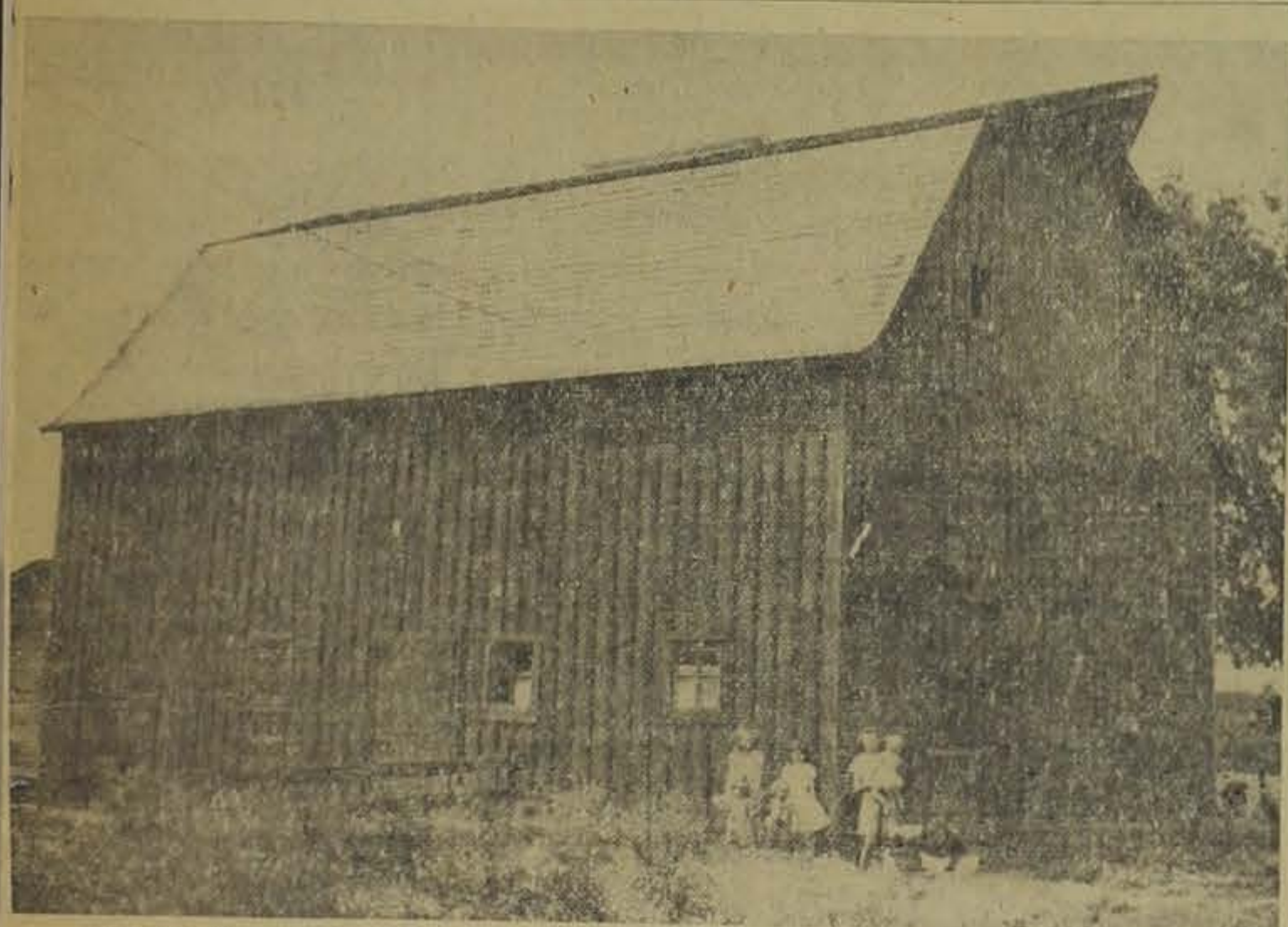
house, made of oak and basswood, is 28x32 feet. The lumber was cut up by Clifford Wayson of Urbana.

The McCulley timber includes mainly an 18-acre tract of land which has been kept in forest reserve. McCulley recalls that his father had always considered this a valuable tract of land on the farm, and has always had it pro-

tested, realizing its value as a lumber producing area.

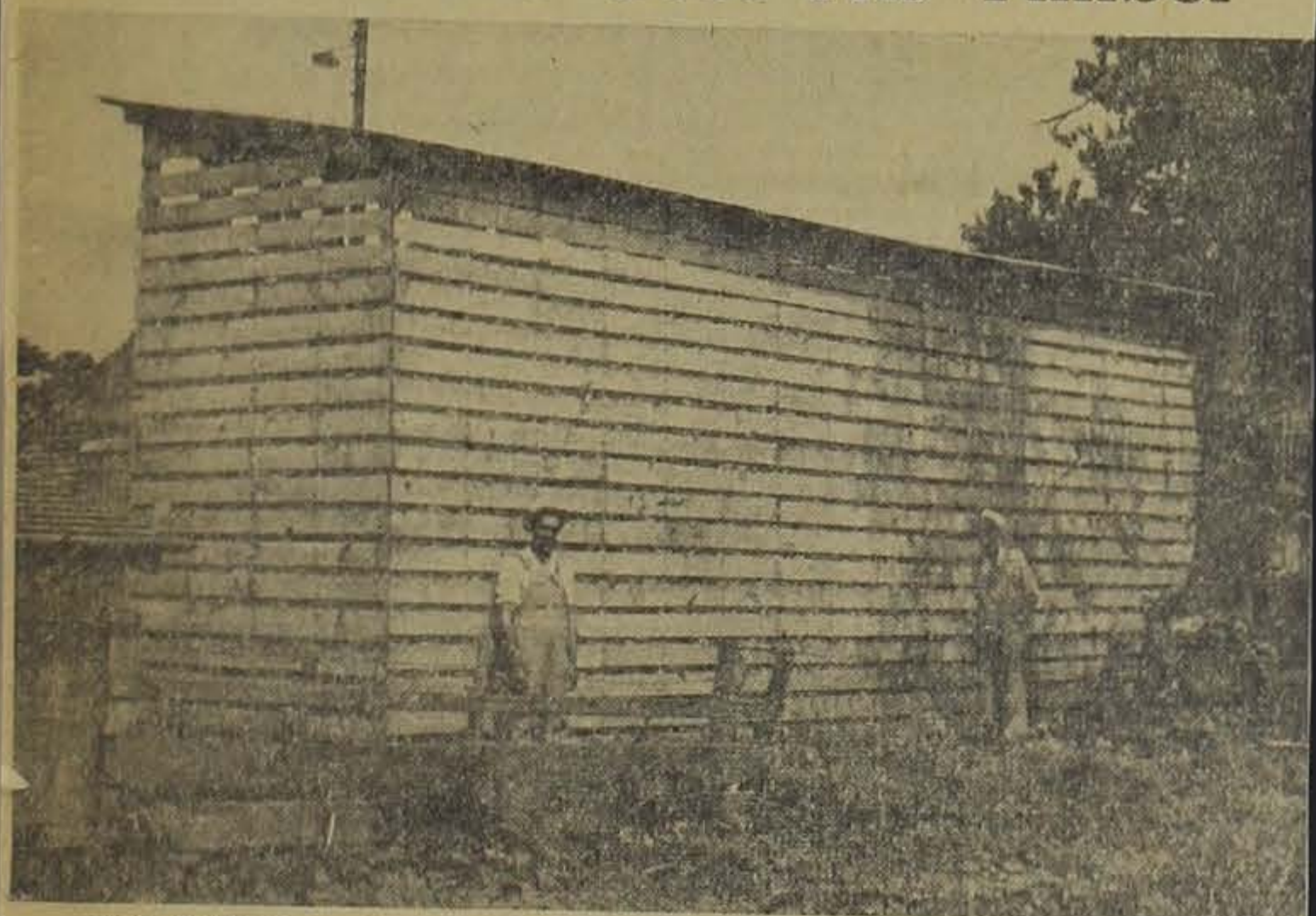
McCulley plans using more of the mature trees in the future for construction of other buildings on the farm when time permits.

There is at present no trees being harvested in the McCulley woodland proper. However, there are some cross ties being sawed from mature trees in a pasture.



THE BARN on the Otto Roseburg farm, two miles north and one mile west of the Oak Grove church in Benton township, is built 100 per cent of native lumber, cut from the farm. The 32x36-foot structure is made mostly of oak. The Howard Boyles live on the farm which is farmed by Fred Roseburg. In front of the barn are the six children of Mr. and Mrs. Boyles.

Paul Duello Uses His Timber



PAUL DUELLO, Harrison township farmer, has constructed a 2,767-bushel corn crib with a cash outlay of \$64. Duello cut the lumber out of his timber with his own saw mill. He spent \$42 for steel roofing and \$22 for nails and the power for cutting the timber. Duello and Milo Stainbrook did all of the sawing and construction of the crib.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

BRANDON—The Paul Duello farm south of Brandon, has 32 acres of timber which many persons in this area thought was more or less waste ground, or of little value to the farm which Duello purchased last year.

During his first year on the farm Duello has cut many thousand feet of timber up into lumber for use in reconstructing his machine shed, dairy barn, hay barracks and a new corn crib.

Duello and Milo Stainbrook have cut the harvestable timber from only five of the 32 acres thus far and with much younger timber still growing in the cut area, Duello figures he has already taken \$1,500 worth of timber from the cut area. His tim-

ber crop has thus averaged \$300 per acre.

July 25, 1953

Over 10,000 Acres of Woodland On Farms in Benton County

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

There are more than 10,000 acres of woodlands in Benton county, many of which are not being used to the best interest of the farms on which they are located, according to conservation officials.

Many farmers could realize sizable amounts of money if they would sell trees in their timber which should be taken out for the good of the woodland, according to Conservationist Glenn Heady.

Although many farmers in Benton have not made use of timber on their property, hundreds of Bentonians have been and are making use of their woodlands.

Forester in Benton

Some of the farm woodland areas in Benton county have recently been getting attention from Dale Arnold, state conservation commission forester, who has been surveying the woodland areas for marketable timber on Benton farms, and determining the future value of the woodland areas.

Heady compares the trees on many farms with an old antique laying back in someone's attic which grows more valuable as time passes. And, since many of the Benton woodlands have not been getting much attention it has been determined that there are many trees to harvest which could be turned into profits for farmers.

Arnold said many farmers do not cut the proper trees out of timbers. He pointed out that many vigorously growing trees which the layman considers ripe for harvest should be permitted to continue their growth while other smaller trees which have reached maturity and will not grow more should be removed from the timbers.

Free Services

Arnold's free services to farmers include marking trees ready for harvest, determining future value of trees in woodlands and determining the varieties and board footage available in their harvest.

Heady added that many farm woodlots are being used for pasture which would be more profitable to farmers if they were turned into forest reserve with the livestock fenced out, thereby lowering taxes on the land and being assured of better timber production. At the same time these areas are very non-productive from the pasture standpoint. Also, there are numerous woodland pastures which might be more economically used if the majority of the trees were cleared off, and the pasture reseeded. Heady said.

Benton farmers should look over their timbers and make certain they are getting proper care, and trees which should be harvested should be taken care of for the farmers' and the farms' benefit.



CLARENCE STRATTON, left, retired Vinton farmer, examines a tree with Glen Heady, Benton soil conservationist, which has been marked by a state forester to be cut out of timber owned by Stratton north of Vinton. The state forester will free of charge examine timber and advise which trees should be taken out and which trees should be left standing, as well as giving other advice on the care and preservation of timberland.



ONE OF THE PORTABLE saw mills being used in Benton county is the rig owned by Milo Schnoor of Vinton. Its capacity

is 5,000 board feet of lumber per day. The outfit is shown on the Joe Binko farm south of Shellsburg.

Pasture Patter

BY EVERETT CREE

Once in a while one bumps into a thought or idea that seems to carry the concentrated wisdom of much observation and experience. Not long ago I was in the Soil Conservation office and Glenn Heady came . . . not with one observation . . . but many. I'd like to share them with you.

"Prosperity does not start at the factory pay roll window, but comes from the ground up—soil makes big business possible."

"The perpetuation of America and the nation depends upon the perpetuation of physical America—the land itself."

"Our civilization depends upon the top eight inches of the earth's surface. We cannot exist without it. We live on the top eight inches, when we die we are buried in what is below."

"The soil is one natural resource that does not have to wear out to be used up."

"Engineers report . . . After one large rain the Cedar River at Waterloo was carrying fifty three thousand tons of silt per hour. Another check at Cedar Rapids after the same rain showed the river to be carrying seventy three thousand tons per hour. This was an increase of twenty thousand tons of silt which was added between the two points."

Results of checks show that on the average of every day of the year enough silt flows under the bridge at Vinton to cover a two hundred fifty acre farm with six inches of silt a day . . . enough in a year to cover that farm to a depth of one hundred eighty two and one half feet.

As the Mississippi river flows past New Orleans it carries into the Gulf the equivalent of all the top soil of one quarter section farm every ten minute period of the day."

Just imagine a two hundred and fifty acre farm having one hundred and eighty feet or more of silt piled on it in the course of a year. That would be equal to three, sixty foot windmill towers standing one on top of the other! And then some people still protest that all will be well in the future and that there is really nothing to be very concerned about.

Seems to me that there is one place where we shouldn't be too conservative in our thinking . . . that's about Conservation.

Practice Soil Conservation.

The growing number of Benton farmers who are being attracted to the use of brome grass may be interested in knowing that there are many different kinds of brome. The type grown in the county is the smooth brome, or (*bromus inermis*). Among others that are well known are the mountain brome (*bromus marginatus*), the rescue grass (*bromus catharticus*) and the weedy, downy brome (*bromus tectorum*).

Virgil B. Hawk, manager of the soil conservation nursery at Ames, says that mountain and smooth brome grass are different not only in growth habit and longevity, but also in winter hardiness and adaptation. It is doubtful, he says, if the short-lived mountain strain should be used in place of the long-lived smooth variety. Mountain brome was developed in the Pacific north-west from native collections. Because it is rapid-developing, it has been used as a biennial crop for mixture with sweetclover, but it can't hold a candle to the smooth crop type so widespread in the Midwest.

More Benton farmers than ever are putting their hay in their silos this year for winter feeding. There are more hay choppers around than ever before, too.

By ensiling, farmers get about as close as they can to giving their stock fresh grass in the cold months. The feed is stored in almost a natural state. Consequently it contains several times more carotin (Vitamin A) than ordinary hay.

In order to get fermentation started in the newly-cut clovers and alfalfa some growers are putting dehydrated molasses in it, others are putting in corn which absorbs moisture from the hay and starts the process and still others are putting it in silos without anything—after they allow the hay to wilt down to 68 per cent moisture. Hay with a higher moisture content (it's about 80 per cent generally when it's cut) will run into mold trouble when put in a silo.

This is a good clover year, even though it's short because of the dry spring. White and red clovers are thick as wool blankets in the fields, and sweet clovers are blooming like mad along highways in many parts of the county.

SCS Rejects 15 Pct. of Benton Tile Jobs

(Continued from Page 1)

VINTON—Blamed by the Benton county soil conservation office on poor work done by tilers, records show that 15 per cent of all tile jobs completed in Benton county up to now in 1953 have been rejected.

Tile jobs must be up to certain standards set by the government if agricultural conservation payments are to be made to the farmers to help defray costs of the tile.

Conservationist Glenn Heady explained that conservation workers set up plans for the farmers and tilers and it is up to the land owners to see that the tilers do a satisfactory job.

Heady has advised farmers to withhold payment for tiling until

lished faulty systems. The government pays \$1.25 per rod for approved systems, with the average tile system costing about \$3 per rod, Heady said.

Among the common causes of tile system rejections in Benton county are the following: Misalignment of tile, tile too shallow, poor tile junctions, backfalls in system, not connecting old lines to new lines at junctions, using too small tile, and submerged outlets.

Heady commented that there are good tilers doing excellent work in the county, but the few poor tilers are creating a problem for farmers and the SCS office.

To Build Waterways And Terraces at Jess Mapes Farm

There will be a terracing and waterways construction demonstration at the Jess Mapes farm Monday Oct. 5, from 2 to 4 p.m. The farm is located one mile east and one-half mile north of Luzerne.

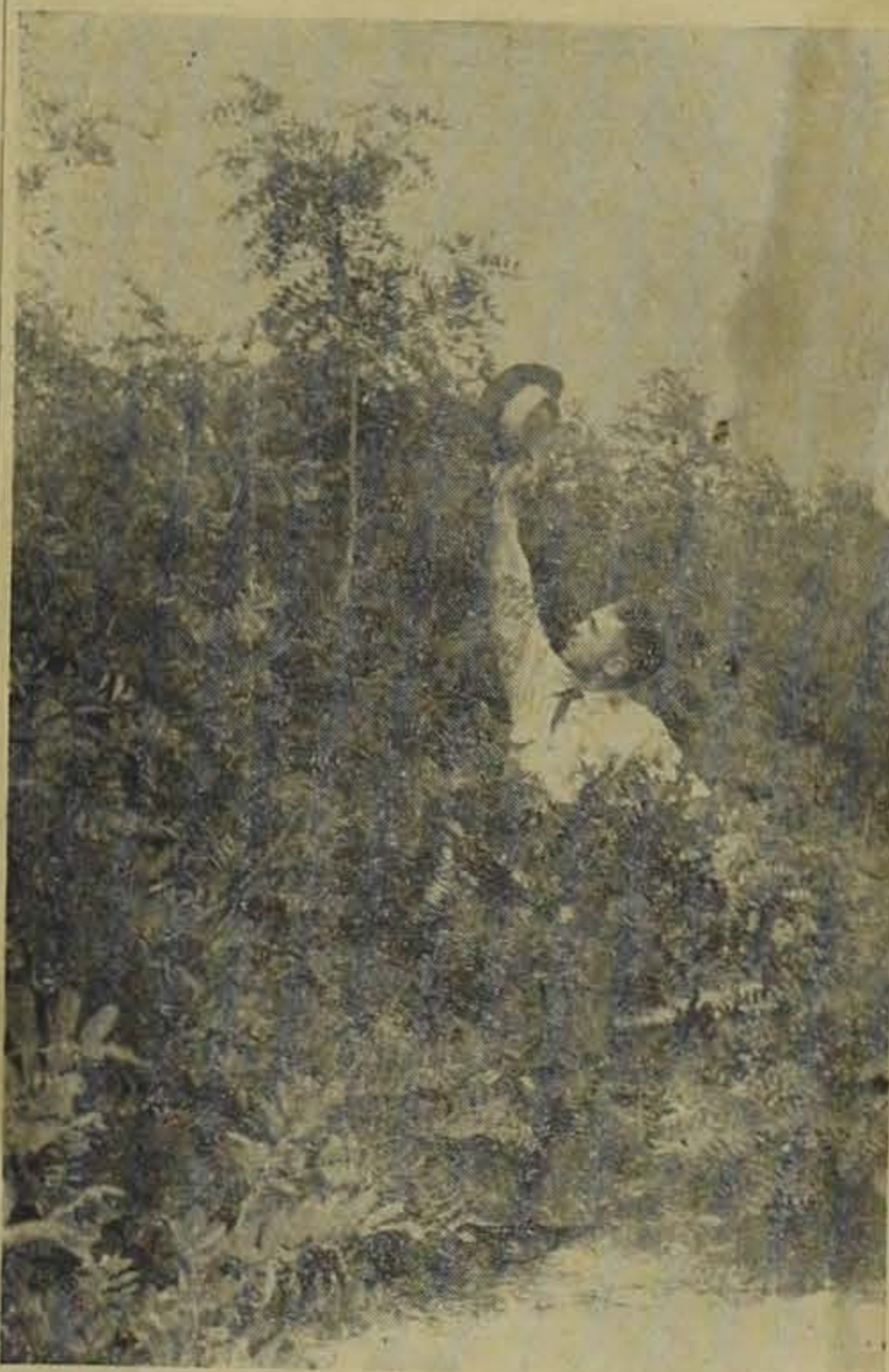
The terraces, according to Glenn Heady, soil conservation officer for Benton County, are of the modern type that can be crossed by all modern farm implements. They will be made with a motor patrol.

A special invitation is extended to all interested farmers, G. I. farm classes and Future Farmers of America chapters to attend this demonstration.

Both Mr. Heady and his assistant, Todd Race, will be on hand at the Mapes farm during the demonstrations.

Automobile radios will be available for those who wish to listen to the World Series.

Fix Shellsburg Sand Blowout



TWO YEARS AGO THE ABOVE AREA ON THE JAY NABHOLZ FARM, two and a half miles north of Shellsburg, was two and a half acres of sand. Today, as a result of putting a soil conservation plan into practice, the sand knoll, with a blowout on top, is covered with a dense growth of 2,500 black locust and oak trees. Rapid runoff and wind erosion have been stopped, and a good wildlife refuge has been provided. Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady is shown measuring one of the many locusts in the area that have shot up ten feet in two years. He said it was one of the most amazing transformations he had ever seen. Since the first of the year, the trees, which were planted as foot-high seedlings, have grown about two feet. The place was once heavily populated by oaks and other trees. In fact, as a boy Nabholz helped cut timber there. The refuge is known in the Shellsburg area as an old Indian camp. Flint arrow heads are still found in the sand from time to time. Heady said the project was a good example of what other Benton farmers could do with sand blowouts that are causing them trouble.

St. Marys

The growing number of Benton farmers who are being attracted to the use of bromegrass may be interested in knowing that there are many different kinds of brome. The type grown in the county is the smooth brome, or (bromus inermis.) Among others that are well known are the mountain brome (bromus marginatus,) the rescue grass (bromus catharticus) and the weedy, downy brome (bromus tectorum.)

Virgil B. Hawk, manager of the soil conservation nursery at Ames, says that mountain and smooth bromegrass are different not only in growth habit and longevity, but also in winter hardiness and adaptation. It is doubtful, he says, if the short-lived mountain strain should be used in place of the long-lived smooth variety. Mountain brome was developed in the Pacific northwest from native collections. Because it is rapid-developing, it has been used as a biennial crop for mixture with sweetclover, but it can't hold a candle to the smooth crop type so widespread in the Midwest.

More Benton farmers than ever are putting their hay in their silos this year for winter feeding. There are more hay choppers around than ever before, too.

By ensiling, farmers get about as close as they can to giving their stock fresh grass in the cold months. The feed is stored in almost a natural state. Consequently it contains several times more carotin (Vitamin A) than ordinary hay.

In order to get fermentation started in the newly-cut clovers and alfalfa some growers are putting dehydrated molasses in it, others are putting in corn which absorbs moisture from the hay and starts the process and still others are putting it in silos without anything—after they allow the hay to wilt down to 68 per cent moisture. Hay with a higher moisture content (It's about 80 per cent generally when it's cut) will run into mold trouble when put in a silo.

This is a good clover year, even though it's short because of the dry spring. White and red clovers are thick as wool blankets in the fields, and sweet clovers are blooming like mad along highways in many parts of the county.

SCS Rejects 15 Pct. of Benton Tile Jobs

(Quarter Special Service)
VINTON—Blamed by the Benton county soil conservation office on poor work done by tilers, records show that 15 per cent of all tile jobs completed in Benton county up to now in 1953 have been rejected.

Tile jobs must be up to certain standards set by the government if agricultural conservation payments are to be made to the farmers to help defray costs of the tile.

Conservationist Glenn Heady explained that conservation workers set up plans for the farmers and tilers and it is up to the land owners to see that the tilers do a satisfactory job.

Heady has advised farmers to withhold payment for tiling until

lished faulty systems. The government pays \$1.25 per rod for approved systems, with the average tile system costing about \$3 per rod, Heady said.

Among the common causes of tile system rejections in Benton county are the following: Misalignment of tile, tile too shallow, poor tile junctions, backfalls in system, not connecting old lines to new lines at junctions, using too small tile, and submerged outlets.

Heady commented that there are good tilers doing excellent work in the county, but the few poor tilers are creating a problem for farmers and the SCS office.

To Build Waterways And Terraces at Jess Mapes Farm

There will be a terracing and waterways construction demonstration at the Jess Mapes farm Monday Oct. 5, from 2 to 4 p.m. The farm is located one mile east and one-half mile north of Luzerne.

The terraces, according to Glenn Heady, soil conservation officer for Benton County, are of the modern type that can be crossed by all modern farm implements. They will be made with a motor patrol.

A special invitation is extended to all interested farmers. G. I. farm classes and Future Farmers of America chapters to attend this demonstration.

Both Mr. Heady and his assistant, Todd Race, will be on hand at the Mapes farm during the demonstrations.

Automobile radios will be available for those who wish to listen to the World Series.



TWO YEARS AGO THE ABOVE AREA ON THE JAY NABHOLZ FARM, two and a half miles north of Shellsburg, was two and a half acres of sand. Today, as a result of putting a soil conservation plan into practice, the sand knoll, with a blowout on top, is covered with a dense growth of 2,500 black locust and oak trees. Rapid runoff and wind erosion have been stopped, and a good wildlife refuge has been provided. Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady is shown measuring one of the many locusts in the area that have shot up ten feet in two years. He said it was one of the most amazing transformations he had ever seen. Since the first of the year, the trees, which were planted as foot-high seedlings, have grown about two feet. The place was once heavily populated by oaks and other trees. In fact, as a boy Nabholz helped cut timber there. The refuge is known in the Shellsburg area as an old Indian camp. Flint arrow heads are still found in the sand from time to time. Heady said the project was a good example of what other Benton farmers could do with sand blowouts that are causing them trouble.

St. Marys
Vinton, Iowa

Mr Heady: —

Iratifed to you for your letter some time ago —
Very useful & am sure some of the "members of
the cloth" found it most ~~beneficial~~ beneficial —

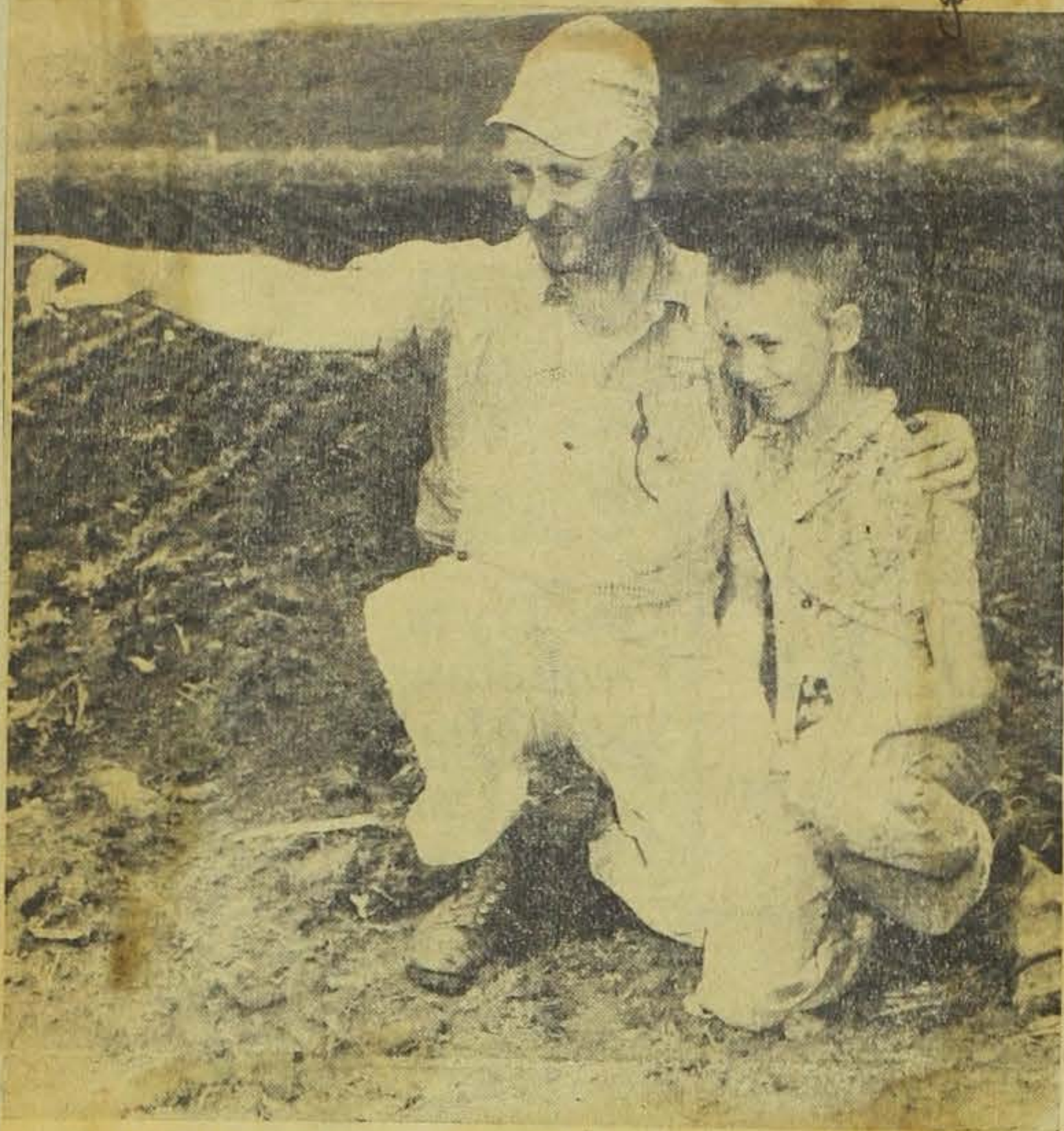
I am inclosing an article from the Sun Herald —
Kansas City — that I thought very interesting —

I thought you could send a copy (mines) to each member
of the ministry in Benton Co and they could find it
useful in a sermon to their people. (Just a suggestion.)
I would be willing to defray the ex penses of this.

Kindest personal regards & best wishes — would you
mind mailing this clippin back to me, thanks —

Rev. A. L. Zachman

Conserve Soil for Future Generations ⁵⁴



GOOD SOIL for future generations is an important aim in the farming operations at the Gilbert Gluesing farm south of Newhall on U. S. highway 30. Gluesing points to one of the conservation practices which is building up the soil on the 160-acre Gluesing farm. His 10-year-old son Ronnie, who wants to be a farmer, looks on.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

NEWHALL — In the 20 years Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Gluesing have been on their Newhall farm they have seen top soil carried off of hills, and other parts of their 160 acres deteriorate.

Three years ago Gluesing acted. He visited the Benton conservation office and told Conservationist Glenn Heady he wanted to begin soil building practices on his farm. Gluesing wanted to "grab this old farm by the bootstraps and pull her right up again."

Now Gluesing is a firm believer in soil conservation and is considered one of the conservation leaders in his community.

In Gluesing's own words: "After three years of conservation farming I am convinced it is profitable and is the thing for all Benton county farmers to do. I have seen my farm's fertility drop in the last 20 years and I am now seeing it improve through conservation."

Basic Motives

Gluesing says the two basic motives behind his conservation enthusiasm are: to conserve the soil for future generations and to increase the production of his farm. He is convinced he is accomplishing both.

Farmers have to "keep this soil on top of the hills for future generations" the Newhall farmer states.

He has learned that conservation farming "holds moisture and keeps the top soil where it is supposed to be."

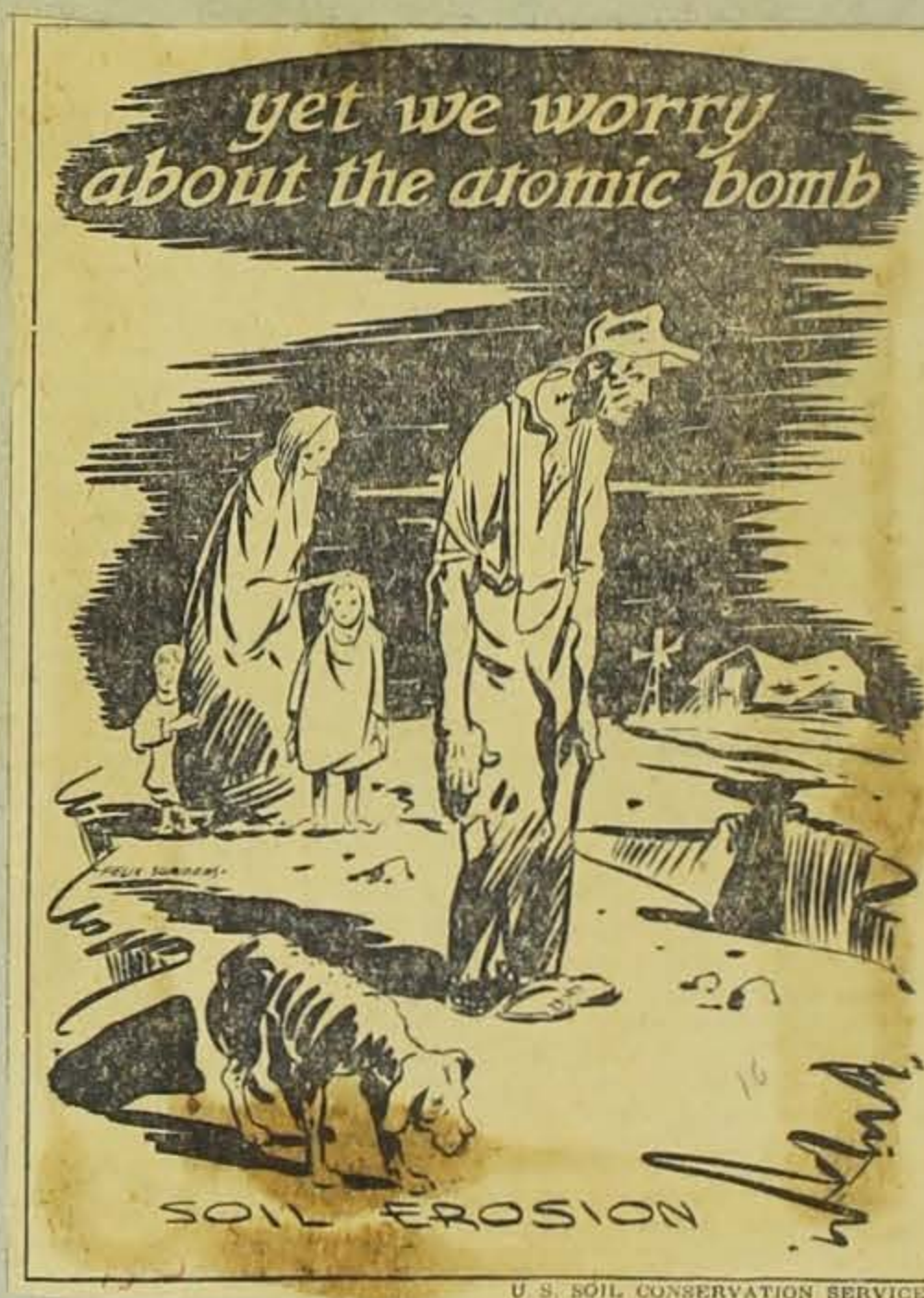
Gluesing says he has already seen benefits from his three years in soil saving work and "next year will be more noticeable still."

During the last three years Gluesing's conservation projects have included: tiling, pasture renovation, waterway construction, strip cropping, and he is on a soil saving rotation farm plan. Next year he plans to begin terracing.

Benton conservation officials credit Gluesing with showing and convincing neighbors that conservation practices pay.

Some farmers, like Gilbert Gluesing of Newhall, are building up their soil, while other farmers are watching their soil deteriorate.

This week is national soil conservation week—a good time to fire about becoming a soil conservation farmer. Mr. Gluesing



Let's¹³ Look Ahead



what'll be left when the boy takes over?

Will your boy take over the farm in better shape than when you started farming it? Or will it be worn out? Our country needs production at high levels today and none of us knows how long our security needs will demand continuous high production. But we do know that keeping soils productive is important—both to meet our country's needs and to leave our youth the best we can for their security and happiness.

Producing at high levels today and still protecting the soil for future high production is no idle theory. It can be done—by conservation farming.

There's some confusion about what conservation farming means. But this is what it really is—it's using the land in such a way that people will enjoy continuous and plentiful supplies of food, fiber and services which come from the land.

Soil conserving practices lead to high production and high efficiency today—and they protect the future, too. Check the list of practices that experience has shown protect the soil. Every one is a key to good farming today—even if you give no thought to tomorrow:

- Grow legumes and grasses in your rotation and put crop residues and manure back on the land to maintain fertility and organic matter.
- Test your soils to learn what elements they need: lime acid soils so they will grow good legume crops and apply commercial fertilizer where needed.
- Improve drainage and use good tillage practices.
- Guard against soil-wasting erosion on your land.

This Message Sponsored By

VINTON LUMBER COMPANY
VINTON FARMERS SUPPLY CO.
WESTERN AUTO ASSOCIATE STORE
ELLIS-McDOWELL LUMBER CO.
THOMPSON FEED STORE
VINTON LIME & ROCK
FARMER'S SALES & SERVICE
STEPHEN'S IMPLEMENT CO.
McVEY FEED STORE

ROTHS IMPLEMENT CO.
FARMERS' GRAIN & COOP. CO.
MEYER TRACTOR
BENDULL & SONS
BENTON COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP. ASSN.
PETERSON-HUSTON LUMBER CO.
DAVIS IMPLEMENT CO.
ALCORN FARMER FARM SUPPLY CO.
R. W. HALL CONSTRUCTION CO.

June 13 Through 20 Is Soil Conservation Week

Iowa Needs More Terracing



The federal agricultural conservation program (ACP) provides for payments of two cents a foot for approved terracing. Willrich says that if a farmer does his own terracing work, either with his own or rented equipment, this federal payment will usually pay most of his terracing expense. It will pay about half the usual cost of having the terracing done by a contractor.

The typical approved terrace protects 10 to 20 acres for each mile of terrace. Willrich points out. Since contractors average about \$200 per mile as their charge for terracing, and the federal government will pay about \$100 of this, the cooperating farmer will have to invest only \$5 to \$10 an acre for his terracing job.

The map above, besides showing the number of miles of terrace completed, indicates terracing needs for various areas. The north central area consists mostly of flat country. Diversion terraces are needed to protect bottom lands from surface run-off from the hills. Terracing needs yet to be met in this area amount to less than 1,000 miles per county.

Central Area

In the egg-shaped east central area more than 5,000 more miles of terrace are needed in each county. Willrich says terraces are needed not only on steep slopes to this area for two reasons: 1. In general the slopes are longer and more uniform than in southern and eastern Iowa. Terraces are needed not only on steep slopes but also on the longer slopes to break up the length and reduce the speed of run-off water. 2. A major portion of this area is in the Tama-Muscatine soil area where level terraces can be used successfully. Level terraces may be used where the soil is permeable enough to permit water impounded by the terraces to seep into the soil. The terrace therefore needs no natural or con-

structed outlet, and is easier to build than a graded terrace.

The map above shows the number of miles of farm terraces completed in each county up to June 30, 1953. The state total at that time was 15,628 miles of completed farm terraces. This is between 3 and 3 1/2 percent of the number of miles of terrace estimated as the state's total need.

Iowa has barely begun to meet its needs for farm land terraces, according to T. L. Willrich, extension agricultural engineer at Iowa State college.

The numbers on the map above show the number of miles of terraces which had been constructed on farms in each county up to June 30, 1953. The shading indicates additional needs per county in different areas.

New emphasis is placed on permanent conservation practices by the federal government in its conservation payments to farmers. This points to an annual opportunity for increased terrace construction this year, Willrich says.

6 CEDAR VALLEY DAILY TIMES, June 19, 1954

Conservation Helps Owner & Tenant



FARM MANAGER Clyde St. Clair, left, and tenant Leland Goodell look over a lush crop of oats on land being rebuilt through soil conservation practices.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Conservation farming is profitable for owner and tenant alike, according to tenant Leland Goodell and Clyde St. Clair, who manages a 184-acre farm for his mother, Mrs. Jess St. Clair, near Vinton.

St. Clair began soil conservation on the farm two and a half miles west of Vinton in 1950 because of low fertility and erosion on the place.

Four years ago the farm had 143 acres of cropland and now has 168 acres of tillable land.

Before conservation practices were installed the St. Clair place was a grain farm, and by 1950 production had dropped to the 25-bushel of corn per acre stage, according to Conservation aide Lloyd Welch.

In 1950 it took about three acres of pasture to carry one head of cattle. Now the ratio is three head per acre and still rising.

Goodell Convinced

Tenant Goodell is beginning his third year on the farm. Speaking of conservation, Goodell, who was born and reared on a farm, says, "A conservation program is profitable to the renter as well as the owner."

"It shows the owner is really interested in his farm. Having seen this farm before it was in a conservation program and with the improvements we have made and will make, I am convinced this farm will be a profitable producer."

"After being on a farm for four years where no improvements of the soil had been made, I can certainly appreciate a farm that is in a conservation program."

Goodell is farming on a 50-50 gain, livestock rent basis.

The farm's conservation plan includes a well-balanced livestock program. Since 1950 the following practices have been used on the place: tiling, pasture renovation, waterway construction, re-establishing field boundaries, terracing and a rotation of corn, corn, oats, meadow and meadow.

Guardian of the Soil

St. Clair says of his soil conservation experience:

"My opinion formed by my few years of farm management is that conservation of the soil is a must, and that every person who owns or leases land should feel that he or she is the guardian of the soil and should see that they do everything in their power to properly maintain and improve this fine land of ours."

"Proper use of soil conservation practices such as rotation of crops, watershed control, strip cropping, contour plowing and cultivation, tiling and building of waterways, terracing where and if necessary, are needed. Along with this goes soil testing, the proper use of commercial fertilizer and fertilizer produced on the farm."

"A well balanced plan of stock raising can develop as a result of all of the other practices to complete the package of a balanced long-range conservation plan. Results show that the more tilt and fertility that build up in the soil the more benefits will be reaped."

"Sure, it takes time and money for conservation practices, but can you think of a better plan than improving the investment that you have, and in turn receiving a better return from your investment. It pays, rather than costs."

"This can all be managed on a long term plan with the help of soil conservation service."

WE CONQUERED THE WILDERNESS.



...OR DID WE?



U. S. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Benton County Gets Second Place For Conservation Work

The Benton county Soils Conservation district has won second place and a bronze plaque in the south Iowa division of a national soil conservation awards program sponsored by the Goodyear Tire and Rubber company.

Members of the governing body of the Benton county association which has been so honored, are Henry Grunewald, Jr., chairman, of Blairstown; Glenn Christy of Garrison and Harry T. Horak of Vinton.

S. Earl Wallace of Vinton was named the outstanding farmer-cooperator in the Benton district.

Projects included in the judging were for the year 1953-54.

3 Benton Farms in Conservation Contest

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

The Benton county soil conservation district commissioners, a representative of both the Izaak Walton league and Benton county Fish and Game club, have selected three Benton conservation farmers to be entered in a state conservation achievement contest.

Benton entries are: Kenneth Ferguson, north of Urbana; Harold Wingert, southwest of La Porte City; and Jesse Mapes, of between Luzerne and Belle Plaine.

These three farms will be judged at a later date by regional judges, including an area conservationist, extension director, state soil conservation committee member and the regional director of the Iowa association of soil conservation district commissioners.

Regional winners will be determined by Sept. 15. State and regional awards will be made at a banquet sometime in November. The contest is sponsored by the Des Moines Register. 8-10-54

3 Benton Farms In R & T Contest

Winners Will be Named Sept. 15.

The Benton county soil conservation district commissioners, a representative of both the Izaak Walton league and Benton County Fish & Game club, have selected three conservation farmers to be entered in the Register and Tribune contest for this year. They are: Kenneth Ferguson, who farms north of Urbana; Harold Wingert, who farms southwest of La Porte City; and Jesse Mapes, who farms between Luzerne and Belle Plaine.

These three farms will be judged at a later date by regional judges, including an area conservationist, extension director, state soil conservation committee member, and the regional director of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation district commissioners.

Regional winners will be determined by Sept. 15. State and regional awards will be made at a banquet, courtesy of the Des Moines Register and Iowa Farm and Home Register, during November, 1954.

The Belle Plaine Union

Section 2-8 Pages Wednesday, September 15, 1954

Henry Grunewald, Jr., Blairstown Named Outstanding Commissioner

BLAIRSTOWN — Henry Grunewald, Jr., chairman of the Benton county district soil conservation commission, won first place in district 8 as the outstanding commissioner for 1954. This annual contest is sponsored by the Council Bluffs Nonpareil in cooperation with the Iowa association of soil conservation district commissioners and the state soil conservation committee.

Awards will be presented at the annual commissioned conference at Council Bluffs, Sept. 14. The meeting will be from Sept. 12 to 14.

Mr. Grunewald farms 1,400 acres with a brother and their father. All acreage is operated under a farm plan with cropland over 2 per cent slope contoured, terraced



Henry Grunewald, Jr.

or strip-cropped. There are no grains or roughage sold from the farm. All that is produced plus additional grain is consumed on the land. One of the farms has been operated on a contour basis for almost 15 years. At present, there are about two miles of terracing and more is in the offing. A farm pond has been constructed.

The Grunewald farm operation is under a land use study by Iowa state college. The Grunewalds have been hosts to a state-wide farm tour on the use of rough land in pasture improvement, terracing and tiller planting demonstrations and a field day on methods of making and storing roughage.

Activities

Mr. Grunewald was a group leader before being elected a commissioner, a position he has filled for five years. He is currently serving as chairman. Other activities include membership in the Farm Bureau and county treasurer of that organization; he is Farm Bureau township chairman; he is a member of the Blairstown Lions club, Masonic order, chairman of the Cedar Valley farm business association, a member of its board, a Legionnaire, graduate of Iowa State college.

Conservation Award for H. Grunewald

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Henry Grunewald Jr. of Blairstown has been named as the outstanding soil conservation commissioner in region 8, it was announced today.

Iowa is divided into nine regions and the outstanding commissioner named in each of the regions will compete for the state's outstanding commissioner award at Council Bluffs Sept. 14th.

The contest is sponsored by the Council Bluffs Nonpareil in cooperation with the Iowa association of soil conservation district commissioners and the state soil conservation committee.

Grunewald farms about 1,400 acres with a brother and his father. All acres are under a farm plan. All cropland with over two percent slope is contoured, terraced or strip-cropped.

Grunewald was a group leader before being elected a commissioner. He has been a Benton commissioner five years and chairman one. He has participated in terracing and tiller planting demonstrations and a field day on methods of making and storing roughage.

The Blairstown farmer has been on Farm Bureau crops and soils committees twice. He assisted in a state contouring plowing match.

He is county treasurer of the Benton Farm Bureau and township chairman of Farm Bureau, member of Blairstown Lions club, Masonic order, chairman of Cedar Valley farm business association, member American Legion. Grunewald is an Iowa State college graduate. He is married and has two daughters.

In the Grunewalds' farming operations no grains or roughage are sold. All are consumed and additional quantities purchased and fed. They have contoured on one farm for almost 15 years. At the present, their farm setup includes about two miles of terrace and intend to apply more. Grunewald farm has a farm pond.

KEYSTONE TRIP 10-6-54

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

The 6th, 7th and 8th grades of the Keystone consolidated school went on an all-day conservation tour recently.

Glenn Heady, work unit conservationist for Benton county, headed the tour. The first stop was at the Carolyn Mussman farm near Luzerne where terraces recently completed by plowing were observed. More than 7,000 feet of terraces had been made on this farm.

Second stop showed soil erosion taking place on a field that should have been terraced.

The next stop was at the George Backes farm where an example of contour field boundaries was witnessed. Next the Jesse Mapes farm was visited. It has older terraces in hayfields and cornfields.

The Dora Sheetz place was next on the list. It is tenanted by Max Miller. Here a farm pond site recently constructed was examined. It has an area of a third of an acre and will be 10 feet deep.

Heady explained what is meant by three horizons while the group stopped along a road atop a hill where a deep cut had been made. The three horizons are topsoil, subsoil and parent material or bedrock.

At the Elmer Janes farm a wildlife area was examined. It had been planted four years ago.

The next stop was Belle Plaine where pictures were taken. Then they went to the John Shields pond where a picnic lunch was enjoyed. Herman Stettler, Belle Plaine dog trainer, entertained during the noon hour.

On returning to Keystone the group stopped at the Nell Tatge farm, tenanted by Bob Allers. Here another wildlife area was observed. It has been in use for 14 years.

A crew of corn sorters were working at this place. The group returned to Keystone about three o'clock.

Glenn Heady Directs Conservation Tour of Keystone School 10-6-54

Wednesday, Sept. 15, the sixth, seventh and eighth grades of the Keystone consolidated school enjoyed an all day conservation tour. Glenn Heady, work unit conservationist, was in charge of the tour.

Our first stop was at the

Sheetz farm, tenanted by Max Miller, where a new farm pond has just been constructed. It has an area of one-third acre and will be 10 feet deep.

Stopping along the road on the top of a hill, where a deep cut had been made, Mr. Heady explained what is meant by the three horizons, (top soil, sub soil and parent material or bedrock). At the Elmer Janes farm we observed a wild life area which had been planted about four years ago.

We stopped in Belle Plaine where we had our pictures taken

Carroll Mussman farm near Luzerne where we observed terraces that had just been completed by plowing. Over 7,000 feet of terraces have been built on this farm. Next, we visited a place showing the erosion taking place in a field that should have been terraced.

Stopping at the George Backes farm, we saw an example of contour field boundaries. From here to the Jesse Mapes farm which has older terraces in the hayfields and cornfields.

Our next stop was at the Dora

by a UNION photographer and then out to the John Schild pond where we had a picnic lunch. During the noon hour we were entertained by Herman Stettler of Belle Plaine and his dogs.

Enroute home we stopped at the Nell Tatge farm which is being farmed by Bob Allers, where we observed a wild life area which has been in use about 14 years. A crew of corn sorters were working here we arrived home about 3:10 p.m., tired but happy about our day's trip.

CONSERVATION TOUR 10-6-54

Keystone students in grades 6, 7, and 8 Wednesday went on an all-day tour of Benton county conservation projects. The students were taken in two buses, driven by Darold Peterbach and Carlos Schenken and were accompanied by the Benton county conservation officer and by teachers Hattie Ackermann, Ellogene Dunning and James Dunsmore.



KEYSTONE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS sixth, seventh and eighth grades went on a conservation tour all day Wednesday, Sept. 22. Two busloads of students toured Benton

county conservation projects. They picniced at Schild's pond and watched Herman Stettler and his dogs.

Dear Sirs:

I am writing on behalf of the Keystone Junior High and the sixth grade. We wish to thank you for planning our field trip and for sending Mr. Glenn Heady as our guide. I will write out adventure in story form.

On September 22, sixty six happy youths boarded two of the largest busses on our bus route. The junior high on one bus and the sixth grade on another. At 9:00 we pulled away from the school house ready for the day's coming adventure.

The first stop was at a farm. Here we saw how terraces were formed and how the farm them. As soon as every-one back on the bus we started out again.

The next place of interest was a plowed field. Here we saw examples of soil erosion and sub soil. It was on top of a hill. From the hill top we saw strip farming.

On the next stop we saw some terraces that were just about to be harvested. This

High Award For Benton's Ken Kramer

10-9-54



KENNETH KRAMER

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Benton county extension director Kenneth Kramer will be honored Thursday night in Salt Lake City, Utah, for his service as a county extension worker in Iowa.

He will be one of three Iowa county extension directors who will receive the Distinguished Service Award of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents at the organization's annual meeting. The award recognizes both the outstanding educational work accomplished by the county extension director and his continued study of specific agricultural subjects to improve his ability to do the job of a county extension director.

Kramer, who has been Benton county extension director for more than 7 years, was born at Waterloo and was graduated from Iowa State college. He farmed for 3 years and entered county extension work as a youth assistant in Franklin county in 1940. In 1942 he was appointed as county extension director in O'Brien county. Kramer returned to O'Brien county after 3 years of military service and served as county extension director there until he transferred to Benton county in 1947.

Active Programs

As county extension director, Kramer has conducted active programs in many fields of agriculture. He helped organize the O'Brien county Soil Conservation District when he was in that county and has worked closely with the Benton county district. In each county in which he has worked the 4-H membership has increased. He has promoted feeder projects for older 4-H members and now holds a separate fall marketing day show for these members with feeder projects.

Kramer has stressed soil testing for fertilizer recommendations for farmers in Benton county. Through his efforts with demonstrations and other educational work, most of the soil samples tested for Benton county farmers are taken by the farmers themselves, because Kramer has conducted effective educational programs to train farmers to do their own soil sampling.

Livestock Associations

Active programs of education on livestock are carried out by associations of swine, beef and sheep producers which Kramer helped organize and assists in planning and carrying out their own programs.

Kramer developed one of the first forage demonstration field days held in Iowa, in which all methods of harvesting and storing forages were demonstrated and discussed.

In recommending Kramer for the distinguished service award, state extension administrators said, "There is, perhaps, no busier county extension worker in Iowa than Kenneth Kramer. He has the ability to get along with the people of the county who continue to give him enthusiastic support for all the activities that make up one of the busiest county extension programs."

6 CEDAR VALLEY DAIL

RECORD YEAR FOR TERRACING

Benton Soil Savers Set High 1955 Goal

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Benton county's soil conservation district which was rated second best in the north half of Iowa this year gained a total of 50 new miles of farm terracing in 1954, according to Conservationist Glenn Head.

This is an all-time record terracing production for Benton county. However, Benton conservation officials have set a goal of 100 miles of new terracing for 1955.

Prior to 1954, the record year for new terracing construction was 42 miles established in 1948.

Benton placed second in the 1953-54 year on the basis of a well-balanced program. Judging for the contest, sponsored annually by the Goodyear Tire Co., is based on: 1, educational development; 2, general managing of district by governing body; 3, number of farm plans written; 4, number of active cooperators; 5, leadership by district commission group.

Benton county also placed second in the 1950-51 conservation achievement contest.

Benton district soil conservation commissioners include: Chairman Henry Grunewald Jr., Blairstown; Glenn Christy, Garrison; Harry Horak, Vinton. Assistant commissioners are: Lyle Olson, Atkins; Ken Ferguson, Walker; Stewart Gulick, Garrison. Ken Kramer is secretary for the commissioners and Mrs. Kenneth Shirley is treasurer.

8** THE CEDAR RAPIDS GAZETTE: Sun., Dec. 5, 1954



—Gazette Photo.

WINTERTIME TERRACING — In spite of last week's show, these two patrols (graders), owned by Richard Hall of Vinton, in one day built a mile of parallel terraces on the John Anderson and Son farm southeast of Newhall. The 25-foot wide standard graded terraces have a 15-inch channel and are built to accommodate four-row machinery. They lie at 100-foot intervals in the 20-acre field. Lloyd Welch, of the Benton county soil conservation office, said 62 miles of terraces have been built in the county this year and 12 more miles are scheduled to be completed. Terracing is being encouraged in the Benton county Agriculture Conservation Program, Welch said.

The Belle Plaine (Iowa) Union, Dec. 15, 1954

Ponds Fit Into Soil Conservation Program

Plan Movement To Conserve Soil

Farm Manager Earl Comer Outlines Ultimate Goals

A long range farm improvement and conservation program is beginning to shed light on the Mrs. Dora Scheetz farm located midway between Luzerne and Blairstown. Improvements have been made over a period of several years now, according to Farm Manager Earl Comer, but it hasn't really been until recent months for said innovations to stand out.

Unique feature of the 350-acre farm is the fact that the home and buildings are situated in almost the exact center of the rolling land. This is a definite advantage to Max Miller, the farm tenant. "This is a time-saver for us as we plan to expand our hog program to 500 animals per year

within the next 12-month period. Also we raise 60 to 75 feeder calves per year," Miller added.

Last summer Mr. Comer contracted John Myers, who lives near Blairstown, to erect a farm pond to hold water from a 12½ acre watershed. All work was done with a blade including digging the hole for the carry-off pipe and overflow.

All surveying was done by John Franklin, Belle Plaine.

160,000 Gallon Pond

This pond has a capacity of 160,000 gallons, or enough water for 40 head of cattle for a year. Location of the stock tank fed by the pond makes it accessible to livestock from two fields during the summer grazing months. All water from the pond is filtered.

With this arrangement the cattle can be switched from one pasture to the other.

Just recently completed was pond No. 2 with a capacity of 160,000 cubic feet of water. Water from approximately 20 acres will fill this pond. It is triangular in shape and measures 250

feet across the top of the dam. When filled, Mr. Comer figures

the water line will extend about 150 feet from the center of the dam.

The larger dam was constructed by Andy Wilson, Belle Plaine contractor. Because of the nature of this dam, Mr. Wilson used a considerable amount of dirt moving equipment.

Work was just completed on a project to remove dirt from atop one hill to fill in low places near the barnyard.

Gained Four Acres

Just after the turn of the century a road from the gravel road south of the farm to the buildings was used. It was disbanded in 1915 for a better all-weather road over the crests of several hills. In the meantime underbrush filled in the old roadbed.

This area was recently cleared, turning about four acres of land back into cultivation.

The ponds, according to Mr. Comer, are only two improvements he intends to make towards the national movement of soil conservation. Already he has a crop rotation program in existence. He has been planting crops on the contour and next he plans to expand his conservation methods to strip cropping and installing grass waterways.

"The soil must be maintained or improved," Mr. Comer says, "and sound conservation practices, plus liberal usage of commercial fertilizers are necessary in today's operations."



EARL COMER estimates this pond will furnish enough water for 40 head of cattle for a year. It has a capacity of 160,000 gallons. There is a filter in the center

with a pipe leading to a stock tank to two other fields. This was the first pond built on the Mrs. Dora Scheetz farm midway between Luzerne and Blairstown.



WATER WILL FILL THE AREA where these men, Earl Comer and Max Miller, are now working. Picture was taken at the Mrs. Dora Scheetz farm located between Luzerne and Blairstown. The men are making final adjustments on a pipe which will be surrounded by a filter. It is the plan to stock two ponds on the farm with game fish.

Soil Conservation Demonstration at Buch Farm Monday

Farmers and others of this community who are learning the facts about soil conservation and the latest practices that have been found effective in the program, are invited to a demonstration next Monday, April 5, at the Robert Buch farm, north of Belle Plaine. The demonstrations will be conducted by Glenn Heady of the Soils Conservation Service and is scheduled to start at 2:00 o'clock.

At the demonstrations Mr. Heady and his assistant, Mr. Kenneth Glass will demonstrate the running of contouring lines, strip cropping, grass ways, terracing, etc. These men will be assisted by Calvin Fuller, local S. C. C. leader.

According to Mr. Heady, he and Glass expect to spend most of the next two weeks in this vicinity modernizing or aiding the farmers of the community in the work. Some of the places already scheduled to be worked on are Dr. Don H. Newland's place, the John Tatge farm, John Schild's farm, the Dick Schild farm, the Kozik Bros. farm and the Robert Buch farm.

That evening the two S. C. S. men will provide the program at the meeting of the Belle Plaine Lions club.

SOIL PLANNERS KEEPING BUSY

Farmers Organizing to Preserve Land.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

These are busy days for Glenn Heady, Benton county soil conservationist, and his new assistant, Paul Murphy of Madison, Wis., a University of Wisconsin graduate.

Today Heady and Murphy are planning the Ray and Jay Nabholz farm of 320 acres four miles north of Shellsburg. Other farms to be planned this week include the Louis Coberly place of 300 acres in Benton township, and the Frank Hatfield 200-acre farm in Canton township.

Recently two new soil conservation work groups have been formed in the Vinton area—one two miles south of Vinton and the other three miles west of town. There are ten farms in each group.

Heady reported an increasing demand for running contour lines.

Next week the soil conservationists will hold demonstrations on the Woodrow and Jerry Merchant farms in Big Grove township. On Monday a demonstration will be held on the John Losenicky farm seven miles west of Vinton.

REGIONAL SOIL MAN IN VINTON

Musser Approves Work Done by Commission.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

One of the nation's biggest men in U. S. soil conservation service dropped on the county headquarters at the courthouse here yesterday afternoon to express to Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady his approval of the program being implemented in the Cedar Valley by Benton farmers.

He was R. H. Musser of Milwaukee, head of the regional office of the U. S. conservation service and in charge of soil-saving activities in the state of Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio and Missouri. Accompanying him was Frank Mendell, state director of the conservation service.

Musser and Mendell spent two hours reviewing the progress of Benton farmers in fighting erosion. Musser expressed keen interest in the efficient work of the Benton County Soil Conservation District commission, and told Heady the group was following to the letter the program as it was laid out.

Today Benton's commissioners were in Cedar Rapids attending a four-county soil-saving symposium. Herman Franzenburg of Keokuk, chairman of the commission, was leading one panel discussion. Arvid Shogren of Urbana was serving on another panel.

ACRES OF TREES TO BE PLANTED

By GLENN HEADY
Soil Conservationist
BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Evidence of the large numbers of trees to be planted this spring for erosion control, wildlife refuges and water conservation in Benton county was emphasized in a survey made this week by mail by Herman Franzenburg of Keokuk, chairman of the county soil conservation commission. Up to today 100 per cent of the postal cards returned stated that farmers wished to make tree plantings this spring.

Seedling trees available for plantings for the above mentioned purposes are provided at a very nominal fee through the state conservation commission in cooperation with the U. S. Forestry Service. Orders must be made for not less than 250 trees of any kind.

Benton county has some excellent examples of the rapid growth of erosion control and wildlife plantings in areas established on the Jay Nabholz farm near Shellsburg, the Sam Tow place near Norway and the farms near Belle Plaine of Lewis Raabe, John Tatge and Robert Allers. In less than ten years growths of some species of trees on these farms have attained as much as 20 feet, and the shrubs in the wildlife plantings have been producing berries for game fowl from the first two or three years of planting.

One of the very finest examples of survival of woodlot plantings of the last season is on the Arthur Dill farm west of Vinton where a near 100 per cent survival may be found. Sixty to eighty per cent survival was most common last year.

With the Benton County Fish & Game club offering to compensate farmers partially on the cost of fencing off their tree plantings and with the low cost of seedling trees, every farmer should be well repaid for his efforts to make a woodlot wildlife or gully control planting this spring.

SCS Program At Rotary Club Tuesday Noon

Glenn Heady, Soils Conservation Service officer of Benton County was guest speaker at the Belle Plaine Rotary Club Tuesday and by means of an illustrated lecture, gave the soil conservation movement another boost.

Mr. Heady in his talk showed with colored pictures how the program not only calls for holding the soil to the acres by such things as strip cropping, contouring and terracing, but had pictures to show how certain varieties of grasses are better than others in holding the soil in place to prevent erosion. He also strongly advocated building up pastures by grasses other than blue grass, as being better forage than blue grass from the standpoint of putting weight on cattle and hogs and cited figures of several successful hogs and cattle men that seemed to bear this theory out. The theory of this program seems to be by building up the soil grasses can be grown that make forage, improve the land, and at the same time build up the soil so that more corn can be grown per acre and less corn fed to animals. One such farmer, he said, here in Benton county has 50 percent of his land in grass and pasture and 50 percent in grain crops and the plan is proving highly successful.

Guests Tuesday included: Dick McAlpine, guest of Paul Groszkruger; Norman Grimm, guest of R. O. Burrows; John Sandercock, guest of Walter McCrory; and Rotarians C. C. Bellamy, W. H. Reier and R. H. Bush of Marengo.

Rotarian Frank Ralston generously passed out the cigars to the Rotarians and guests in celebration of the birth of a new son, Steven Ray, born Sunday at Iowa City.

First of the trees being planted in Benton County this year arrived this week. Most of the hundreds ordered will be in farmers' hands within the next ten days or fortnight. Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady pointed out that most of the trees planted will survive, but care must be taken with them at first.

Tree mortality is greatest from the time they leave the nursery, until they are set out. To insure as near 100 per cent success as possible, the trees should be planted immediately upon receipt. If this is impossible, farmers should make sure to prevent the drying out of the material in which the roots are packed, and to avoid the danger from the excessive heat being generated by the damp material to destroy the plants.

Best procedure, if you can't plant immediately, is to place the trees in a dark place in a bucket or tub of water. Then the roots can neither dry out nor heat. Planting upon receipt, however, is the best thing to do.

Conservation operations were going on this week at the Kenneth Kundall farm at Blairtown and on the Walter Boehmke, Kozik Bros. and William Craig places in the Belle Plaine area, among others.

Brome Grass Replacing Timothy Seed in County For Pastures and Forage

By GLENN HEADY
U. S. Soil Conservationist
BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Many Benton county farmers are now in the process of getting their seed ordered for their pastures and forages to be planted this spring. For seedlings that will remain more than one year after the oats crop is taken off, brome grass is replacing the timothy seed almost 100 per cent this year, and with alfalfa seed at the same or below the cost of red clover, it is also being purchased in much greater quantities than previously.

Guided by great amounts of literature in the past two years on the purchase of adapted strains of brome grass, many men now after the seed specify either Lincoln or Fischer seed. Three farmers in Benton produced these strains for commercial sale this past year, and several others are coming into production this year. This will eventually mean that

fewer northern strains will be brought in. They are inferior in yield and often result in poor stands.

Francis Reiss of Vinton produced certified Lincoln strain last year, while Paul Raabe and Elmer Schild of Belle Plaine both produced Fischer seed.

A number of additional fields of Lincoln brome will come into production in 1948 with Louis Coberly of Shellsburg having one of the largest acreages in the county ready for a seed crop. A number of others will have small fields of from four to 10 acres coming in this year.

Summaries of 11 trials with brome varieties in various places in Iowa as conducted by Iowa State college have shown that Lincoln, Fischer and Achenbach (a Kansas strain) produced 21 per cent more forage than strains of western Iowa, Canadian and northern commercial seed.

Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady says, humorously, that there is a farmer named O. U. Gullyjumper who wants 160 acres to rent. Glenn said the man has worn out two farms since 1929, so he is "well experienced," and that his present landlord is dissatisfied.

Bad Erosion Suffered in Heavy Rains

By BERT KRUSE
BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Bad erosion on fall-plowed grounds resulted throughout Benton county from last night's heavy downpours. Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady pointed out today,

"From observations this past week on cultivated fields over Benton county," he said today, "it was determined that the erosion from the three rains of this month, together with the snow, have caused an amount of erosion on fall-plowed and on corn and 'bean ground equal to that of last June."

Heavy Sheet Erosion

"Farmers are again out repairing gullies that have cut deep in the fields and the fences that have been torn out by deep water and trash following through them. Little do they notice the terrific amount of sheet erosion that is occurring on their fall plowing and on the corn and 'bean ground. However, to the men who care, they are speaking of how they notice the sheet erosion is beginning right up near the very top of their slopes and carrying even greater loads of silt as the water concentrates as it travels down the slopes.

"Many people," Heady continued,

Bad Erosion Suffered in Heavy Rains

(Continued from Page 1)

"are awed at the gullies being cut and at how much damage is occurring along fenceways, roads and gullies, but little do they think of what will be eventual results by constantly letting their productive topsoil get away from them through sheet erosion.

Farms Ruined

"Those who don't think it could happen at home should travel through some of the highly eroded areas in southern Iowa, Illinois and Ohio. Possibly a trip over Benton county wouldn't be too far to travel to see some of the same sights where sheet erosion, along with the lesser evil of gully erosion, has rendered a farm unproductive to the stage of abandonment, or near this stage.

"Although the present generation farming less sloping land in Benton county will not have to worry greatly about the seriousness of sheet erosion, it is, even now, occurring rapidly on the best farms in the county, and it is possibly the next generation of farmers who will have to bemoan the short-sightedness of their predecessors who let the land wash down the creek. Between 20 and 30 farms in Eden

20,000 ACRES BENTON LANDS UNDER CONTOUR

Also New Terracing and Stripcropping Taking Hold in County.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

As contour demonstrations for next week were announced today by Glenn Heady, soil conservationist, it was disclosed that approximately 20,000 acres in Benton county will be planted on the contour in 1948 as against some 7,000 last year.

Groups will meet for demonstrations next week as follows and all farmers in the area are cordially invited to attend:

Next Week's Schedule

Monday, April 12, at the Bruce Hannen place in Leroy township.

Tuesday, April 13, Howard Knapp in Eden and Elmer Cook in Taylor.

Wednesday, April 14, Harlan Harper in Harrison, Ralph Little in Benton and Willis Bruce, also Benton.

Thursday, April 15—Glenn Christy in Jackson and Don Showman in Eden.

Saturday, April 17, Vernon Cook in Polk.

Thus far three demonstrations have been held this year in the county. More schedules will be announced later. Some 500 acres of oats are being planted on the contour in the county this spring, the largest acreage in Benton's history.

Terracing Expands

The terracing program in the county is gaining by leaps and bounds. Building terraces for the first time this year are the following farmers: Charles Sauer, Harrison township; Kozik Bros., Iowa; W. I. Maynard, Benton; Harmon, Cropsey, Canton; Robert Allers, Iowa; Charles Neve, Benton and Canton; Earl Wallace, Harrison; Rommann Gardner, Jackson; Carl Lowery, Polk; Daniel Bruch, Taylor; Walter Boehmke, Iowa; Merritt Canady, Eden; Howard Meek, Canton; Oscar Mason, Benton; Louis Coberly, Canton; Robert Daugherty, Taylor; Ralph Little, Benton; and Victor Hanson, Jackson.

New stripcropping programs will be found this year on the farms of the following: Walter Knudson, Benton; John Tatge, Iowa; W. I. Maynard, Benton; Don Schuck, Leroy; Everett Wayman, Kane; Louis Raabe, Iowa; Art Wilson, Jackson; R. Gardner Jackson; C. J. Elwick, Taylor; Dr. Don Newland, Iowa; John Caldwell, Harrison; and Kozik

township, a half a dozen in Kane and a scattering of farms in other townships of lesser slopes are in line for contouring, terracing and stripcropping. These are the men who care about the productivity of the soil for the generations to follow.

More than two inches of rain fell in the Vinton farming area late yesterday.

NE 21-28

Vernor Blue made his the observance of Soil week which approaches ripe time, just when they have ravaged many of our top soil from subsequent rains have

ervation technicians of estimated a loss of slight tons of top soil was from its place on the and alone in the county

r trip over the county specting the good con- being practiced by a rs, district commissioner, Arvid Shogren and nburg, learned from a rs that the soil conser- rning was the only way they were concerned.

on the tour were those chant, Woodrow Mer- chueler, John Strawn, John Losenicky, Burt lyde Merchant.

EXTEND BROME IN THE VALLEY

Important as Rotation
Seeding.

By GLENN F. HEADY
Soil Conservationist
CEDAR VALLEY NEWS

Brome grass with its excellent root system, high quality forage, and high yield make it one of the most important grasses in rotation seedings in the corn belt. The 1946 brome grass seed crop for the United States was only 5½ million pounds as compared with 12 million pounds in 1945. This decrease was due largely to drought conditions that prevailed in the fall of 1943 in the brome grass areas of Nebraska and Kansas. The short crop, together with the increased demand for the southern type bromes made the price of field-run seed out of line. The prospects for a good seed crop in 1947 seem much brighter.

In Iowa we now have a total of 71 soil conservation districts which have undertaken the brome grass seed-increase program, which includes Benton county. Farmers growing 2-acre plots of Lincoln brome seed for seed increase in cooperation with the Benton Soil

Conservation District are Harold Miller, C. J. Elwick, Jay Nabholz, Fred Hensing, Everett Cree, Dick Schild and Robert Beck. The majority of these will come into production in 1948.

42,000 Pounds Harvested.

In a recent survey made throughout the districts we find that a total of over 42,000 lbs. of adapted brome grass seed was harvested during the past four years. Even though this by no means meets the need, it is a commendable record on a crop with which farmers had little or no experience in the production of seed.

A number of farmers who were able to obtain certified Lincoln brome in larger amounts should have a good acreage for seed harvest next year. Certified fields of larger acreages were planted by Arvid Shogren, Louis Coberly, Howard Knupp, Paul Fix, Fred Ricke, Dr. Owen Stookey and George Whipple, Harry Carr and Robert Ullerich. Some of these men, of course, have no intentions of harvesting a seed crop since they have in mind its uses in the beef, hog or dairy production.

Recent experimental data from Ames shows that Lincoln and Fischer brome excel in yield of hay and pasture production of up to 25 per cent more than northern brome strains and up to 15 per cent more than earlier developed strains

of brome. Other advantages of the recently developed strains of brome are in their vigor in starting and heavier production the first year in use.

Seed Crop First

Farmers having established fields of southern type brome grass (Lincoln, Fischer, Achenbach) should harvest a seed crop first and then use such fields for hay and pasture. The brome-legume mixtures should be allowed to grow well into June to observe brome grass head development. If good, a seed crop should be planned. If not, it should be used for hay or pasture.

Frank Mendell, state soil conservationist has said, on the use of brome as a pasture and hay crop, that we will probably not get extensive use of brome grass that is needed until there are more adequate quantities of seed.

Western Iowa now has a large acreage of brome in production and while on a recent trip to Nebraska a precinct assessor stated that every farm he had been on had brome grass pastures.

DIG OUT FIVE CUBS
BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Walford, May 24.—The Frank Schulte farm located one mile south of here recently produced five fox cubs. The young predators-to-be were dug out by Raymond Snell and Franklin Schulte.

Alfalfa Crop Gains on Red Clover Acres

By GLENN F. HEADY

Alfalfa, little known 25 years ago, is now becoming one of our most important legume crops. Although red clover acreage in Benton county still surpasses alfalfa, the latter's popularity has increased—since liming has become an important practice—until now there are fields of alfalfa on around 75% of the farms. At the present rate of increase it is very possible that the alfalfa acreage will even surpass that of red clover within two to four years.

Most of the men now growing alfalfa, can obtain and are growing Cossack, Grimm or one of the common varieties. However, they will undoubtedly be interested in the new varieties that through testing at Ames and other agricultural colleges in cooperation with the U. S. department of agriculture have higher yielding qualities by ten to 25 percent plus disease and winter-kill resistance.

New Varieties Better

The latest results released by Ames show that besides a good increase in yield, the new varieties, Ranger and Bullalo, have a 300 to 400 percent greater survival of stand after a field has been seeded a number of years. After the second year the fields of these new varieties yielded more than twice as much as those of other varieties, although there were not highly significant differences the first two years.

The differences in winter hardiness and disease resistance are probably the most important assets of the new varieties. Several years ago the department of agriculture recognized the need for disease resistant and winter hardy varieties which has brought about this evolution in varieties.

The supply of Ranger alfalfa seed is ample enough so that considerable was released to seed houses in the past year. To the knowledge of the men in our office only one grower in Benton county obtained seed. Around 100,000 pounds of Ranger seed have been harvested each of the past two years, and with the use of D-D-T it is believed that seed increase will mount much more rapidly. It is found that the use of D-D-T makes seed production practical over most parts of Iowa, as well as in the states to the north and west.

FARM POND USES TOLD BY EXPERT

Fishing, Swimming, Fire
Control, Water for
Stock Cited.

By KENNETH GLASS
Conservation Aid

There are various uses for your pond, such as water for stock, irrigation, fire control, fishing, wildlife habitat, swimming or other forms of recreation.

With the pond established it is well to beautify the site by planting shrubs, trees and a good mixture of grasses that grow well in your particular locality. This not only improves the looks of your pond, but also helps to keep silt from washing into it. If this precaution is not taken, over a period of years your area could fill up with silt and you would no longer have a pond. A fence should also be established several rods from the pond edge and dam site. This prevents stock from getting in the area and insures clean water in the pond.

Tank Outside Area.

When using the pond for stock water a tank is placed outside the fenced area, and a stock water pipe leading from the pond insures a constant supply of water. The stock water pipe is established in the pond site at time of construction. A simple homemade filter of gravel or crushed rock is used to insure clear water for the stock.

Ponds are also used for irrigation purposes, but obviously would not be necessary in this country. However the water could be diverted into open ditches and muskrat farming carried on if you were interested in that line. Having a farm pond also provides you with a ready supply of water in case of fire. Another possible use is water for orchard spraying.

Many ponds provide good swimming. As discussed previously a stock water filter pipe extends to the surface of the water in the deepest part of the pond. This could serve as a guide to the swimmers showing the deep part and also be used as a safety marker. It is not advisable to build a support for a spring board into the dam as it might weaken the structure. A support might well be anchored to the floor of the pond at time of construction or a diver-raft anchored in the center of the pond after completion.

Provide Food and Fun.

Clear water ponds stocked with fish provide both fun and food. As a general rule 150 pounds of fish can be harvested per acre of surface area from your pond. Fish for stocking your pond may be obtained from state and federal hatcheries. It is important to obtain the proper amount and ratio of fish in stocking the pond. A good combination in this area would be bass and bluegill. For a pond with one acre of surface area 100 bass and 1,000 bluegill would be the proper number.

A pond should be well fertilized to provide sufficient food necessary for the desired size and growth of fish. A well fertilized pond should contain sufficient microscopic plants to make the water so cloudy that the bottom cannot be seen at a depth of 12 inches. If the above test indicates the need for fertilizer, an application of 100 pounds of 6-8-4 (N-P-K) mixed fertilizer plus 10 pounds of nitrate of soda per surface acre is recommended. Fertilizer should be applied as needed, beginning when the water has warmed up in the spring and ending in October. Organic fertilizers like manure or cotton seed meal have tended to produce too large amounts of filamentous algae which interfere with fishing. Therefore they are not recommended.

Fish Hard!

Many persons carry the idea that there are only enough fish in a pond for their own fishing enjoyment. This is a mistaken conception and the first rule of fish pond management is to fish the pond hard. Otherwise there will be too many fish and few of them will ever reach legal size.

PLOWING ON THE CONTOUR IN BIG GROVE



—Daily Times Photo-Engraving

KENNETH FRY, BIG GROVE TOWNSHIP FARMER who is as interested in preserving the fertility of the soil on his 400-acre place as he is in raising bumper crops, is shown contour plowing a rolling, 55-acre field this week. The field was in clover and timothy last year, will this season produce a good percentage of the 70 to 75 acres he will have in corn. The curvaceous cutting up of the soil, in sharp contrast to the old-straight-row operation, will keep Fry's topsoil where it belongs, help Mother Nature grow along her own bent lines, prevent erosion, leave the land as rich, with proper care, as when it was first turned over. His next crop in this plot will be brome alfalfa. Long, curving lines typify many fields in Big Grove where erosion has been a problem for some time. Fry is working with a two-bottom plow. He feeds about 500 hogs and some 300 Herefords, including about 235 steers.

Contouring Saves Bean Land



UNLESS BEANS ARE GROWN ON FLAT LAND or on a very gentle slope, a great amount of top soil is lost by subsequent erosion. Some farmers are almost ready to abandon raising beans all together due to erosion, but when farmed on the contour as seen in the above picture very little soil is lost. It is a very wise practice to contour all beans on land over two percent slope.

PUBLIC PULSE

LIKES FARM PAGE

Seward, Neb.,
May 16, 1947

To the Editor:

I want to congratulate you on the weekly farm page addition to the Times. I enjoy reading it very much and I hope the folks in Benton county appreciate your efforts.

Your articles on soil conservation are all very good, and the problem of getting the farmers to be conservation-minded needs to be put before them every day. Yours for continued success, James Struve.

More Farms Added To Howard Knupp and Harlan Harper Groups

A Soil Conservation interest meeting was held at the Soil Conservation Service office above Knupp's Abstract office Tuesday evening for the men who were unable to attend meetings when held in their neighborhood in February.

At this meeting new applications added to Harlan Harpers group were Robert Kline, Charles Birker, John Remington and Stanley Pauley. New applications to the Howard Knupp group were Walter Geiken, Harold Wallace, Harold Hansen, Paul Fix and John Fix.

Soil Conservation Group Organized

A meeting for the purpose of organizing a new Soil Conservation group was held last Friday night at the Blairtown school building at which time the soil conservation technicians, Glenn Heady and Kenneth Glass, talked to the farmers. The program was discussed in full and colored slides were shown of erosion and conservation methods in the county.

Farms included in the group will be those of Lawrence A. Becker, Mrs. Lawrence Becker, Sr., Herman Lanam, Bruce Hannen, Melvin Potter, Harold Plagmann, H. R. Rieke, John W. Thurman, Merl Thorman, Grunewald Bros. and H. J. Grunewald and Sons.

The total acreage of these farms is 2290 acres which brings the total acreage of farms which will be included in soil conservation plans to 35,104 acres, or a total of 165 farms.

Leader of this group selected at the meeting was John W. Thorman of Blairtown and Melvin Potter of Norway as assistant.

Patronize Star Advertisers.

FOUND! A CURE FOR SOIL EROSION!

Soil Conservation practices will heal that gully if applied in time. Your "Soil Doctor," the Soil Conservation Technician, will diagnose your erosion problem and prescribe a cure.

SEE HIM TODAY

PICKART PRODUCE
Poultry, Eggs and Feed
NORWAY IOWA

Food and Vegetables
are only as good as the

SOIL

that produced them!

A well-fed soil produces fruit and vegetables that contain an abundance of minerals and vitamins. Keep your soil in top condition.

A Soil Conservation Advertisement
Ray's Clover Farm Grocery
Norway, Iowa

The Basic Requirement
—of a—

GOOD FARMER

—is that he—

Conserve His Soil
Soil Conservation
Practices Pay

Quality Merchandise Is
The Basis of Our Business

JIM'S RADIO AND APPLIANCE

Soil Fertility Called 'Fourth Dimension' Which Enables Farm Land to Feed People



Soils Well Stocked With Fertility Can Best Perform Crop Producing Job.

COLUMBIA, MO.—Soil fertility was described as farm land's "fourth dimension" by Dr. William A. Albrecht, chairman of the soils department of the University of Missouri.

"This is the 'dimension' that enables the soil to feed us," Dr. Albrecht pointed out.

"Of old we measured farm acres by two dimensions—length and breadth," he declared. "Now we include a third dimension—depth—for we have seen the loss of the body of the soil through erosion by running water. And this loss is greatest in the surface soil, which stores the complex residues of past crops which help us build new plants."

"But these three dimensions are not the whole story. We need to see in our soils a fourth dimension—fertility. This fertility includes the chemical elements that crops and

livestock make into food for us. It is by this dimension, and not by length and breadth and depth alone, that the soil can feed us. This fourth dimension is not as easily measured as the other three, but it is vital to a well fed, healthy people."

"Farmers who produce crops that satisfy human hunger are actually directing a great chemical industry of food synthesis that is driven by sunshine power," Dr. Albrecht said. "Soils rich in this fourth dimension can perform their life-giving function well. Necessary to well-stocked soils are manure, plowed-under legumes which add organic matter and build up the nitrogen supply, other crop residues, lime, and fertilizers. No one of the factors can be judged more important than the rest, for only by the use of all of these together is the highest fertility level reached."

For Sale

Strawberries and raspberries. One mile north of Middle.—Roy Baugh, Amana.

If you have visitors or go for a visit, the Star wants to publish that news for its readers.

See "My Country," a stirring tribute to America, by Win Brooks. Dramatic full-color illustrations symbolizing America's historic victories. In The American Weekly, the great magazine

Legumes Need Plant Food to Do Job of Rebuilding Soils

CHICAGO—Legumes as a recipe for enriching the soil and adding to its resources of organic matter were recommended by the Middle West Soil Improvement Committee.

"But," says a statement issued here by the committee, "legumes cannot do the job of fertility replenishment by themselves. They must have reinforcements in the form of plant foods containing nitrogen, phosphorus and potash."

"Some farmers think that because

Our Seed Will Not Wash Away

... IF ...

You Follow Soil Conservation Practices On Your Farm:
See Your County Agent Or District Men For Information On Practices Adapted To Your Land.

NORWAY GRAIN COMPANY

Hold The Soil

You Hold The Title To Your Farm

—BUT—

Can You Hold The Land Itself?

Today any farmer can Hold his soil and build himself a better living by using Soil Conservation Practices.

JERRY'S PLACE

A THOUGHT FOR Iowa Soil Conservation Week

Conserve Your Soil By
Proper Soils Practices

The Quaker Oats Company
E. L. BERG, Agent
Norway, Iowa

Soil Conservation

Means More

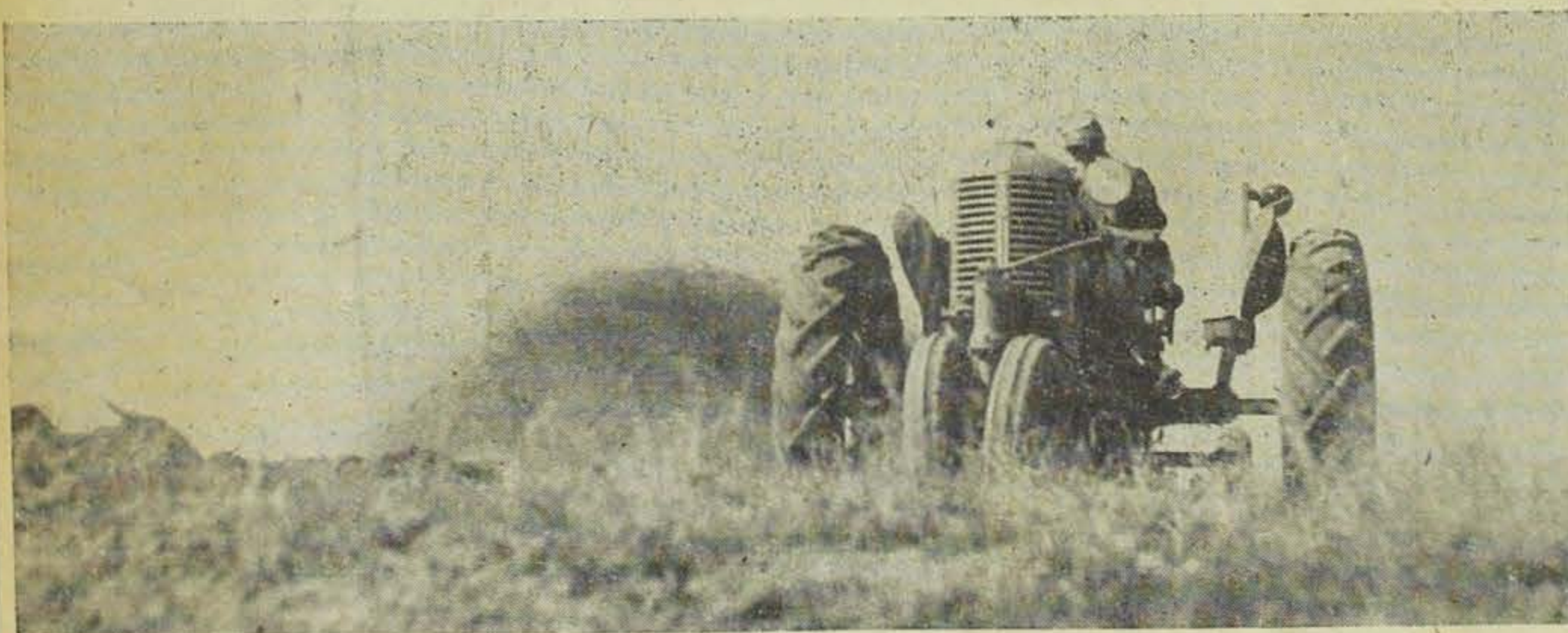
Farm Income

Save Your Income (Top Soil)

—BY—

1. Establishing Grass Waterways
2. Contour Plowing (this fall)

TERRACER FIGHTING BATTLE OF EROSION IN BENTON



ALERT TO THE DANGER OF LOSING THEIR FARMS by washing rains that speed down the hillsides taking thousands of tons of topsoil with them, Benton township farmers are building what the USDA calls terraces to check these major earth movements on the slopes. Actually the terrace is little more than a long ridge or dam built about midway between the top and bottom of a slope. If the slope is exceptionally steep, the field large, several terraces may be built, one above the other—to hold the rains, divert water slowly around to the side of the terrace where it flows lazily off through sodded ground. Glenn Little, son of Ralph Little, is shown above operating a \$665 rotary terracing machine hooked onto the back of a tractor. As it bores through the earth, the machine throws up a spray of dirt to build up the terrace. The machine looks like a giant steel corkscrew set into the mouldboard. It is actuated by the power takeoff on the tractor.

Sunday Tour On Wildlife Announced

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

A county-wide tour of wildlife management areas, soil conservation projects and farm pond developments for the rearing of game fish will be held Sunday under the sponsorship of the Benton County Fish & Game club for all farmers in the county.

Glenn Heady, government soil conservationist for this area, will have charge of the party which will meet at the Oak Grove church, 10 miles east of Vinton on the Urbana-Shellsburg road, at 1:30 p. m. Sunday and start out from there.

All farmers in the county are cordially invited to go on the tour, regardless of whether they are members of the sports club. With Conservationist Heady will be members of the Iowa state conservation commission, including W. E. Albert of Des Moines, chief of the fish and game section of the commission.

One purpose of the tour is to stimulate interest among Benton growers in the establishment of wildlife areas and ponds on farms throughout the county.

Contour Farming Pays In 3 MAIN WAYS

- 1—Saves Tractor Power
- 2—Produces Higher Yields
- 3—Conserves Soil, Water, Seed and Fertilizer

Our prosperity depends to a large extent upon the prosperity of the farmers we serve. The farmer's prosperity depends to a large extent upon the soil he farms. That is why we are interested in a Sound Soil Conservation Program for Benton County.

We Believe In Soil Conservation. It's Just Good Common Sense.

Norway Creamery

Norway Sales and Service

Tailor Made to Fit

Each Soil Conservation Plan is Made to
Suit the Individual Farm.

See your County Agent or District Technician for
further information.

For Suits to Fit the Farm Operator See Us.

CAMERON CLOTHING CO.

Contour Farming Pays In 3 MAIN WAYS

- 1—Saves Tractor Power
- 2—Produces Higher Yields
- 3—Conserves Soil, Water, Seed and Fertilizer

Our prosperity depends to a large extent upon the prosperity of the farmers we serve. The farmer's prosperity depends to a large extent upon the soil he farms. That is why we are interested in a sound soil conservation program for Benton County. We believe in soil conservation. It's just good common sense.

BARNES & MARTIN
Furniture Store

To All Our Farmer
Friends and
Land-Owners:

We urge all our farmer
friends and customers to
participate in the benefits
to be derived from

A Soil Conservation District

We believe soil improving
is a good, sound farming
practice.

Friendly Tavern



It's
Good "Horse Sense"
To
Practice
Soil Conservation
—AND TRADE AT—
Olson's West End Garage

Top Soil IS THE BEST

Shell Products Are Top
Start today to build up that
topsoil. Consult your District
Soil Conservation men.

Shell Service Station
"HAL"—and—"DAVE"

FOUND! A Cure For SOIL EROSION!

Soil Conservation prac-
tices will heal that gully
if applied in time. Your
Soil Conservation Tech-
nician, will diagnose
your erosion problem
and prescribe a cure.

SEE HIM TODAY AT THE
Soil Conservation Office

This Space Furnished Through
the Courtesy of

WARD'S BAKERY

Food & Vegetables are only as good as the SOIL

that produced them!
A well fed soil produces fruit
and vegetables that contain an
abundance of minerals and vita-
mins. Keep your soil in top con-
dition.

A Soil Conservation Advertise-
ment.

**INDEPENDENT
Food Stores**

FOUND!

A Cure for Erosion

Soil conservation prac-
tices will heal that gully
if applied in time. Your
"soil doctor," the Soil
Conservation Technician
will diagnose your ero-
sion problem and pre-
scribe a cure.

See him today at the
Soil Conservation office.

This space furnished through
the courtesy of

SIMONS

The Basic Requirement of a

GOOD FARMER

is that he

CONSERVE HIS SOIL

Soil Conservation

Practices Pay

Quality Merchandise is the
basis of our business.

Wright Pharmacy

Lists Plants For Wildlife, Soil Saving

By GLEN F. HEADY
Benton Conservationist
BENTON COUNTY NEWS

With the 1955 list of trees, shrub and brush plants now out for spring plantings of wildlife habitat, wood lots and erosion control, farmers are advised to order early before various species are depleted.

During the past number of years, orders for plants for odd area plantings have varied from five up to 30,000 which is indicated by the many such areas that are beginning to show up in Benton county.

The state conservation commission has often indicated that Benton is one of the counties in the state ordering more trees and shrubs than any other counties.

Classic examples of splendid wildlife habitat and odd area plantings made by farmers now stand as monuments of past efforts by the men who visualized the value of such plantings.

Outstanding Areas

Most outstanding of these areas are on the farms of Jay Nabholz of Shellsburg, and near Belle Plaine, splendid examples are found on the farms of Robert Albers, Kozik brothers, L. F. Koep and Louis Raabe. The latter named plantings were made dur-

ing the early days of the CCC camp which was located at Belle Plaine.

The many new plantings made in recent years are quite well scattered over Benton county and will, in time, stand out as a splendid wildlife cover areas as well as add to the beauty of a farm and provide lumber for building purposes.

They will be noted as past effort of forward looking farmers and sportsmen in the same way as the good farmstead wind breaks stand out as monuments to our forefathers who were thinking of the future of the farmstead.

Wildlife packets available for 1955 from the state conservation nursery at Ames include three types for the different sections of the state including: Wildlife packet No. 1 (western Iowa), Wildlife packet No. 2 (northern and eastern Iowa) and Wildlife packet No. 3, (southern Iowa—recommended for farm ponds).

\$3.75 Per Packet

Prices for all packets are the same—\$3.75—and the number of trees also the same—175. Instructions for planting are included in all wildlife packets.

Wildlife packet No. 2 for northern and eastern Iowa consists of: 25 conifers, 25 Ninebark, 25 wild grape, 25 Siberian crab, 25 honeysuckle, 25 Caragana and 25 black locust.

Mutiflora Rose may be ordered along with a wild life packet in numbers of 250 or more at a cost of \$6 per 250 plants or \$20 per 1,000.

Prices for hardwoods, ordered in lots of 250 trees are \$4, except walnuts, which are \$1.50 per 250 nuts, stratified seed.

Conifers, which include Douglas Fir, Norway Spruce, Red Cedar and Red Pine are priced at \$6 per 250 trees or \$20 per 1,000.

Trees purchased from the state nursery are for the purpose of erosion control and wildlife planting only, are not to be planted as ornamental trees or as wind-breaks.

Additional information may be obtained from Monty Johnston, state game conservation officer for Benton county, or the Benton soil conservation office in Vinton.

Nine More Benton Farmers Apply for Soil Saving Plans

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Nine more Benton farmers have submitted applications to the Benton county soil conservation district commission to have their places mapped out for soil-saving programs, it was announced today by Glenn F. Heady, soil conservation technician. Their acreages bring to \$7,223 the total applied for by landowners in the county.

At a meeting held in the soil conservation rooms here last night the following farmers were added to the H. E. Harper and Howard Knapp groups: Robert Kline, John Remington, Charles J. Birker, C. S. Paulley, Harold Wallace, Harley Hanson, Paul E. John Fix and Walter Geiken. With the farms of these men, Mr. Heady said, the number of places for which soil-saving plans have been applied for comes to 152 in Benton.

Conservation Work Group Organized

A new prospective work group was organized Tuesday night at the Morris Long home where Emerson Wolfe, district conservationist, Marion; Harold Miller, district commissioner; and Kenneth Glass, conservation aid, Vinton, met and told of the advantages of soil conservation on the land. Various factors which increase productivity of the soil were shown and Harold Miller, district commissioner, told of the commissioner's duties and also stressed the advantages of organized groups for conservation work.

Present were: H. E. Harper, H. C. Waldorf, Einar Carlson, Clark Long, Morris Long, Joe Fulmer and T. H. Schmitz who will become members of Group 17 as soon as it is approved by the district commissioners.

For the convenience of the neighbors who were not able to attend this meeting, Technicians Glenn F. Heady and Kenneth Glass will hold a special meeting in the soil conservation office Tuesday night, March 4 in order that they

will have an opportunity to join in the conservation work at the same time, Harold Miller announced Wednesday noon.

Today's Topics

By M. P. KRUSE

ANY FARMER WHO remains somewhat skeptical concerning the benefits of contour planting on sloping land should take time off to see what happened within a few hours to hundreds of acres of good Benton county land during the heavy rainstorms of last week.

I've never seen a better argument for sensible soil conservation practices than nature herself has just given us.

Hundreds of tons of rich topsoil were washed away from hilly fields in a short time. In many instances the soil was deposited in field valleys where it covered up tender corn shoots to depths of a few inches to two feet.

Much of this alarming erosion could have been prevented, or greatly reduced, by making use of tested soil conservation methods.

We like to think of Iowa as being the garden spot of the world. Well, it has been just that; but unless we take prompt and energetic steps to guard the remaining riches of our land against the terrific losses it suffered last week in only a few hours, many of us may live to see much of the state reduced to wasteland.

We should always remember that nature requires thousands of years to make a few inches of topsoil—the precious stuff that we humans have been so criminally careless with in our insensate drives for bigger crops and bank accounts.

We have been throwing away our real wealth—the wealth of our forefathers and the wealth we owe our posterity—while chasing the will-o'-the-wisps we are pleased to call dollars. It is a frightening business. It must be stopped.

BARN MANURE TOPS FOR SOIL IMPROVEMENT

Benton Conservationist Adduces Its Qualities For Fertilizer.

By GLENN HEADY
Soil Conservationist
BENTON COUNTY NEWS

The value of residues of crops and barnyard manures as fertilizer equivalents is not often thought of from the standpoint of their fertility constituents, at least not in comparison to those of commercial fertilizers. Besides the fact that these residues return valuable organic matter to the soil, they encourage bacterial development and increase the population of the earthworms.

With the very great increase in the use of commercial fertilizers in recent years and the prospects for even greater uses in the future when production reaches capacity in this industry, it is thought that more farmers might expect to rely almost wholly on fertilizer for the production of crops on fields not readily accessible to the barn lots, or for use as pastures. Very often, too, fields consisting of bottomland soils are heavily cropped inasmuch as they are not subject to severe erosion and they originally carried a high amount of organic matter. As a result, commercial fertilizer is expected to carry the load in holding up the high state of productivity.

In any case of heavy cropping or where the land is subject to erosion regardless of the rotation, the disappearance of organic matter from the soil is one of the first indications of poor and run-down soil.

Iowa State college recently released figures showing that after being heavily cropped, one of the college's fields showed an increase in weight of 15 to 20 pounds per cubic foot over its virgin state. This meant that it had lost a large amount of its organic matter.

The organic matter can be maintained and could be increased to near capacity by use of proper crop rotations and addition of organic manures which serves its many purposes of increasing yields and preserving the future of the land. It serves as a carrier of fertility constituents whether supplied commercially or otherwise, absorbs and holds greater amounts of moisture, retards erosion and provides for better soil structure.

In fertilizer constituents recent figures have been valued by various sources at from \$5 to \$9 per ton in barnyard manure. This in itself indicates that more reliance could be placed on it in supplying crops with plant foods, it being somewhat low only in phosphate to give an ideal balance. It does, however, carry combinations of trace elements which are not supplied in most commercial fertilizers.

Whether use is made of commercial fertilizer or not, barnyard manure should be used as much as possible.

For Which We Are Thankful



"WHEN THE FROST is on the pumpkin" has special significance this year when King Corn marches on the contour to fill the nation's empty cribs with a record-breaking crop. Representative farmers have reported that conservation farming, identical to the program now under way in Benton county, has boosted yields 40 per cent on the average. Furthermore, conservation is saving the soil for other record crops in this county. The contoured field above is typical of many Benton will see in the years ahead. More than 100 farmers in the county have already signified their intention of co-operation in the program here.

No Need for Fertilizing 'Tired' Soil

By GLENN HEADY
Soil Conservationist
BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Since fertilizers for use in crop production are becoming more plentiful, many more Benton farmers are going to be able to get the kind and amount of fertilizer they desire. In the past few years a number of men have tried fertilizer of varied analysis and have found the particular combination which suits them best for corn and oats or hay production, while others are still trying for the one that gives the greatest yields for their fertilizer dollar.

A commercial fertilizer of the same analysis may react differently in the production of crop from one farm to the next, or on a single farm, due to a single reason or a combination of reasons. Any field on a farm will react more favorably to a fertilizer when the soil is higher in organic matter, has a good crop rotation and is in good tilth, that is, the soil structure has not been broken down. Results are generally most disappointing on fields with little organic matter left in them, or on fields that have been badly eroded. Hence considerable "building up" is needed on such land before much can be expected from fertilizer applications.

Soil types respond differently in production to fertilizers, with more slowly drained soil types and sandy soils responding better with potash included in the fertilizer, or at least greater amounts of potash included in the analysis.

Nitrogen as applied during cultivations has been giving fine results to some of the hybrid seed producers, although it has not been practiced much by commercial corn growers. Most soil men contend that the nitrogen supply can be furnished best by the use of legumes in the rotation, and by the application of barnyard manures. The latter also supplies both phosphate and potash.

A good check on fertilizer response is always advisable. This can be done by leaving one or two check strips across the field without fertilizer.

Free Bus Ride for Benton County Wild Life Tour Sunday

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Benton county farmers interested in the wildlife area tour to be held Sunday afternoon from the Oak Grove church, 10 miles east of Vinton, may take a bus free of charge on the trip, it was announced today by John Robison, president of the Benton County Fish & Game club which is sponsoring the tour.

The bus will leave the Hotel Vinton at 1 p. m. Sunday, proceed to the Oak Grove church, which will be the starting point of the tour, and continue around with the passenger cars, returning to Vinton after the trip. Glenn Heady, soil conservationist, will be in charge of the inspection.

Twenty-five Benton farmers, Benton County Fish & Game club members and others interested in soil and game conservation took the tour yesterday from the Oak Grove church to visit artificial lakes and conservation grounds on three farms in the Shellsburg area. The group was led by Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady. Also in the party were Ray Backman of Cedar Rapids, state conservation commission representative; Harry Rector, Benton conservation agent, and John Robison, president of the Benton County Fish & Game club. A bus leaving from the Hotel Vinton carried many of the party on the tour.

Soil Districts Cover Iowa

Only five counties of the state are without Soil Conservation Districts; however it is expected that their farmers will organize and petition for the service of technicians within the next year. Benton county organized formally on June 24 of 1945, with technicians being sent in June of last year, the district commissioners consisting of Harold Miller, Vinton, as chairman; Herman Franzerg of Keokuk; Arvid Shogren of Vinton and George Raabe of Belle Plaine, are very pleased with the rapid progress of conservation practices on the farms.

WASHINGTON'S ADVICE WISE Saw Soil Conservation Value 150 Years Ago

"Whereas if they (the farmers) were taught how to improve the old, instead of going in pursuit of new and productive soils, they would make those acres which now scarcely yield them anything, turn out beneficial to themselves; to the mechanics by supplying them with the staff of life on much cheaper terms; to the merchants, by increasing their commerce and exportation and to the community generally by the influx of wealth therefrom."

Those are pretty old words. In fact they were written just 150 years ago last month. But they are certainly right down the alley of our modern soil conservation service.

The words were written by George Washington.

The noteworthy thing about them is not so much that they were written by the first president of the United States but that so many years would have to pass before concerted action would be taken to heed such wise advice.

It should be noted that even in George Washington's day the improvement of the old soils was not regarded as beneficial solely to farmers. He included labor, business and the public generally as the co-beneficiaries of soil maintenance.

Quoting E. W. Emerson from the Omaha World Herald, Mr. Emerson points out that nations with as high a civilization as ours have perished because of improper land use.

They perished, he said, and became "the buried steps of civilization" because they wore out their soil, denuded their forests and finally reached the point where they no longer could provide themselves with food, shelter and clothing.

He traced the history of soil destruction in the United States starting with the settlement of the East in the 1600's.

"Today," he declared, "there is not a single frontier of unused land."

The remedy, he said, is the fitting of all the needed soil conserving practices to the proper use of the land that we have.

CONTOURING TO START MONDAY

250 Farms in County to
Be So Worked in '47.

BY GLENN F. HEADY
Soil Conservationist

Starting on Monday, April 21, contour demonstrations will be the continuous program for the soil conservation technicians of Benton county with the strip crop layout season completed this past week. Strip cropping on the farms of George Whipple, Jay Nabholz, Louis Coberly, Woodie Merchant, Bob Ullerich, Clyde Merchant and Ed Swatch finished the season for this activity.

The contour season starts off on Monday with a demonstration with the George Raabe group of veteran soil conservationists in Iowa township followed by a day in the opposite corner of the county on the Charles Hoffman place where a number of farmers will learn how to run contour lines on their farms for the first time.

On the following days will be contouring in the groups of Glenn Christy, Calvin Fulmer, Victor Hansen and Clarence Stickney. Dates for contour demonstrations with other groups will be set in the near future. It is expected that around 250 farms in Benton county will have intertilled crops on the contour this year which far exceeds the number of farms with contouring the past year.

Increases Shown

According to experimental results published by Iowa State college contoured beans show an average increase in yield of 2 to 3 bushels, oats 4 to 5 bushels, and corn 7 to 8 bushels. However many farmers state that the college is using its most conservative figures in this respect as they feel that contouring boosts the yield considerably more.

With the present prices of crops the increase in bushels per acre means considerable more in dollars per acre than what the AAA is offering for this as a soil conserving practice, and, best of all, any and all soil conservation practices applied on the farms are preserving what remains of that good 12 to 14 inches of top soil which Mother Nature developed 200,000 years before our forefathers began plowing it up.

Only 10 Percent Active

In respect to conserving the soil the best way I've heard it stated was when Clark Smith of Garrison said the other day, "We should have started it fifty years ago." And as Everett Cree would say, "Ten percent of the men in the county are doing something about it." Former County Extension Director Keith Meyers thinks everyone should contour at least one small field on his farm to get the feel of it.

Contouring in itself is only a simple practice and conserves less than one half the soil that strip cropping conserves, but to the cautious men it would be a good means of getting started in the program.

ROLLOVER PLOW FOR HILLSIDE WORK



IT WOBBLES AND CLANKS A LITTLE, BUT the rollover plow is handy for putting furrows into slopes, and when you come to a depression you're putting in sod, you just, well, roll over it. In Benton township Louis Coberly is shown as he operated the device that gets away from back and dead furrows. On the rig two-bottom plows are set opposite one another, so a man can throw dirt either to the right or left. He can plow a hillside going and coming. Glenn Little, on whose place Louis demonstrated the rollover, saw them in Europe. Coberly believes his is the only one in the county.

Wildlife Exhibit At Vinton Sunday

Sunday, April 13, farmers in the Vinton district will be given the opportunity of seeing firsthand the value and close relationship of proper soil conservation practices and water and game conservation. Under the sponsorship of the Benton County Fish and Game club, a field trip has been planned to demonstrate ways and methods of conserving these great natural resources.

The tour will be under the supervision of Glen Heady, representative of the soil conservation service of the United States department of agriculture. Mr. Heady has been working with farmers in this area for some time, assisting and advising farmers in conservation methods.

A number of wildlife areas and farm ponds have been developed or are in the process of development. Ponds are being developed by many farmers and will be stocked by the state conservation commission with the understanding that when a surplus of fish is present access to the ponds will be given sportsmen.

W. E. Albert, chief of fish and game for the state conservation commission, and other state employees will be present to assist with the tour.

The group will meet at the Oak Grove church, east of Vinton, on Sunday at 1:30 p.m. Farmers interested in soil conservation and the development of wildlife areas and farm ponds are urged to take advantage of this opportunity.

Conservation Notes

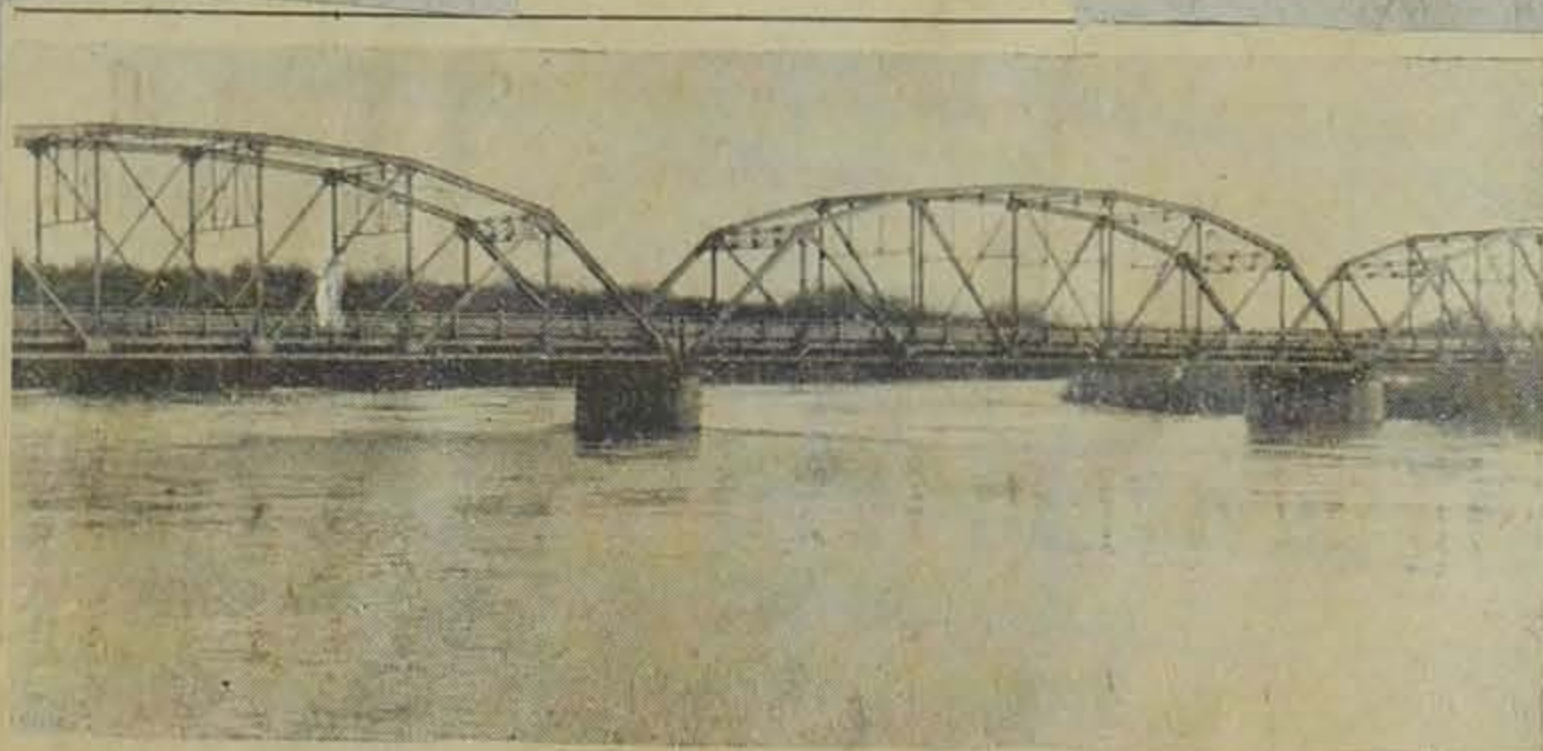
Experience during the past 10 years in soil conservation work has demonstrated that many farmers have had satisfactory success and have continued the practice of contouring without any thought of reverting to old straight row methods. Other men have experienced difficulties which have caused them to lose faith in the practice and to abandon it in future farm operations.

Soil conservation is our major basic problem and all agricultural agencies are stressing the need for a more rapid

adoption of soil conservation practices.

We are listing below a few suggestions which may be helpful to those who plan to contour farm during the coming year.

1. Early spring plowing and thoroughly working the ground before planting will reduce the weed problem. Kill weeds before planting.
2. A good crop rotation is a big aid in weed control.
3. A complete fertilizer applied with a planter attachment will help the corn get ahead of the weeds.
4. Use of special shields and dischillers will assist in weed control.
5. Grassed waterways are important in contour operations.
6. Use of grass turn strips and buffer strips will eliminate many sharp turns and short rows and make contouring easier.
7. Broadcasting beans or leaving sod in odd shaped areas will eliminate many short corn rows.
8. A 2 row mounted picker works best on contoured corn, however, many men get along satisfactorily with other types.
9. Pick the corn the same way it was planted, leaving short rows until last.
10. Use of wide or flared wagon boxes aid in keeping corn in wagon while making turns.



YOU CAN'T SEE IT MAYBE, but when this photograph was taken this week the Cedar River was in the process of carrying tons of valuable, irreplaceable topsoil from the Cedar valley on its long journey, via the Mississippi, to the Gulf of Mexico. Controls are needed to prevent the soil from washing into the river and creeks throughout the valley.

—Daily Times Photo-Engraving

Soil Conservation Week, June 21-28

Soil Saving Plans Given Official O. K.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

At a meeting yesterday the Benton county commissioners of the soil conservation district approved plans made this month for ten farms. Conservation plans were approved for Harry Hanne-man, 240 acres, Vinton; Kenneth Fry, 400 acres, Vinton; Ray Nabholz, 93 acres, Shellsburg; Harold Miller, 270 acres, Vinton; Leon Donels, 80 acres, Shellsburg; John Losenicky, 140 acres, Garrison; Jay Nabholz, 160 acres, Shellsburg; Mrs. Maud Thiher, 120 acres, Vinton; Ray Donels, 60 acres, Ames; Vern Donels, 135 acres, Shellsburg.

Work group 18, which was organized for the purpose of beginning conservation practices, was also approved. Farmers in this group are Hiram Lanam, 160 acres, Blairstown; Bruce Hanne, 440 acres, Blairstown; Mervin Potter, 160 acres, Newhall; Harold Plagmann, 160 acres, Blairstown; H. R. Rieke, 320 acres, Blairstown; John Thorman, 240 acres, Blairstown; Merle Thorman, 255 acres, Blairstown; Grunewald Bros., 235 acres, Blairstown; H. J. Grunewald & Sons, 320 acres, Blairstown; Lawrence Becker, 200 acres, Norway; Mrs. L. A. Becker, 400 acres, Norway. This group was organized at a meeting this month and elected John W. Thorman of Blairstown as group leader, and Melvin Potter of Newhall as assistant leader.

Busiest man in Benton county these days—in town or country—is patient, hard-working Glenn Heady, the popular soil conservationist. He's out on the acres before breakfast, drags back with his surveying instruments long after everyone has had supper. Even with the help of Kenneth Glass, his aid who resigned recently in favor of the Navy, all the conservation work signed up for this county couldn't be completed in a long time, and now that Heady is alone, projects almost by the dozen have to be passed up this year. Heady has asked the US DA for at least two more men, but still nothing is done. While the USDA fiddles, a lot of our farmland needs attention in the county.

Soil conservation is really taking hold in the county, to such an extent, in fact, that it cost one good farmhand his job. Names must be omitted for obvious reasons, but this all happened in St. Clair township. A good farmer who recognizes the necessity of soil saving instructed his man to plow on the contour for this year's corn crop. A 30-acre field was to be prepared. The farmer then went away on a business trip. When he returned, he found that the man had plowed straight instead of on the contour. The farmer was so exercised over the affair that he canned the man on the spot.

Glenn Heady, Benton's soil conservationist, estimates that he has talked to about 1,000 farmers in the county since he came here two years ago. But only about 300 are in the soil saving program. Many non-conservationists tell Heady they want to wait to see what will happen. Evidently many want to wait to watch their land flow by and on into the streams.

It is cheering to note that conservation is so popular among the progressive farmers in Eden township. In Iowa township, where soil-saving practices were embraced first in the county, the need is obvious because of the topography. In Eden, however, it is not so apparent, but the dangers are there just the same and the growers of that township were quick to get on the ball. Heartening also is the fact that this year most of the new conservation plans are being made for farmers living in the north half of the county.

The Benton County Star, Together With Norway Business and Professional Men, Make This Week's Issue A Banner, Asking For Observance of Soil Conservation Week

x x x

Governor Blue Asks Observance of Soil Conservation Week

Last week Governor Blue made his proclamation for the observance of Soil Conservation Week which approaches at a very appropriate time, just when the recent rains have ravaged many thousands of tons of our top soil from the land and subsequent rains have taken more.

The soil conservation technicians of Benton county estimated a loss of slightly over 5 million tons of top soil was washed away from its place on the corn and bean land alone in the county since June 1.

When on their trip over the county last Monday inspecting the good conservation work being practiced by a number of farmers, district commissioners, Harold Miller, Arvid Shogren and Herman Franzenburg, learned from a number of farmers that the soil conservation way of farming was the only way to farm as far as they were concerned.

Farms visited on the tour were those of Leland Merchant, Woodrow Merchant, George Schueler, John Strawn, Glenn Christy, John Losenicky, Bert Romman and Clyde Merchant.

x x x

Florence Township Becomes Soil Conservation Minded

A number of men in the vicinity of Norway have begun conservation practices through contour cultivation of their row crops. Last spring contour lines were run on the farms of Larry Becker, Cecil Frimmel, Sam and Wallace Tow and Melvin Potter and after the recent rains have shown some very fine results in contrast to fields planted up and down the slopes.

The Soil Conservation technicians spent one day on the farms of the above mentioned men with all in attendance working with the levels to learn how to lay out their fields. It is estimated that in the neighborhood of 500 acres of corn land were contoured this spring in Florence township. The rains and subsequent loss of topsoil have resulted in many farmers coming in to the soil conservation office to assure them of having conservation layout work done on their farms for next spring.

If results in other parts of this county and in other counties of the state are an indication of the spread of practices after they first became established, they will be trippled next year in Florence township. At present Benton county has one hundred eighty four farms being layed out for conservation practices by the soil conservation technicians. These farms comprise a total of over thirty-four thousand acres being changed over to this system of farming.

Since it began in the southern Iowa counties, they are far ahead of this area in conservation farming. Page county alone had 350 miles of terraces constructed on the farms last year. As one travels across this end of the state it appears that most of the farm land is contoured, strip cropped or terraced. As several farmers stated last week to the Benton County Soil Conservation Commissioners these farmers would never change back to farming up and down slopes.

x x x

Dean H. H. Kildee Asks Observance of Soil Conservation Week

H. H. Kildee, dean of the college of agriculture, calls attention to the fact that the week of June 21-28 is "Soil Conservation Week." The dean says that we are proud, and justly so, of the fact that Iowa has 25 per cent of the grade "A" land in the United States. But, he continues, we cannot be too proud of our record in conserving our soils.

The severe erosion and flooding caused by the recent heavy rain, is appalling. It is cruel reminder of the fact that we have not taken every precaution possible to save our top topsoil on Benton county farms.

The Soil Conservation Service has made a good start under the direction of the soil commissioners and is developing a strong program for Benton county farmers.

Mark these dates, watch the news on the radio and if you have time, call at the soil conservation office to talk over a "farm plan" for your farm.

Grass Waterway Is Best Gully Control

Many Iowa farmers have learned through costly experience that putting an erosion dam in a ditch is not the answer to gully control, says Marvin Anderson, Iowa State College agronomist.

The way to avoid gullies, he points out, is to control the water at its source and establish grassed waterways. This means farming slopes on the contour and building terraces where necessary, to slow the water flow and hold all possible moisture on the field. Waterways can then be built and seeded to safely carry away the surplus.

Probably the first thing to consider when putting in a new waterway is the stage of the rotation, Anderson says. Usually the best time is when the field is in meadow or being seeded to meadow.

When building the channel, make sure it's wide enough to carry the water. Too often waterways are not wide enough to carry all the water flowing down them after a heavy rain. No waterway should be less than a rod wide.

You'll probably have to use a plow, disk or grader to mold the channel basin into a saucer shape. Such saucerizing spreads out the water and reduces the chances of cutting.

A good general rule in making the waterway seeding is to seed the normal rotation meadow mixture, leaving out the sweetclover and adding a full seeding of the best perennial grass for your locality. Your county extension director or soil conservation district supervisor can recommend a specific mixture.

Plowing a furrow on each side of the waterway will temporarily divert any water that might wash the newly worked soil.



Unless beans are grown on flat land or on a very gentle slope a great amount of topsoil is lost by subsequent erosion. Some farmers are almost ready to abandon raising beans altogether due to erosion, but when farmed on the contour as is seen in the above picture, very little soil is lost. It is a very wise practice to contour all beans on land over two per cent slope.

Soil Commissioners Met in Cedar Rapids Thursday



BENTON COUNTY—Herman Franzenburg, Keystone; Glenn Heady, SCS farm planner, Vinton; Kenneth Kramer, county extension director, Vinton; George Raabe, Belle Plaine; Arvid Shogren, Vinton.

Game Areas and Fish Ponds Are of Benefit To the Farmer and to the Sportsman Alike



—UNION Photo.

THIS IS A GAME MANAGEMENT AREA ON THE JAY NABHOLZ FARM NORTH OF SHELLSBURG. In the foreground are a large number of small trees and grass. In the background are a number of varieties of evergreens and between the trees and the foreground and these in the background (just beyond the men at the left) is a small creek. The area, consisting of about two acres of land, was laid out in 1940 and 600 trees were planted over the area. This site is rated as one of the best nesting areas in the county. Picture was taken April 23, when interested farmers and directors of the Benton County Fish and Game club made a tour of game areas.

A few years ago sportsmen decried the fact that game was rapidly disappearing from this section of the country and it would not be long before hunting and fishing would be a thing of the past. Then came the game conservation movement including the licensing of the sportsmen, the teaching of fair hunting and fishing practices and the propagation of wild life areas. Today, believe it or not, more money is being spent by outdoor sportsmen for hunting and fishing equipment than for all other sports combined which includes baseball, basketball and football admissions, and those sportsmen are getting results or they would not spend their money for equipment.

That present-day outdoor sportsmen and their children and grandchildren will continue to find hunting and fishing both profitable and enjoyable is the aim of the Benton County Fish and Game club which today numbers over a thousand members.

How they propose to carry out this aim is a story of cooperation between sportsmen and farmers that promises to be profitable to both groups, for when game is

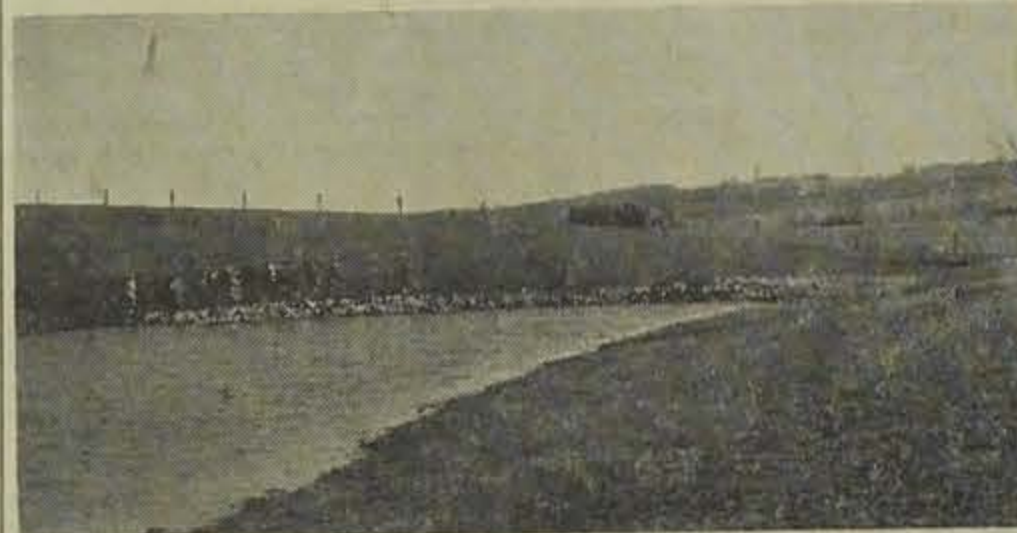
plentiful, not only do the sportsmen profit, but the program also has a way of cutting down erosion and bringing back to the land those elements of which intensive cultivation have robbed it.

Establish Game Areas

Number one on the list of objectives is the establishment of game areas throughout the county. These usually consist of those small patches of ground that are not only worthless for growing crops, but are usually the places where erosion starts. There may be a half acre in area in size and again they may be two or three acres. By working with the state conservation commission and the soil conservation service of the department of agriculture the club is asking every farmer in the county to convert these to nesting areas.

The conversion job consists of planting them to grass and trees and then stocking them with quail or pheasants.

After being so stocked the farmer on whose land they are, keeps an eye on them when the wild life population becomes too great he



—UNION Photo.

THIS SHOWS WHAT CAN BE DONE TO TURN WASTE LAND INTO A FISH POND. Picture was taken on the V. J. Alden farm south of Shellsburg and shows the earth dam that was thrown up by Mr. Alden. Rock was used to line the dam and a spillway was made at the extreme right. Benton County Fish and Game club directors are shown inspecting the dam.

then permits a limited amount of hunting.

Would Build Ponds

Another similar phase of the program is the building of small ponds. Here the state conservation commission, the S.C.S., the farmer and the fish and game club again cooperate with the farmer in building a suitable dam according to proven specifications with the state conservation commission stocking the pond with bass and blue gills on a ration of about one bass to 15 blue gills.

Although livestock are permitted to drink from these ponds, they are not permitted to wallow in them so for that reason a small fence enclosure for livestock is usually built into them.

Strange as it seems, after these ponds are stocked with fish and the fish have matured heavy fishing is encouraged.

It has been demonstrated that if they are not heavily fished there will not be enough food for all of them and as a result the fish that are caught will be small, while if they are heavily fished the fish caught will be much larger.

Plan Aids Farmers

According to John Robison, president of the Benton County Fish and Game club, there is hardly a farm in Benton county that does not have some land that should not be converted to a game nesting area or a fish pond, and that once the program gets well underway farmers would benefit materially from the fact that the game birds would be available for eating crop destroying insects, while at the same time sportsmen would benefit by having game available. He further points out that under such a program of establishing game areas controlled by the land owners, they would have better control over hunting, fishing and trapping on their property than is now possible.

to plan for wild life areas

Benton County Soil Conservation News

Fred Obermueller of Keystone reports that he will strip crop his entire 180 acre farm in Big Grove Township this year. Fred says, "I can see that strip cropping has done a lot of good on Clarence Olson's farm."

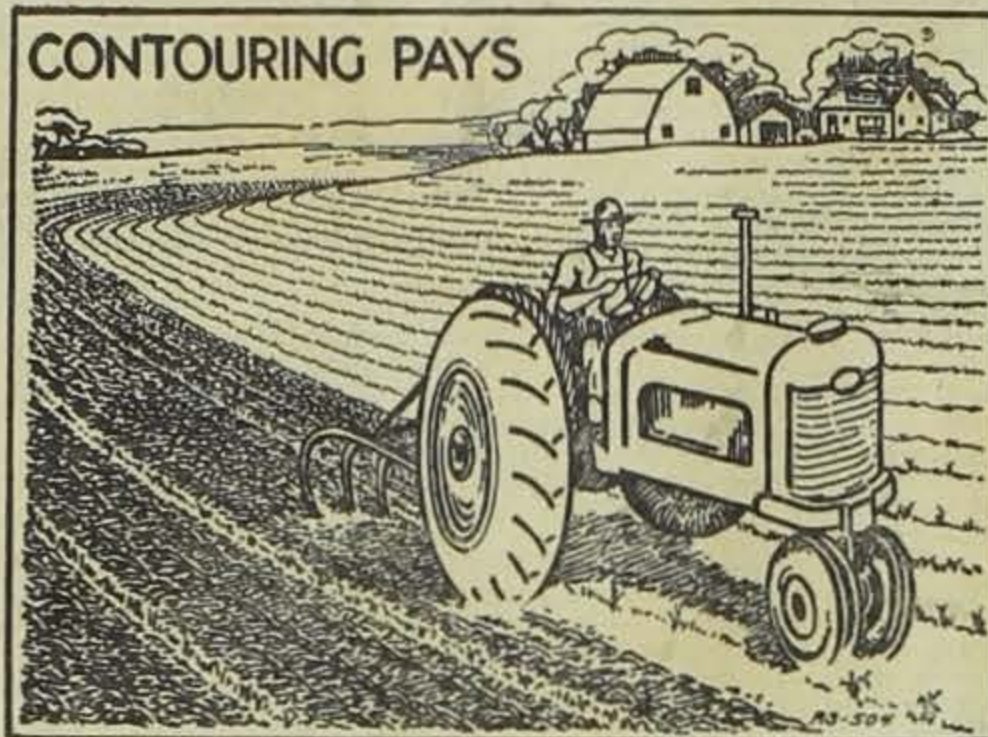
The District Soil Commissioners Annual Meeting will be held in the Garrison Legion Hall this year on January 29th, at Garrison. As has been the custom of the past a dinner will precede the meeting.

Speaker at the Annual Meeting will be Marvin Anderson, Associate Director of Agriculture Extension. The Soils Commissioners expect Mr. Anderson's topic on the "Future of Agriculture" to be equally as popular as that of Dr. Charles Brown who spoke at the 1957 meeting.

Any Other 7
Ever 2

Contour Farming Pays In 3 Main Ways . . .

- ★ ★
- 1. Saves Tractor Power.
- 2. Produces Higher Yields.
- 3. Conserves Soil, Water And Fertilizer.
- ★ ★



Our prosperity depends to a large extent upon the prosperity of the farmers we serve. The farmer's prosperity depends to a large extent upon the soil he farms. That is why we are interested in a sound soil conservation program for Benton, Iowa, Tama and Poweshiek counties. It's just good common sense . . .

The past weeks have demonstrated more than words what losses Iowa farmers have had in washed soil . . . much of this could have been retarded with better application of soil conservation methods.

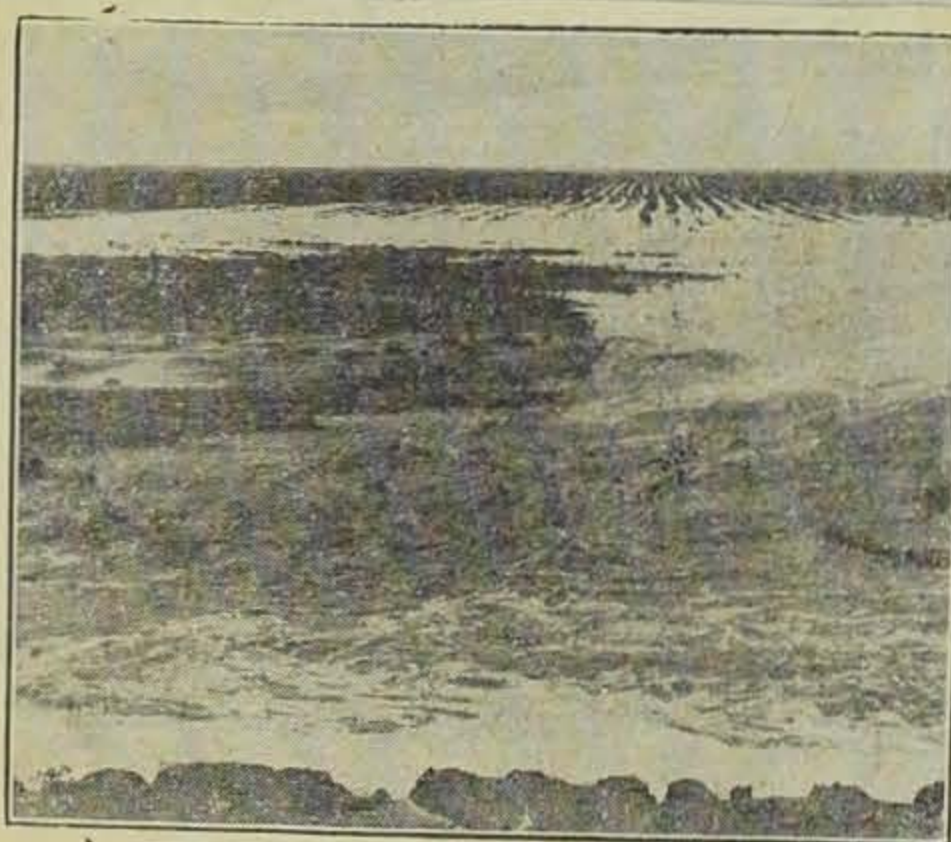
Local Authorized Dealers for —

Ford Ferguson System Tractors and Implements
Ford and Mercury Automobiles
Ford Trucks

Winders Motor Co.

Phone 179

Belle Plaine, Iowa



This common scene in Benton and many other counties in Iowa this month has brought on millions of dollars worth of distress. Much of it could have been prevented by proper conservation practices applied on the land where the water first started flowing. Many thousands of dollars could have been saved in road damage alone in Benton County.

The Editor's Plow 'Chair'

A new spring pig production record for this year was reported this week for Benton county at the Alfred Schmucker farm near Watkins. From 15 sows 139 pigs were farrowed and 128 pigs are being raised by Alfred C. Hansen, tenant. All of the pigs were farrowed within a period of 15 days. Can anyone top that?

Benton township was the scene of great conservation operations this week as farmers in that locality built terraces to prevent rains from washing away the topsoil. With Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady we looked over Oscar Mason's terracing job, the biggest so far in the north half of the county, and were amazed at the work he and his son Dick had done.

In one fell swoop the Masons eliminated a 12-acre watershed that had been pouring earth-laden streams right through their barnyard. They have a series of three terraces that total 3,600 linear feet.

We found Oscar crouching at a tub in which he was mixing alsike, red clover, alfalfa and timothy seed for planting the waterways on his slope. He and his son farm 400 acres, about 100 of this sweet corn for Minn-Valley. Oscar, now 50, has been raising sweet corn since he was a youth in his teens. At one time he tried to get away from the farm and took a job at Quaker Oats in Cedar Rapids, but the call of the land was too great. He was soon back and happy again.

The Masons plan on 35 acres of alfalfa this year, 83 of Marion oats, including 35 of contoured oats. They own 80 acres, rent 320, part from Calvin Clark of Iowa City, part from the Fred Roll estate. Oscar also milks 16 cows (Guernseys and Brown Swiss) and tends 14 brood sows which will farrow this month.

Over at the Littles a terracing demonstration was in progress, attracting a bunch of farmers and a GI class from Palo. Glenn Little, Ralph's son, was throwing a spray of earth with the whirlwind terracer as he built a terrace on a north slope, and Louis Coberly had some interested spectators as he plowed contour lines below the terrace with his new rollover plow.

Ralph Little will have 90 acres of Clinton oats, 80 of corn and a lot of beans on the 360 acres he and his sons farm. Ralph was one of the earliest bean growers in the county. He got interested in them more than a dozen years ago, and has had a crop every year.

The famed southern hospitality has to hump it to keep up with the hospitality at the Littles. At noon Ralph invited us in for dinner which the womenfolk had prepared, and we sat down to a meal that was more than a threshers' spread. It was a banquet. Things were so delicious that we stuffed ourselves like gluttons. "That," said Heady, "is what is known as real hospitality."

The dinner was served at Glenn's home, and afterwards we looked over some of the mementoes he had brought back from his war service in Europe and heard veterans in the group swap stories. Ralph just listened. Never saw a father prouder of his sons, Glenn and Lawrence, but it's not hard to understand.

If the terraces on Mike Maynard's 18-acre field don't work, he can blame this department. We "helped" run the lines by standing around and peering through Heady's transit at Mike, who can pick the spot where the stake should go better than anyone in the county, and pounding in the stakes about where Mike said they should go.

After plowing the waving lines, Mike looked back across the field, shook his head a little and remarked jokingly: "What the neighbors have been saying, looks true." It is easier now to understand how farmers who have been accustomed to lines across their fields straight as an arrow's flight feel uncomfortable when they make those great serpents of earth across their fields. But once they test the terraces and see how their soil is held and their crop yields improved, you couldn't drive them back to the old method with a club.

Many farmers have asked Heady if they can plant on top of the terraces and the answer is, certainly. As a matter of fact, the yields atop terraces are likely to be the best in the field at the start for the reason that there lies the topsoil which has been turned up. In the low places of the terraces fertilizer is needed, for the topsoil has been taken off there.

Maynard is building a solid oak barn in sections. At present he has taken enough lumber from his timber to set up one side that now measures 72 by 18. When completed the barn will be 60 feet wide. Another section will probably be added this year.

Mike said that blue racers and bull snakes abound around his place, but that he never cottoned much to the popular notion that harmless snakes are a benefit to the farmer because of the rodents they assertedly destroy. Mike explained that he

WE, PAUL M. SHAIN, Vice Pres. and
above named bank do solemnly swear
statement is true, and that this report
to the best of our knowledge and be-
lieve is true.
Paul M. Shain
State of Iowa, County of Benton,
Sworn to and subscribed before
me this 1st day of May, 1934.
My Comm.
T. H. Miley
J. E. Trotter
CORRECT ATTEST

See Jim Wilson
For INSURANCE
People a month! Don't be an
unwitting firebug. . . You
need it.
Promote fire prevention ac-
tivities in our community—
through our schools—our
clubs—our municipal govern-
ment.



SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE TECHNICIANS assigned to northeast Iowa county soils districts attended a two-day conference in Cedar Rapids Tuesday and Wednesday. The group attending Wednesday's sessions are pictured above. They are, left to right:

Front row — William McDonough, Decorah; Walter Daniels, Decorah; William Jordan, Waukon; Kenneth King of Ames, assistant state SCS conservationist; W. G. Davis, Dubuque; M. L. Peterson of Ames, Iowa State college agronomist; Hobart Beresford of Ames, head of agricultural engineering at Iowa State; E. H. Hatlestad of Ames, chief clerk in the state SCS office, and V. H. Williams of Anamosa.

Second row — Frank Nugent, Manchester; Phil Poland, Tipton; Oris Randolph, Anamosa; Glenn Heady, Vinton; E. L. Reynolds, Dubuque; Keith Kinion, Anamosa; Kenneth Glass, Vinton, and Wilbur Neal, Maquoketa.

Third row — John D. Whelan, Waterloo; W. J. B. Boatman of Iowa City, zone conservationist; L. D. Prey, Waukon; H. E. Daniels, Elkader; Harlan Beckhaus, DeWitt; M. A. Ellerhoef of Waukon, SCS forester; V. A. Edwards, Decorah, and Emerson Wolfe, Marion.

Back row — E. T. Stotts, Marion; I. W. Waldorf, Waterloo; J. F. Barnes, Elkader; Kenneth Kittleson, Decorah; Floyd Park, Maquoketa; Ed Reynolds, Elkader; Stanley Austin, Waukon; Lloyd Tyler, Marion; I. L. Christensen, Elkader, and George Carlson, Manchester.

EVEN REED CANARY GRASS COULDN'T HOLD IT



THE TORRENTIAL DOWNPOUR of last week raised particular ease on fields throughout Benton county that were fall-plowed. Irreplaceable topsoil was swept off in sheets. That was to be expected more or less. However, so raging was the rain that it created virtual rivers that even washed away sections of fields and unearthed tile on land that was well sodded. This photo was taken five miles south of Vinton in fertile Eden township after the floods had subsided. Endgates and a concrete dam prevented A. B. Kirk from losing more of his field than he did. And he had it sodded in reed canary grass which is famous for its soil-holding qualities!

CONTOURS ARE PREFERRED BY MANY GROWERS

By GLENN F. HEADY
Soil Conservationist
BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Experience during the past two years in soil conservation work has demonstrated that many farmers have had satisfactory success and continued the practice of contouring without any thought of reverting to old straight row methods. As to the reasons for contouring corn most men say it's the added ten bushels of corn per acre that they like best although saving the land from soil erosion and less expenditure of power for raising corn on the contour are named almost as frequently.

Conserving the soil is one of the major basic agricultural problems and all agricultural agencies as well as all farm implement companies and other companies handling agricultural products are stressing the need for more rapid adoption of soil conservation practices.

Strip cropping and contouring are the two major changes occurring on the farms in the community where conservation has been or is being adopted to the farms.

During the past four years an average of six to twelve contour demonstrations have been conducted in the county per year with a good number of men in the various communities now running their own contour lines for contour planting of crops.

Some of these who have been contour farming for several years in the north one-half of the county for some years and away by its benefits are Harry Hanneken, Glenn Christy, Kenneth Frey, Ed Del and Logan Ulric, George Schueler, C. J. and Keith Elwick, Arvid Shogren, Bob Bruce and Harold Miller. After the demonstrations of the past year even a greater number of men contoured for their first time and will be running

their own contour lines this season.

Both John and Nathan Strawn have been contouring their crops since the demonstration district at Belle Plaine started there in the program a number of years ago.

After once having learned to run their own contour lines and having contoured for a year, few men go back to straight-row farming. This seems to be the best proof of its benefits as well as the fact that the men who are farming around the slopes become ardent advocates of the practice. Some even do a great deal of running of contour lines for their neighbors such as has been the practice of George Raabe and Louis Koop who live in the old Belle Plaine area. Keith Elwick of S. C. S. work group number two has also become very apt at running lines in the same way.

Although strip cropping is the best method of soil saving over straight contouring, it must be used on fields not being used for pasture purposes unless the rotation is longer than that of corn one year in four. Approximately 50 percent of the farms being actively planned by the soil conservation men are going to have from 50 percent to all of their ground strip cropped.

Among these who will have strip cropping done on their farms this year are Harry Carr, George Whipple and Dr. C. Owen Steakey, C. J. and Keith Elwick, Bob Ullrich, Louis Coberly, Leland and Woodie Merchant, Loren Robinson, S. G. Bolenbaugh, George Schueler, Jay Nabholz, George Posschl and Kenneth Fry.

Strip cropping has other advantages besides those named in the fact that the greater part of the short rows are eliminated and as a rule the added long rows in a field more than compensate for the short rows.

The common objection to farming around the hill that is used by those that have never contoured is largely unfounded by the fact that there are no greater percentage of weeds contoured corn fields than there are fields that have been checked and crossed. The secrets here that the contour men are using are in early plowing, working the seed bed up well just before planting and blind cultivation just after planting. The proof of its value is in the fact that a man rarely goes back to the straight-row farming once he changes over to contour or strip cropping.

Human Erosion Follows Land Loss Says Soil Conservation Man

by Glenn F. Heady
Soil Conservationist

Human erosion seems inevitably to follow land erosion. Classic examples are the formerly rich regions of the ancient world—Asia Minor, the one-time fertile plains of North Africa and so forth—largely waste lands now, with the natives among the more degenerate of the peoples of the world. Greece, Italy and Spain have likewise lost out in the march of time, owing largely to the poverty of the masses of their peoples who depend on livings scratched from soils that were depleted long ago.

The effect of poor land on the public health has been brought out quite effectively by Dr. Russell Wilder of the Mayo Clinic in his recent observations. He calls attention to the fact that foods raised on soils that are deficient lack minerals and vitamins that are needed to prevent sickness of both the animal and human populations living off such soils.

Certain diseases of cattle, once mysterious, have been shown to result from deficiency of phosphorus in the soil and consequently in the feed crops. A soil deficiency of calcium has similar results and the two deficiencies, phosphorus and calcium, commonly go together. In some parts of the U. S. there are soils that are deficient in iron and in these regions anemia is almost universal both in livestock and the people. In the Great Lakes region and other areas where the soil is poor in iodine, goitre is more prevalent than elsewhere. Besides these elements other minerals exist in soil and the lack of them may cause disturbances of various kinds—lack of cobalt, magnesium, zinc, boron, copper and perhaps molybdenum.

The humus of the soil is of great importance for it contains the micro-organisms of the soil—Bacteria, protozoa and fungi. Some plants take up vitamins from the humus of the soil. In the light of these facts it can be seen that both soil erosion and water erosion are especially injurious to the humus of the soil for this is the top soil which goes first. In addition to erosion, over grazing and overcropping are harmful for they permit little opportunity for regeneration of the humus.

The effect of poor land on the public health cannot be over emphasized. Putting to work what is known now in the conserving of soil will result not only in preserving and improving soils but also in maintaining and improving public health.

Human Erosion Seems To Follow Land Loss

Human erosion seems inevitably to follow land erosion. Classic examples are the formerly rich regions of the ancient world, Asia Minor, the one-time fertile plains of North Africa and so forth, largely waste lands now with the natives among the more degenerate of the peoples of the world. Greece, Italy and Spain have likewise lost out in the march of time, owing largely to the poverty of the masses of their peoples who depend on livings scratched from soils that were depleted long ago.

The effect of poor land on the public health has been brought out quite effectively by Dr. Russell Wilder of the Mayo clinic in his recent observations. He calls attention to the fact that foods raised on soils that are deficient lack minerals and vitamins that are needed to prevent sickness of both the animal and human populations living off such soils.

Certain diseases of cattle, once mysterious, have been shown to result from deficiency of phosphorus in the soil and consequently in the feed crops. A soil deficiency of calcium has similar results and the two deficiencies, phosphorus and calcium, commonly go together. In some parts of the United States there are soils deficient in iron and in these regions anemia is most universal, both in livestock and people.

Putting to work what now is known through soil conservation practices will result not only in preserving and improving soils, but also in maintaining and improving public health.

Declares Heavy Crops Breaking Down Benton County Soil Structure

By GLENN F. HEADY
Soil Conservationist

The Benton county farmer of today is faced with the problem of maintaining crop yields that have soared to new heights during the last few years due to improved hybrids and good growing seasons. Because of these reasons farmers have failed to notice the breaking down of good soil structure.

During the past few years of heavy cropping of corn and soybeans, the supply of organic matter (humus) has gone down; weight of soil per square foot increased at the expense of good open granulation. As this trend continued, it has become more difficult to produce and keep a good soil structure.

Both tillage and fertilizers have had to be increased to keep up the yield. Land that was first drained successfully with tile lines spaced at 5-rod intervals, now drains poorly with 3-rod spacing. The soil is very difficult to plow and cultivate; it is "too wet to plow before dinner and too dry after dinner." The soil crusts badly; good seedbeds are rarely obtained. Following the first heavy rains, the soil slumps back into a solid tight mass with water standing on top of the land for long periods following a rain, even though tile lines beneath are open.

Good Structure Performs

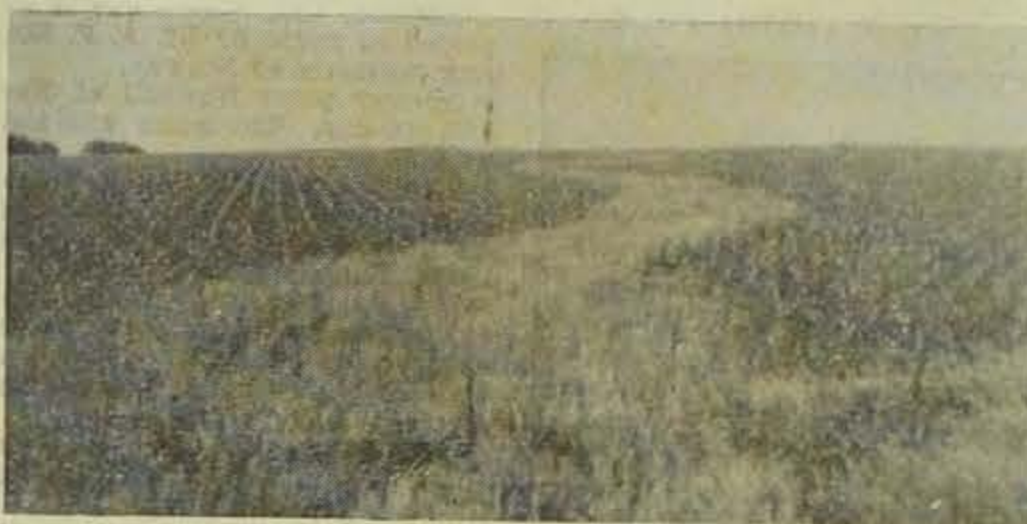
Good soil structure does many things that in the end result in higher yields. It determines the effectiveness of commercial fertilizers; it provides a plentiful soil air supply for nitrogen producing bacteria; it insures a good seed bed and seed germination; it increases internal drainage; it decreases the susceptibility to erosion, and it reduces the amount of cultivation or tillage operations.

It seems that the best way to obtain good soil structure is to balance the cropping system with a 2-year alfalfa-brome meadow. Where these meadows have been used in a rotation, it's been found that the grass sod provides the best means of organic matter (humus) renewal. The legumes increase the nitrogen content of the sod, and the structure is such that rainfall disappears quickly, tile lines work, well-granulated seedbeds can be had with the least amount of tillage and the corn crop following looks the way good corn should look. The soil is then in good tilth or structure. Soil with good structure means good crop yields.

Y TIMES, July 6, 1946

CEDAR VALLEY, DAIL

Grass Waterways Prevent Erosion



Shown above and at the left are two Benton county fields—one with a well-grassed waterway and the other without any grass but with plenty of washing away of fine, rich soil. The well-grassed waterway is on the Harry M. Herwig 220-acre farm four and a quarter miles west of Garrison. Mr. Herwig was born and reared on the place. His erosion problems have been pretty much taken care of by the grassing of waterways. The other field, showing expensive erosion, is on another Benton county farm. The pictures were presented to the Daily Times for publication by Glenn F. Heady, Benton county soil conservationist. It was determined by Heady that the eroded field should have had a 16-foot grassed waterway tapering up to a width of eight feet near the upper end of the slope.

SURVEY SOIL OF MILLER FARM

Conservation Work Gets
Started in Benton.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Soil conservation technicians today made their first survey of the 220-acre Harold Miller farm just southeast of Vinton. The Miller farm will be the first Benton county farm to receive a full planning for soil conservation purposes.

In June, 1945, Benton county was established as a soil conservation district.

Mr. Miller is chairman of the district commissioners and has been one of the leaders of the development program for the last few years.

Among those present for the planning of the first Benton county project since the formation of the entire county into a conservation district were Mr. Miller, Harmon Cropsey, operator of the Miller farm, Keith Myers, extension director, James Gibney, AAA chairman, Everett Cree, instructor in vocational agriculture, Emerson Wolfe, district conservationist from Marion, and Glenn F. Heady, soil conservationist for Benton county.

Ladino Clover Gives Promise as Pasture Forage

Will Be Introduced
For The First Time
In Benton County

By Glenn F. Heady,
Soil Conservationist

Ladino Clover is a promising legume crop that will be introduced into Benton County for the first time this coming spring—both through commercial seed houses and by the Iowa State College and Soil Conservation Service.

Having been produced experimentally for the past several years by a number of agricultural colleges, it seems to be considered safe to be introduced on the farms as a pasture forage, in conjunction with forage grasses.

For the past number of years, most farmers have been learning that the old blue grass pastures have taken a back seat to the higher yielding pastures, containing brome grass and alfalfa. The possibility that Ladino Clover will also add to the positive mixture may still add to the development of better pastures.

According to M. L. Peterson and G. M. Browning of Iowa State College, the following are the answers to some of the questions farmers are asking regarding Ladino as a positive forage.

It is altogether the most promising pasture legume in the United

Supplement to The Belle Plaine
(Iowa) Union Thursday, Jan. 8, 1948

States today, being well adapted over much of the area. In feed value it is equal to, or superior, to other forage legumes. It gives up more nitrogen to brome and companion grasses than any other legume and can produce more and better pasture than any other legume-grass mixture.

With the great increase in the use of commercial fertilizers in Iowa Benton County's Soil Conservationists recommend liberal application of commercial fertilizer to all forage and pasture mixtures, including these containing Ladino Clover mixtures. Ladino will require intelligent judgement in pasture management as it cannot be pastured closely due to the fact that in grazing the runners, which set new plants, will be grazed off.

Only a relatively small amount of seed per acre is sown due to its profuse spreading, which includes not more than one and a half to a maximum of two pounds per acre. Since blue grass is a strong competitor of all pasture mixtures, it should be thoroughly eradicated before planting a mixture including Ladino Clover.

Much more attention could be easily given to Iowa pastures. With blue grass now ranking in the bottom place as a pasture crop, this conservationist advocates pasture renovation on all areas which can be safely torn up for immediate reseeded or where a corn crop can be taken off prior to reseeding without being too subject to erosion.

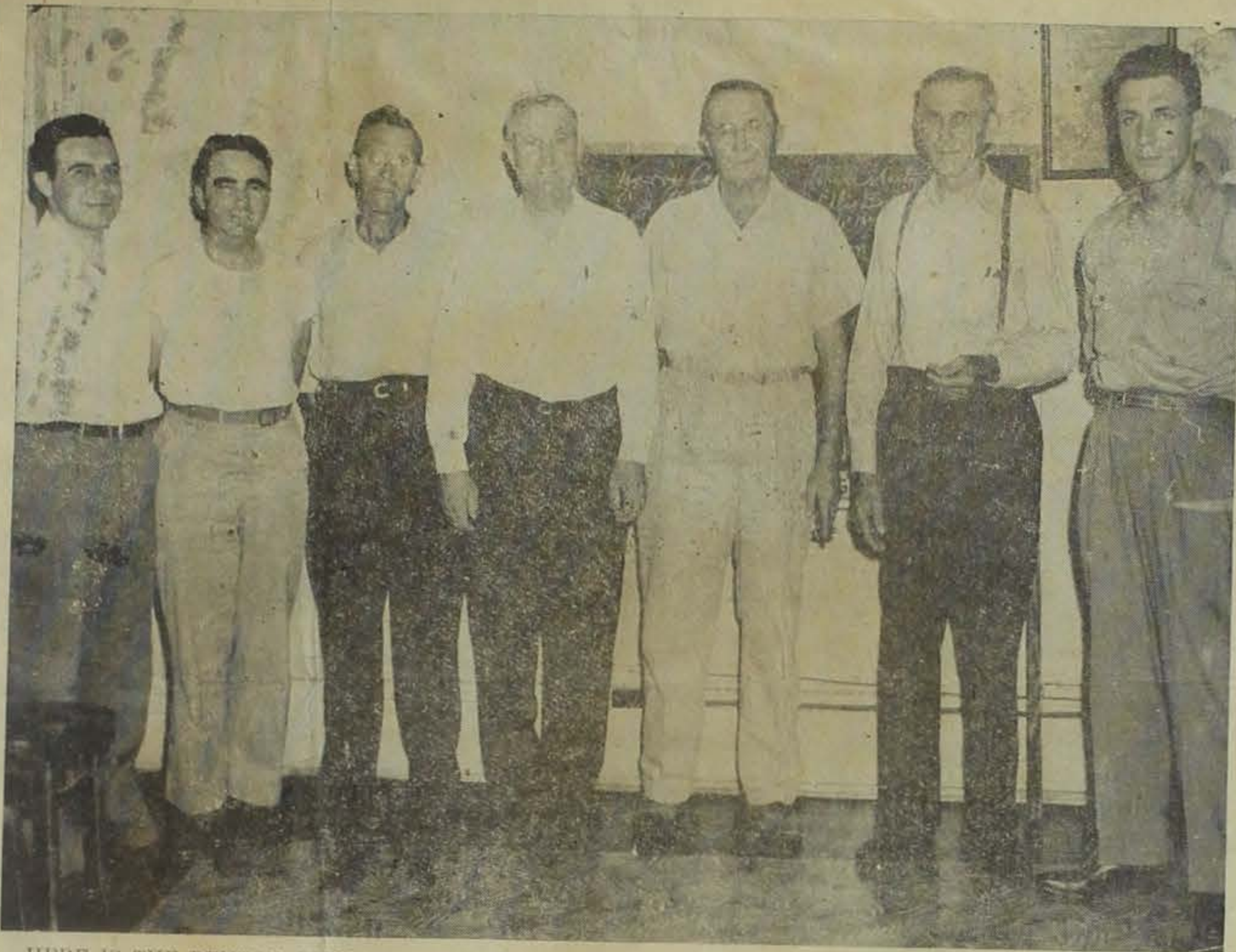
Soil Conservation Office Will Be Closed For Month of August

VINTON NEWS

The district soil conservation office in Vinton will be closed during the month of August while Glen Heady, Benton county soil conservationist, attends a training school at La Crosse, Wis. Harry Darling, conservation aid for Benton county, will work in another county during Mr. Heady's absence.

Emerson Wolfe, district conservationist from Marion, Ia., plans to spend Tuesdays in the Vinton office to answer inquiries and to assist farmers with their conservation problems. Harold Miller of Vinton, chairman of the Benton county district commissioners, will give assistance when possible and may be reached at 530-LW.

FRANZENBURG IS NEW CHAIRMAN SOIL COMMISSION



HERE IS THE BENTON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT Commission which has approved applications for scientific farm plans for thousands of acres of farmland in the county. Hard-working, conscientious, the commission holds official meetings once a month, reviews in detail the applications sent in by forward-looking growers anxious to preserve their soil and at the same time enjoy the benefits of conservation agriculture. Not shown in the above photo is the retiring chairman, Harold Miller, under whose guidance the commission made tremendous strides during the year. Miller's term recently expired. He was succeeded by Herman Franzenburg, well-known Keystone farmer, second from the right. In the usual order are: Benton Extension Director Kenneth Kramer, Soil Conservationist Glenn F. Heady, Arvid Shogren of Polk township, Horace Thompson of Vinton, George Raabe of Belle Plaine, Chairman Franzenburg and Emerson Wolfe, district conservationist.

The Editor's Plow 'Chair'

That little booklet "Why Iowa Is Great" which the Iowa State Department of Agriculture has put out should be hanging around every farm home in Benton county so dad and mother and the kids could take a look at it from time to time. Especially, perhaps, now when the crops make a fellow feel just a little ill.

It ought to be required reading in every school in the county, too, just to remind the future farmers, businessmen and housewives what their land really amounts to.

Iowa ranks 1st, for example, in the following: agricultural products produced per capita, cash farm income (eight per cent of the U. S. total), cattle value (7 per cent of the national total), corn production (We knew that, of course, but we didn't know it was 19 per cent of the nation's aggregate), egg production, grade A land, grain crop production, hog numbers, horse numbers, improved farm land percentage, literacy, livestock and poultry value, marketing of grain-fed cattle, oats production (15 per cent of all produced in the U. S.), popcorn production, poultry numbers, poultry production, red clover seed production, timothy seed production and honey and beeswax production.

Something to think about, all those firsts, as are Soil Conservationist Glenn Heady's remarks this week about land.

"Most men claim the land has been used too hard during the years of national emergency," he said. "By this they mean that they've used up much more of the organic matter than during normal years of cropping and destroying the soil structure that goes with the better rotations. It isn't that corn and beans take from the land a greater amount of plant food for the production of the crop because the reverse is true. But through heavy intertilled cropping the plant food taken from the ground by corn or beans, plus the accelerated erosion of the soil, which carries with it a heavy toll of phosphorus, potassium, nitrogen and calcium, is much greater than the amount of plant food lost from an acre of growing a good pasture or hay crop."

Glenn continued: "Practically 100 per cent of the organic matter and the large per cent of the plant food nutrients available to the crops were originally in the top 12 to 14 inches of topsoil. Today, as one drives past the fields he sees light colored spots on many of the slopes. This means that erosion has taken off most of the topsoil, and the men farming these fields verify the fact that this ground yields sometimes less than 50 per cent as much corn or beans as the land does where most of the black topsoil remains. Before some 200 farmers at various contour demonstrations this spring the soil conservationists showed where even on slopes not yet showing indications that the subsoil was about to protrude through to the surface that it was showing up at plow depth and will be showing up on the surface in the not too distant future."

Glenn said that the speeded-up erosion will be checked on a good many farms in Benton county with good conservation practices coupled with proper rotations. "The reasoning behind a rotation carrying a couple of years of hay crop in a four-year rotation," he said, "is in the fact that an acre of land in hay will produce as many dollars as an acre of land in corn or beans during normal years. This, of course, means a greater number of livestock on the farms to utilize the additional hay and pasture."

Glen F. Heady Told Lions Club Of Conservation

Used Slides to
Show Erosion and
Methods of Correction

Glen F. Heady, Benton County Soil Conservation district director spoke to the members of the Belle Plaine Lions Club at their regular meeting Monday evening. After Mr. Heady's talk the Lions are more than ever convinced of the importance of sound conservation practices on the nation's farms.

Mr. Heady, assisted by Lawrence Jansen, a vocational agriculture student of the Vinton high school, who flashed slides on a screen showing erosion and the methods being used to combat its evils, brought the importance of conservation of soil, home to his audience. Many of the slides were scenes from farms in this vicinity where Mr. Heady said farmers are particularly conscious of the need for sound farming practices. He gave as the reason for this the C. C. C. camp work done in the community surrounding Belle Plaine and the fact that farmers are really interested and have provided the leadership necessary to keep the program moving smoothly.

In the absence of President W. H. Magdefrau, Lion Earl F. Park, first vice president, presided at Monday's Lion's meeting. Two new members were welcomed into the club by the club Tail Twister, Lion Karl Longnecker. The new members were Dr. Don O. Newland and Percy J. Letson.

Lion J. P. Foote reported on the Zone Lions meeting held at Marshalltown recently which he attended with several other Lions from the local club. Lion Silvers reported that the club's Boys and Girls committee have completed their plans for the award to be made by the Lions club to the outstanding boy and girl in Belle Plaine high school each year. Members of grades nine to twelve will be eligible for the awards.

Lion E. R. Ehlen announced that the club will cooperate with the Longfellow P. T. A. in a benefit basketball game and program to be held at the high school gym Friday evening, April 9th, and suggested that his "team" members be on hand by 7:00 o'clock at the gym. Lions R. K. Johnson and Milo F. Stok were named to represent the Lions on a community-wide committee working on plans for a lighted athletic field.

Guests at Monday's meeting were Lawrence Kreider of Lafayette, Indiana, the guest of Lion Dr. West; Willis Dankle and Guy Stockdale, the guests of Lions Lynn Dankle and Calvin Fullmer, the guest of Lion Alfred Lahn.

The next regular meeting of the Lions will be at the Lincoln Cafe on Monday evening, April 19.

7,100 Benton Acres Contoured in 1947 Under Soil Program

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
During 1947 there were 7,100 acres of farm land contoured in Benton county under the soil conservation district commission's program, it was announced today by Glenn Heady, soil conservationist.

In addition, 1,600 acres in the county were strip-cropped, and 3.5 miles of terracing were built. There were 31,700 linear feet of fence changes and 96,700 feet of outlets and farm water courses built in connection with the program.

Other soil-saving practices in the county during the year included: 65 acres seeded to pasture, 60 acres of field and gully planting, 36 acres of woodland improvement, 110 acres of farm drainage work, 36 acres devoted to the prevention of grazing damage and 75 acres turned in to wildlife preserves.

Be A Little Crooked If You Would Be A Good Farmer



—UNION Photo.

AND BY THAT WE ARE NOT ADVOCATING ANY 11 EGG DOZENS, EITHER. As a matter of fact what we are trying to say is that if you don't want that good fertile top soil to end up down in lower Louisiana or the Gulf of Mexico, it might be well to do a little contour farming, some strip cropping or practice some other soil conservation practices as are being followed in the above picture taken on the Charles Patterson farm north of Belle Plaine. Shown left to right in this picture is Charles McLennan who is sighting with a level to which is attached a mirror, his father, Horace McLennan, who is holding the stake and his grandfather, Charles Patterson, who is driving the stake. At the far right is Kenneth Glass of the soil conservation service who is lending technical assistance to the project.

Patterson - McLennan Families Would Save Soil For Generations of the Future

If we were asked to pick a picture of the month, the picture printed above would be our first choice. It would not be because it is particularly good as a photograph or that the printing plate is out of the ordinary or that the job of printing is superb. It would simply be because to our mind it tells a story that is perhaps as important as any that could be told today in the state of Iowa. It tells a story of a father handing on to his son-in-law and grandson a farm that is as good and possibly better than when he purchased it.

A few weeks ago George Raabe, who is a leader in the soil conserva-

tion movement in Benton county and particularly this section of the county, called us to say that on that particular afternoon a contour farming demonstration was being made on the Charles Patterson farm, three-quarters of a mile north of the Belle Plaine Country club. Grabbing our camera we started out to see it.

There we found Charles Patterson assisted by his son-in-law, Horace McLennan, and grandson, Charles McLennan, laying out the stakes to contour farm a parcel of land southeast of the house.

Farming On the Crooked

The land was in corn and beans last year and partially laid out for contour farming. However, in order to do a better job they called in Kenneth Glass of the soils conservation service this year for a little technical assistance.

In the picture above Charles McLennan is shown sighting with an ordinary level to the spot where his grandfather is standing, which is on the same level at which he (Charles) is standing. If Mr. Patterson is too high, he is told to come down the hill and if too low to come up the hill, and at whatever point that is found to be at his level a stake is driven.

By following these stakes with the plow around the side of a hill and planting row crops such as corn or beans the same way, much

washing of fertile top soil is prevented.

As a rule the stakes are driven at about six foot intervals when it comes to elevation and about 20 feet intervals on the contour. In addition to this practice of contouring, the natural waterways are left in grass and not plowed, and where practical strip cropping is followed in which a strip of corn will be followed by a strip of grass and then another strip of corn. In the same manner beans and oats are alternated with grass strips.

Conservation Pioneer

Probably the first soil conservation work undertaken in this community was on the Waldo McLennan farm eight miles southwest of Belle Plaine in Poweshiek county. Mr. McLennan on his own initiative laid out his fields that way back in 1934 or 1935. Then came the C.C.C. camp to Belle Plaine in 1939. Working under the direction of the soil conservation service of the department of agriculture, many farms of this community were signed up to go into the program—most of them northeast of Belle Plaine. The farmers furnished the materials and the C.C.C. furnished the labor. They agreed to follow the program for five years.

Most of these original contracts have long since expired, but the farmers who entered the program by the time the contracts had expired were so sold on the benefits gained that not a single one went back to the old methods. In fact many who did not originally enter the program observed it in actual operation and sold themselves.

Today there are 19 farms consisting of 3,790 acres in the program and more are signing up right along.

Perhaps the best account of what is being done in this locality is con-

tained in a letter received by The Union office a few days ago from Glenn F. Heady, soil conservationist for Benton county, whose office is at Vinton. Mr. Heady says in part:

Program Explained
The Belle Plaine Union,
Belle Plaine, Iowa.

"Gentlemen:
"I was very pleased to learn of your interest in our contour lines on the farms in the Belle Plaine area yesterday and because I believe you will also be interested in knowing who the members of the group are whose farms we were working, I shall name them for you at this time.

"Because of their being more nearly 100 percent interest in conserving their soil on the farms in the Belle Plaine area, and with the long-time program on the farms in your area, I like to call these men the veteran soil conservationists of the county.

George Raabe Leader

"George Raabe is group leader of the group of farmers whose farms we were working on yesterday with most of the original farms of the old C.C.C. days being included and a few new ones added.

"They include: John C. Tatge, H. P. Pfingsten, George Raabe, G. L. Lyman, Charles Patterson, Mrs. Edna Allers, Robert Allers, William Back, Dick Schild, James and Steve Kozik, Louis Raabe, L. F. Koep, W. R. Craig, Walter Boehmke, Nellie Tatge, W. A. Taylor, J. S. Viquain, John Schild and H. L. McLennan.

"The above is the largest organized work group we have consisting of 19 farms and 3,790 acres of farm land.

"Active assistance in the planning of this group of farms will begin in June and continue through July and August with the plans being re-written on the farms having been organized for soil conservation practices back in 1938 and 1939.

"Of interest to your community might also be in the fact that we held a contour demonstration on the farms of the more recent group organized during the past winter on Thursday, April 24.

"The farms of this group are those of Calvin Fuller who is the group leader, Ben Stok, Earl Leimberger, Keystone, Elmer Niebes, R. Earl Cox, Charles Cavis, Elmer VanSeoyoc, Joe Bohdan, Ed Swatosh, Everett Wayman, C. G. Mall, J. Bardwell, Robert Buch, Art Buch and Robert Schwab.

"In the county we have 18 organized groups of farmers which consist of 184 farms in the county totaling 37,843 acres of land.

"The district commissioners of the Benton county soil conservation district who handle the administrative affairs of the program are George Raabe, Belle Plaine, Arvid Shogren of Vinton, Herman Franzenburg of Keystone and Harold Miller (chairman of the group) of Vinton.

"The technicians in charge of planning and layout work on the farm are loaned to the district by the soil conservation service of the United States department of agriculture.

"Thanking you again for your interest."

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) Glenn F. Heady

Brome Grass Makes Good Pasture

By Glenn F. Heady

Since brome grass was first introduced into Benton County a number of years ago its recognition

as a pasture and forage grass has multiplied a great deal although there are yet a good many farms that have none what-so-ever served for either pasture or forage. This is probably due to some poor stands and poor yields, some farmers realized with their first experiences.

Most of the brome seed brought

into Benton County within recent years has been of northern origin which partially accounts for some of the disappointment farmers and with brome. Summaries of experiments result in 11 trials by Iowa State College show that Canadian brome yield 19 percent less than the average of the newly developed strains of Lincoln, Fisher and Achenbach brome. A market strain named Northern Commercial in the same trials proved to yield 28 percent less than the southern adapted varieties mentioned above.

Lincoln, Fisher and Achenbach brome were developed and adopted to the southern brome region from fields that have stood in Iowa and Nebraska for from 30 to 50 years. They were developed to eliminate the weaknesses most commonly found in the northern strains which are chiefly as follows: Slow starting, low yield of pasture and forage and poor stands.

No Achenbach seed has as yet reached Benton county as to the knowledge of this writer, although there has been considerable Lincoln

seed planted in the last year or two and some Fisher. Only three farmers in the county to our knowledge harvested seed from their fields last summer, two of which were Iowa township farmers. These were Elmer Schild on the W. R. Craig farm land and Paule Raabe on the Geo. Raabe farm.

There is a place for brome grass on every farm, either in the permanent pasture mixture or with the alfalfa for forage, which creates a high yield of forage and the grass roots serve the soil in the same way as "hair in the plaster." It holds it in place.

Belle Plaine Union
Thurs. Dec. 25, 1947

Conservation Practices Prove Effective in Cutting Soil Loss



The bare and gullied slopes of the above-pictured 40-acre tract gives special point to the observance of this week as Soil Conservation Week. Neighbors say that this field once produced 60-bushel corn yields. Careless farming has reduced it to virtual worthlessness. The tract is located, of all places, in Benton county.



SCS Conservationist Emerson Wolfe of Marion and George Raabe inspect an 8-year-old terrace on the latter's farm a mile east of Belle Plaine. The field was seeded to a Lincoln brome and alfalfa mixture two years ago and will be harvested for brome seed. Mr. Raabe built the terraces level to hold up to a 2-inch rain to insure good pasture.



Planter tracks up and down the hill on a Benton county farm were turned into miniature gullies by erosion during recent heavy rains. Not only was the crop washed out, but tons and tons of top soil went down the slope and into a nearby creek. The owner of the farm lost a good bit of his equity as a result.



Little soil got away from these contoured slopes on the George Schueler farm eight miles southwest of Vinton. Each corn row planted on the level around the hill was a miniature dam to slow water runoff, and any that did break through was further slowed by the small grain strips below. Strip cropping proved much more effective than simple contour planting in reducing soil losses.



Gullies like the one pictured above betray the last stages of land ruin. They occur after sheet erosion has taken most of the rich top soil and has laid the subsoil open to the rushing waters. Many fields developed the start of just such gullies during recent downpours.



Gazette photos.

Broad grass waterways to carry off the surplus water will prevent gullying in drainage areas. This one is seeded to brome grass, but bluegrass, reed canary grass and other sod-forming plants are equally effective. They should be wide enough to avoid water cutting down the sides.



Bliss Points To Losses of

month of August, the traditional county fair season is in swing. Here are eastern Iowa fair dates and attractions:

Allamakee county fair at Waukon, Aug. 21-23. Ball games each day, free acts, stock and produce exhibit.

Big Four fair at Postville, Aug. 24-26. The hour, fireworks is an old organ, tiny figures march as chimneys march, few comic, adorn the cases, and a few religious, historical and a few figures, each in itself, intricate is a masterpiece in order. Each all in perfect running order. Each and many tiny ones, line the walls, blade. Eighteen enormous clocks, the work of artists with a knife roll up.

In fact we always had the feeling that a Democrat in Lincoln county was a pretty lonesome individual.

THE national administration is ed to scream about the danger of Washington has suddenly start.

ed to scream about the danger of Washington has suddenly start.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Marion, Iowa
July 2, 1947

Mr. Glenn F. Heady
Work Unit Conservationist
Soil Conservation Service
Vinton, Iowa

Dear Glenn:

I would like to take this opportunity to commend you for the fine work you have done in maintaining the support and cooperation of local newspapers in the soil conservation program. Your knack for recognizing a good local news story and your willingness to put in a few extra hours in preparing news items for the use of local papers has done much to cultivate the friendly relationships which exist.

The value of an active newspaper campaign cannot be over-emphasized. However we must take caution not to allow educational activities to seriously hinder our job of getting conservation on the land. I am hopeful that the new extension director in Benton County will soon be able to assume his role in carrying on an active program in soil conservation.

I am very pleased with the way that the district program is shaping up in Benton County and I wish to commend you again for the very vital part which you are contributing to this effort.

Very truly yours,

Emerson Wolfe
Emerson Wolfe
District Conservationist

June 1948
RAINS WASH TONS OF "BLACK GOLD" FROM BENTON FIELDS



—Daily Times Photo-Engraving

BENTON SOIL CONSERVATIONIST GLENN F. HEADY is shown above measuring more than a hand high of good topsoil which was carried down from a slightly sloping field of corn in Jackson township by the rains of this week. Heady said this particular accumulation was about eight inches deep, covered an area of about an acre. In other sections of the county the silt was a foot deep in places. Loss of this topsoil means poorer fields, poorer fields mean poorer crops, poorer crops a poorer county, poorer county a poorer state and so on right up to a poorer world. All human life was the loser in Benton county this week.

Cedar Valley Times Farmer

VINTON, IOWA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1952

Tree Plantings in Benton County Serve Farmers in Many Ways



By GLENN HEADY
BENTON COUNTY NEWS

It was 11 years ago this spring that Sam Towe, former owner of the Lyle Olson farm, set out two large plantings of trees, including an evergreen planting for erosion control on a sandy soil. The other planting was about a three-quarter-acre of black locust on a badly eroded area in a gulley which was cutting up toward the buildings from out of one of the fields.

The black locust planting now consists of trees which vary from a few feet to thirty-five feet in height. While the above plantings were in process, an additional planting was also made on a neighbor's farm, Gertrude Piccart, which was also made for erosion control purposes.

Cecil Frimml

The black locust plantings now serve similar purposes to those of the evergreen planting. The planting of the Cecil Frimml farm, because of his considerable distance away from the buildings, will be developed this spring to invite pheasants, quail and rabbits by making a small evergreen planting, some food producing plants and by surrounding it by multi-flora rose planting.

The Benton soil conservation office is expecting a large number of plantings this spring for the purpose of developing wild life habitat areas which will also serve as erosion control in many cases and as future woodlots.

Such areas being used for plantings are normally odd areas on the farm. Nearly all farms contain areas which could be planted to trees and shrubs or in other cases where there are badly eroded areas which might easily be planted for the same purposes.

Merle Weir

During the past three years there have been a total of 83½ acres of trees planted in Benton county. The majority of these areas are doing exceptionally well. In 1951 there were 36½ acres planted.

Probably the most outstanding plant during the past year was a two-acre tract on the Merle Weir farm at Mt. Auburn.

The best three-year-old planting that we have seen is that of Elmer Janes of Blairtown.

There have been upwards of half a dozen farmers in the office thus far this winter calling for information on tree plantings and it is expected there will be a large number of trees ordered by the March 1 deadline.

Available Varieties

The evergreen varieties available for plantings this year are jack pine (adapted especially for sand) and red and white pine.

The broad leaf varieties available are green ash, soft maple and black walnut.

A PLANTING of evergreen trees 11 years ago now affords an excellent windbreak for the Lyle Olson farm three miles south and a mile east of Newhall. Planted to control erosion on sandy soil, the trees also serve as a refuge for wildlife.

—Daily Times Photo-Engraving

The food-producing plants that should be associated with tree plantings to induce wildlife population are wild plum, wild grape, dogwood, red haw and Russian olive. Multiflora rose seedlings are also available to plant around the perimeter of these areas to afford protection from livestock, dogs and fox.

The costs of plantings are not excessive as most plants cost only one cent each.

Farmers desiring to order trees and shrubs should not plan on making these plantings for windbreak purposes and they must be ordered in such quantities that they will plant enough to provide a good woodlot and erosion control area or wildlife habitat area.

No single variety can be ordered in numbers of less than 250 plants and each order must be of at least 500 plants.

Life's Outlook Is Gloomy



When We Waste Our Resources, Either Soil Or Money

There is no future for this lad or anyone else when the soil is gone. Our soil is a priceless asset. It is a capital investment upon which we can draw interest indefinitely if we preserve the capital. But if we start spending our capital as well as the interest we soon find the account overdrawn. That means trouble.

For our future well being it is important that we stop drawing on our capital investment. In other words, stop erosion, use good rotations, build fertility and keep our soil capital intact.

We're interested in making sound loans for agricultural purposes. Our loans will be sounder if the soil resources of the community are preserved. That's why we want to see more Soil Conservation Here.

Benton County Savings Bank

Established In 1881

Conservationist Darrell Race Dies Following Heart Attack



DARREL C. RACE inspecting Benton county tiling project.

VINTON NEWS
Darrell C. Race, 41, Benton county conservation aid, died suddenly at his home last evening of a heart attack. It was learned that he had suffered a similar attack last spring and was forced to stay home for a few days to recuperate. However, his health had generally been good.

Race left his office in the Farm building at about 5:15 p. m. and walked home. On arriving home he told his wife he wasn't feeling well. Mrs. Race insisted that he go to bed and she, though ill in bed with an attack of the flu, got up to prepare something to eat. Meanwhile the doctor was called. A few minutes after the physician left the house to go to the hospital Race died as his wife was starting to feed him.

Deceased was a graduate of Vinton high school with the class of 1931. He got into soil conservation work in 1937. During World War II he served for three years with the 363rd Engineers in North Africa and Iran.

Race came to Vinton in May, 1951, to become assistant to Glenn Heady, Benton county soil conservationist. He worked as conservation practices layout man for the county. Today Heady said: "He'll be a hard man to replace. He was one of the best men in the state."

Darrell C. Race was born Feb. 13, 1912, on a farm near Vinton, a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Race. He was the youngest child in the family. Two sisters, one brother and his parents are dead. He is survived by his wife, two daughters — Ernestine and Adda — three sisters, Mrs. Lloyd Hilton, Vinton; Mrs. Walter Lahue, Urbana; and Mrs. James Downing, Marion.

Race was a Mason, a Methodist, a member of the American Legion, and a charter member of the Cedar chapter of the Izaak Walton league.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday at 1:30 p. m. at the Vinton Methodist church with the Rev. Edgar E. Walker Jr. and the Vinton lodge No. 62 A. F. & A. M. in charge. Burial will be in the Oak Hill cemetery at Tama.

Friends may call at the Fry and Holland funeral home after tonight.

Conservation Helps Owner & Tenant



FARM MANAGER Clyde St. Clair, left, and tenant Leland Goodell look over a lush crop of oats on land being rebuilt through soil conservation practices.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Conservation farming is profitable for owner and tenant alike, according to tenant Leland Goodell and Clyde St. Clair, who manages a 164-acre farm for his mother, Mrs. Jess St. Clair, near Vinton.

St. Clair began soil conservation on the farm two and a half miles west of Vinton in 1950 because of low fertility and erosion on the place.

Four years ago the farm had 143 acres of cropland and now has 163 acres of tillable land.

Before conservation practices were installed the St. Clair place was a grain farm, and by 1950 production had dropped to the 25-bushel of corn per acre stage, according to Conservation aide Lloyd Welch.

In 1950 it took about three acres of pasture to carry one head of cattle. Now the ratio is three head per acre and still rising.

Goodell Convinced

Tenant Goodell is beginning his third year on the farm. Speaking of conservation, Goodell, who was born and reared on a farm, says, "A conservation program is profitable to the renter as well as the owner."

"It shows the owner is really interested in his farm. Having seen this farm before it was in a conservation program and with the improvements we have made and will make, I am convinced this farm will be a profitable producer."

"After being on a farm for four years where no improvements of the soil had been made, I can certainly appreciate a farm that is in a conservation program."

Goodell is farming on a 50-50 gain, livestock rent basis.

The farm's conservation plan includes a well-balanced livestock program. Since 1950 the following practices have been used on the place: tiling, pasture renovation, waterway construction, re-establishing filed boundaries, terracing and a rotation of corn, corn, oats, meadow and meadow.

Guardian of the Soil

St. Clair says of his soil conservation experience:

"My opinion formed by my few years of farm management is that conservation of the soil is a must, and that every person who owns or leases land should feel that he or she is the guardian of the soil and should see that they do everything in their power to properly maintain and improve this fine land of ours."

"Proper use of soil conservation practices such as rotation of crops, watershed control, strip cropping, contour plowing and cultivation, tiling and building of waterways, terracing where and if necessary, are needed. Along with this goes soil testing, the proper use of commercial fertilizer and fertilizer produced on the farm."

"A well balanced plan of stock raising can develop as a result of all of the other practices to complete the package of a balanced long range conservation plan. Results show that the more tilt and fertility that build up in the soil the more benefits will be reaped."

"Sure, it takes time and money for conservation practices, but can you think of a better plan than improving the investment that you have, and in turn receiving a better return from your investment. It pays, rather than costs."

"This can all be managed on a long term plan with the help of soil conservation service."



WINTERTIME TERRACING — In spite of last week's show, these two patrols (graders), owned by Richard Hall of Vinton, in one day built a mile of parallel terraces on the John Anderson and Son farm southeast of Newhall. The 25-foot wide standard graded terraces have a 15-inch channel and are built to accommodate four-row machinery. They lie at 100-foot intervals in the 20-acre field. Lloyd Welch, of the Benton county soil conservation office, said 62 miles of terraces have been built in the county this year and 12 more miles are scheduled to be completed. Terracing is being encouraged in the Benton county Agriculture Conservation Program, Welch said.

—Gazette Photo.

Feb. 2, 1955

Benton County Entered In Conservation Of Soils Contest

The Benton soil conservation district has entered the national Soil Conservation Awards program sponsored by the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., of Akron, Ohio, it was announced recently by District Chairman Henry Grunewald, Jr., of Blairtown.

Members of Benton district will compete against other soil conservation districts in the state. Non-partisan judging committees, selected from Iowa's outstanding exponents of the soil conservation

movement, will determine the state's outstanding district for the period May 1, 1954 and April 30, 1955 on a basis of total points scored in performance of regular district duties.

Grand award for one member of each winning district governing body and the top cooperating farmer or rancher named by the district will be a one-week, expense free vacation trip to Goodyear's fabulous winter resort, the Wigwam Guest ranch on Goodyear Farms, Litchfield Park, Ariz., in December, 1955.

Members of the Benton district governing body who will compete for the Goodyear award are: Henry Grunewald, Jr., Blairtown; Glenn Christy, Garrison; Harry Horak, Vinton; and the following assistant soil commissioners: Lyle

Olson, Atkins; Ken Ferguson, Walker, and Stuart Gulick, Garrison.

National winners of the Soil Conservation awards will be honored at the seven regular area meetings of the National Association of Soil Conservation districts. Plaques will be awarded at these conventions to the 100 first and second place winning districts.

Benton district won second place in the contest the last two years a contest was held.

A loaded gas transport tipped over near Mount Vernon recently, rolling over five times down a 75-foot embankment. About 300 gallons of gas were spilled. The driver, Howard Swanson of Illinois, and his passenger, received minor injuries.

Goodyear Judges Benton 2nd In Soil Conservation

10-6-54
Will Receive Plaque
At Commissioners
Meeting Thursday

The Goodyear Tire and Rubber company, each year, sponsors one of the nationwide contests for soil conservation work where recognition is given to soil districts and cooperating farmers for outstanding accomplishment.

One of the district commissioners and an outstanding farmer in each of the winning districts will receive an expense paid trip to Arizona this fall as guests of the company.

The state of Iowa has been divided into two competing units and was split north and south. The Woodbury county district won first place in the northern division and Benton county won second.

The contest is based on the following traits: developing a sound work program; field accomplishment; educational program; administration of district affairs; organization of activities and committees to assist the governing bodies in their work.

This Thursday evening a plaque will be presented to the soil commissioner at a meeting in the Farm Bureau building.

Benton Soil Savers Enter U. S. Contest

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Benton soil conservation district has entered the national Soil Conservation Awards program sponsored by the Goodyear Tire Co. of Akron, Ohio, it was announced today by District Chairman Henry Grunewald Jr., of Blairtown, Iowa.

Members of Benton district will compete against other soil conservation districts in the state. Non-partisan judging committees selected from Iowa's outstanding exponents of the soil conservation movement, will determine the state's outstanding district for the period May 1, 1954 and April 30, 1955 on a basis of total points scored in performance of regular district duties.

Grad award for one member of each winning district governing body and the top cooperating farmer or rancher named by the district will be a one-week, expense-free, vacation trip to Goodyear's fabulous Park, Ariz., in December, 1955.

Members of the Benton district governing body who will compete for the Goodyear award are: Henry Grunewald, Jr., Blairtown, Iowa; Glenn Christy, Garrison, Iowa; Harry Horak, Vinton, Iowa; and the following Assistant Soil Commissioners: Lyle Olson, Atkins, Iowa; Ken Ferguson, Walker, Iowa; and Stuart Gulick, Garrison, Iowa.

National winners of the soil conservation awards will be honored at the seven regular area meetings of the National Association districts. Plaques will be awarded at these conventions to the hundred first and second place winning districts.

Benton District won second place in the Goodyear contest the last two years a contest was held.

Headys Get Heads Together



E. HEADY CALLS FOR EFFICIENCY, CONSERVATION

Glen Pardum, Dave Irvine,
Harold Wingert Cited
As Soil Savers

By MARK KRUSE
BENTON COUNTY NEWS

More than 120 persons attended the annual Benton county Soil Conservation district dinner at the Vinton Legion hall last night and heard a talk by Dr. Earl Heady, noted agricultural author and instructor and brother of Benton county soil-saver Glenn Heady.

Dr. Heady, who was introduced to the Benton soil conservation cooperators by his brother Glenn, told of the increasing population and stated that more food will have to be produced, thus calling for still more agricultural efficiency. At the same time, he said, our soil must be conserved to insure the success of higher production in future years.

Honor Three Farmers

Named as Benton's three outstanding soil conservation farmers of 1954 at the gathering were Glen Pardum of Brandon, Dave Irvine of Dysart and Harold Wingert of La Porte City.

Judge John W. Tobin offered prayer prior to the beef dinner which was prepared and served by women of the Vinton Legion auxiliary.

Glenn Christy of Garrison, Benton soil commissioner, was master of ceremonies of the program.

Stuart Gulick, assistant soil commissioner from Vinton, sang several songs.

Population Increasing

Dr. Heady then took over and centered on a situation in which the population is expected to increase 25 percent in 25 years—at a minimum.

Heady pointed out that this will require still more efficient production of farm goods in the United States in future years. He stressed that he wasn't worried about the United States going hungry as the population continued to grow, but that the question arises "can we feed that extra population and still keep our high standard of living?"

The Ames agricultural expert said that 80 percent of the labor population of China and India is required to produce food for their countries, whereas 12 percent of our nation's labor supply produces our food. In Russia, 70 percent of the labor supply produces food—this, of course, leaves only 30 percent of the labor supply left to produce other goods, such as automobiles, refrigerators, etc.

32 Acres for Auto

Continuing on agricultural economics, Dr. Heady said that in 1929 Benton's average corn yield per acre was 39 and a half bushels with corn selling at 70 cents. It would have taken 32 acres of this average corn to purchase an automobile.

(Continued on Page Two)

BENTON SOIL DINNER MAR. 3

Dr. Earl Heady Will
Be Speaker

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Dr. Earl Heady of Ames, noted agriculture economist, and brother of Glenn Heady, Benton county conservationist, will be guest speaker at the Benton county soil conservation cooperators' dinner to be held at the Vinton Legion hall Thursday evening at 6:30.

Art Thoreson, Des Moines, of the state conservation service will also attend the gathering.

Tickets are available at the Benton soil conservation office in the Vinton Farm building or from various farmers around the county.

Wildlife Planting are Available From State Conservation Nursery

Wildlife plantings are now available for 1955. They may be obtained from the state conservation nursery at Ames.

Packets available for 1955 include three types for the different sections of the state. These are: No. 1, western Iowa; No. 2, northern and eastern Iowa, and No. 3, southern Iowa, recommended for farm ponds.

Prices for all packets are the same (\$3.75) and the number of trees, also the same (175 trees and shrubs). Instructions for planting are included.

Packet No. 2 for northern and eastern Iowa consist of: 25 conifers, 25 ninebark, 25 wild grape, 25 Siberian crab, 25 honeysuckle, 25 caragan, and 25 black locust. 175 plants (\$3.75).

Multiflora rose may be ordered along with a wildlife packet in numbers of 250 or more at a cost of \$6 per 250 plants or \$20 per 1,000.

Prices for hardwoods, ordered in lots of 250 trees are \$4, except walnuts, which are \$1.50 per 250 nuts. (Stratified seed).

Conifers, which includes Douglas fir, Norway spruce, red cedar, and

red pine are priced at \$6 per 250 trees or \$20 per 1,000.

Trees purchased from the state nursery are for the purpose of erosion control and wildlife planting only, and are not to be planted as ornamental trees or windbreaks.

With the 1955 list of trees, shrub and brush plants now out for spring plantings of wildlife habitat, wood lots and erosion control, farmers are advised to order early before various species are depleted.

During the past number of years, orders for plants for odd area plantings have varied from five up to 30,000 which is indicated by the many such areas that are beginning to show up in Benton county. The State Conservation Commission has often indicated that Benton is one of the counties in the state ordering more trees and shrubs than any other counties.

Classic examples of splendid wildlife habitat and odd area plantings made by farmers now stand as monuments of past efforts by the men who visualized

the value of such plantings. Most outstanding of these areas are on the farms of Jay Nabholz of Shellsburg, and near Belle Plaine splendid examples are found on the farms of Robert Allers, Kozik Brothers, L. P. Koep and the late Louis Raabe. The latter named plantings were made during the early days of the CCC camp which was located at Belle Plaine.

The many new plantings made in recent years are quite well scattered over Benton county and will, in time, stand out as a splendid wildlife cover area as well as add to the beauty of a farm and provide lumber for building purposes. They will be noted as past efforts of forward-looking farmers and sportsmen in the same way as the good farmstead windbreaks stand out as monuments to our



DEWEY BUSSEY, JR., vocational agriculture instructor in the Belle Plaine high school, and 38 of the boys in his class planted approximately 100 trees on the Lloyd Albers farm last week. Mr. Albers previously planted multiflora roses around an area of about one

acre as a future game area. This picture shows part of the boys planting the trees near a small creek. Your cameraman wondered while taking this picture if the boys' parents can get them to do similar work around the house.



VOCATIONAL AG BOYS of the Belle Plaine high school were on the working ends of spades at the Lloyd Albers farm last week. Dewey Bussey (wearing the hat), instructor of the class, supervised the planting of about 100 trees along a creek bed on the farm. Note the terraces in the background. Mr. Albers has made great strides in soil (and game) conservation on what is known as the Froning farm.

Game Area a Froning Farm

Plant Multiflora R
And Trees Near c

Lloyd Albers will have cellent game preserve what is known as the farm within the next few years. A small creek runs through the farm and bordering the s has planted approximat multiflora roses.

Non-Productive Ar
When completed the take in about an acre productive land. Within future "live" fences he about 100 trees that were just last week by the Belle Plaine high school vocational class.

Trees were received the conservation depa We might also add Albers has done a co amount of terracing on this spring. He did himself. The terraces end hilliest section of the farm. The Albers family live four miles northeast Plaine.

Soil Savers and Contractors Meet At Vinton Hotel

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
Benton county district soil conservation commissioners and the Martin-Roosa farm moving equipment company held a meeting for contractors and earth movers in the Hotel coffee shop at Vinton this noon and afternoon.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss 1955 soil conservation work in Benton county. The machinery company's representatives told of various methods of construction and showed films. Soil savers discussed specifications required for various types of projects.

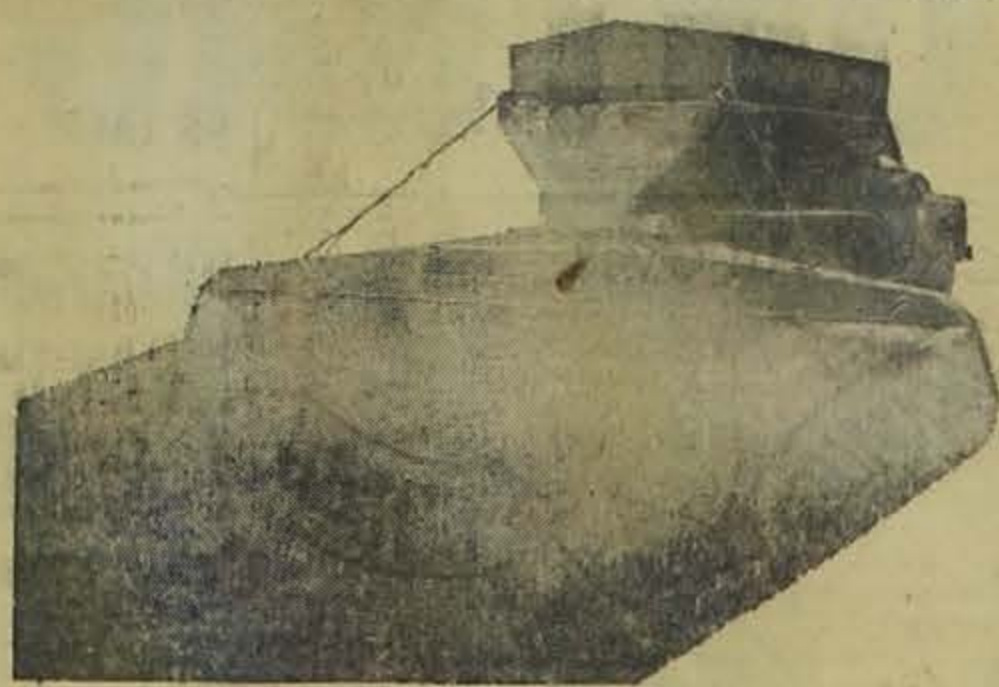
Participating in the program were: Commissioner Harry Horak who was master of ceremonies, Chairman of the District Henry Grunewald Jr., Conservationist Glen Heady, Area Conservationist Harlan Backes and representatives from the machinery company.

Contractors present included: Kramer brothers of Urbana, Grau brothers of Garrison, Dick Hall of Vinton, Homer Lockhart of Vinton, Andy Wilson of Belle Plaine, Myron Raabe of Blairs-town, Kolsto Brothers of Newhall and Jay Saunders of Palo.

Benton Featured in Soil Publication

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
Benton county's soil conservation district was featured in the May issue of "Iowa Soil and Water," official publication of the Iowa association of soil district commissioners and the Iowa State Watersheds association. Most articles in the publication were written by Bentonians.

Make Good Meadow **BETTER** with Fertilizers



and get a **DOUBLE** PAYOFF

MORE FORAGE THIS YEAR! — MORE GRAIN LATER!
LEGUMES MAY GO HUNGRY IF . . .

You didn't fertilize at seeding time.
They've been 2 years or more without fertilizer.
You can topdress new seedings right after grain harvest.
You can topdress established stands right after cutting or this fall.
The bigger your meadow yield, the better your corn crops later.
Iowa State College studies show that meadow that produces 1 ton more hay will produce 12-15 bushels more corn per acre.
See us for fertilizers that will boost your meadow yields.

Benton County Farm Service Company
Phone 825 Vinton, Iowa



Good supplements help fattening cattle make greater gains from your soil-conserving forage and grains.

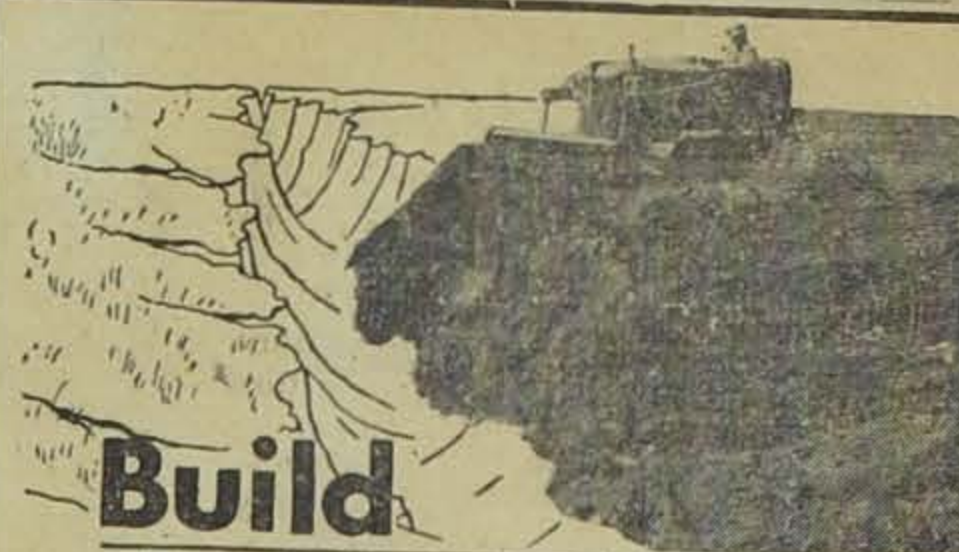
Remember this: --- Our modern supplements stimulate appetites and boost feeding efficiency. Don't skimp on grain when you use our supplements. Your steers will be hungry because they'll be gaining faster than steers on old-style rations. And they'll be doing it cheaper for you.

To get sufficient market finish on those big steers, plan to feed at least as much grain per steer as you would when feeding old-style supplements. It will probably pay you to feed more. Remember, each pound of home-grown grain and forage you feed is making more beef than ever before when you use our modern growth-stimulating supplements.

Drop in and let us help you plan a program to get top beef production for every pound of home-grown grains and forages you feed.

Vinton Farmers Supply, Inc.

Drive in for Quick Service
(On Highway 218 So. R. I. Track)
Vinton, Iowa
Phone 833



Build For Better Farming

...and you'll build a better future

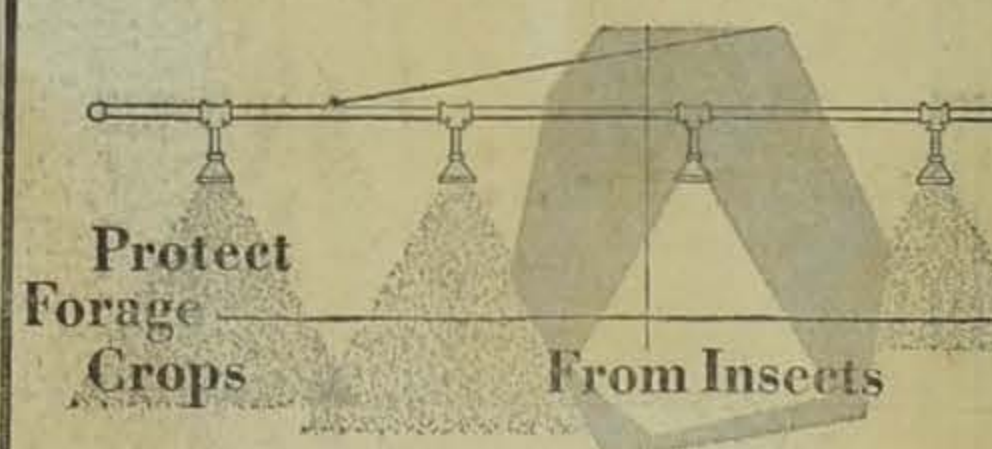
We have the equipment and know-how for top quality work in

- ★ filling gullies
- ★ building waterways
- ★ building ponds
- ★ building terraces

We are your ally in defending your priceless soil!

Earth Moving Contractor
HOMER LOCKHART

Phone 77-F-21



..That's conservation, too!

Conservation means lots of things - among them, guard and protect.

When you fight insects you **guard** profits by **protecting** crops from damage to yield and quality.

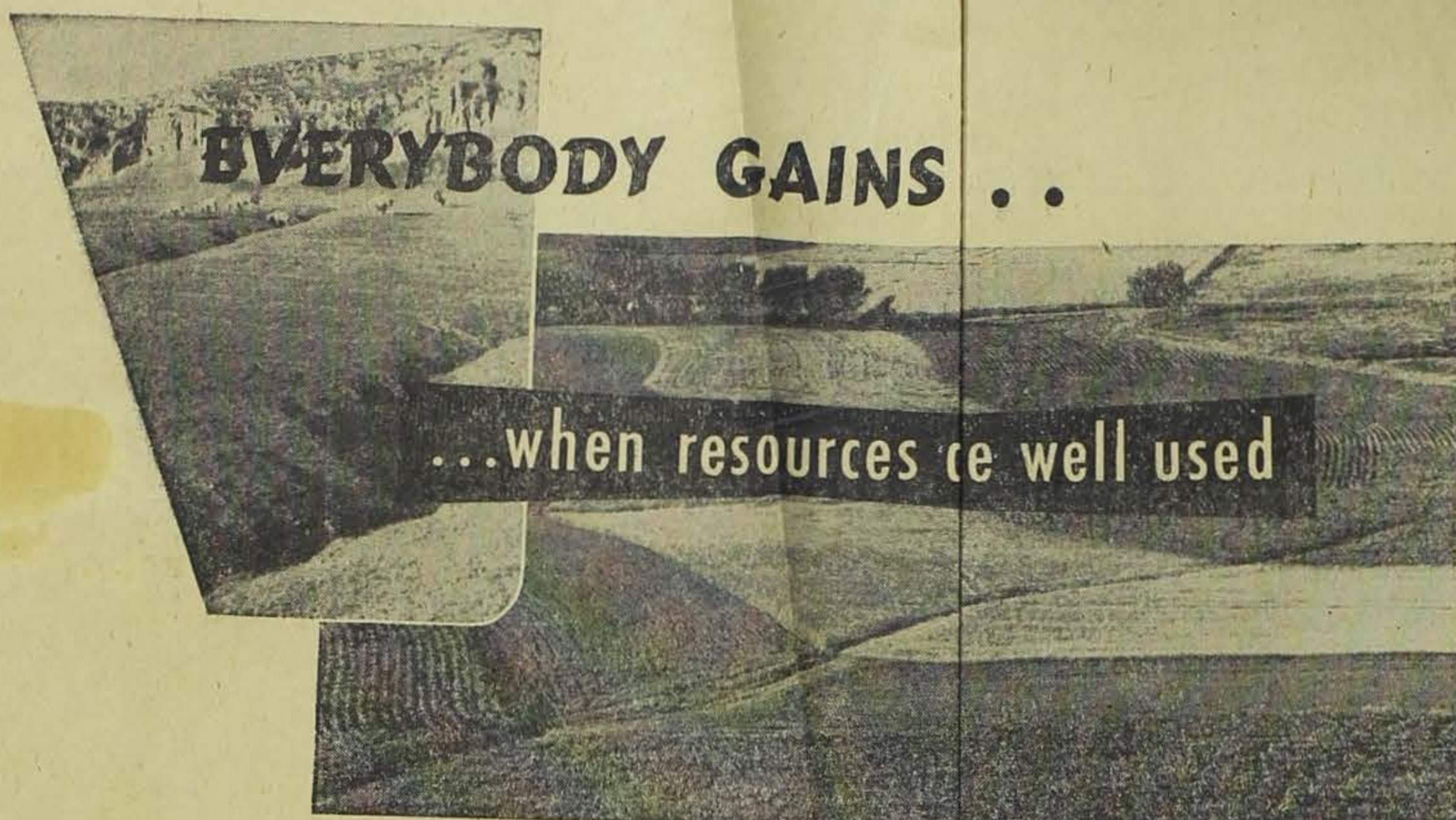
There's a spray that can help you protect your crops and guard your profits.

We follow Iowa State College recommendations.

LaGRANGE'S



LUTHER ANDERSON has gone in for soil conservation practices in a big way on his farm located 4 1/2 miles east of junction 218 on highway 30. This picture looks south over the gently rolling land on his farm and shows many terraces, grassed waterways and strip cropping. A group of vocational agriculture students did some judging of the soil on the Anderson farm Saturday, May 21, under the direction of Frank Schaller, extension agronomist, Iowa State College, Ames.



The picture on the left above was taken right here in Iowa. It wasn't shot on the site of some ancient city starved out of existence ages ago by soil erosion.

The other picture was taken in Iowa, too. Both of these fields are on sloping land.

One hillside has been practically destroyed by poor land use and lack of necessary conservation measures. Now it nourishes only a handful of sheep -- see them off in the distance. Land like this brings its owner little of value. It provides him little or no buying power.

The other hillside has been managed so as to use and maintain its value. Owners of fields like this can get a good return from their land. They can live better. They can develop buying power that helps build the whole community.

Why we're strong for right soil use. It means that we can buy the good things each family wants, that we can build schools and churches and help our community grow. We're 100 per cent behind our good

farmers of this community whose good use of their resources is helping make this community a good place to live, a good place for children to grow up and a good place to work.

This Message Sponsored By

VINTON LUMBER COMPANY
VINTON FARMERS SUPPLY CO.
WESTERN AUTO ASSOCIATE STORE
ELLIS-McDOWELL LUMBER CO.
THOMPSON FEED STORE
VINTON LIME & ROCK
FARMERS SALES & SERVICE
STEPHENS IMPLEMENT CO.

VINTON IMPLEMENT CO.
FARMERS GRAIN & COOP. CO.
MEYER TRACTOR
BENDULL & SONS
BENTON COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP. ASSN.
PETERSON-HUSTON LUMBER CO.
DAVIS IMPLEMENT CO.
McVEY FEED & SEED

JUNE 12 THROUGH 19 IS SOIL CONSERVATION WEEK

Many More Farms Build Terraces In B.P. Area

More Than 200 Miles
Of Terraces to be
Built in 1955

In its tenth year after formal organization of the Belle Plaine soil conservation district, Benton county farmers are applying many more mechanical conservation practices than ever before, according to Glenn Heady, soil conservationist. Over 200 miles of terraces are to be laid out and built according to the farmers plans this year. Seventy-five miles have already been built this spring.

Two thousand acres of land have been laid out for contouring and 500 acres have been laid out for strip cropping by the Soils Conservation Service, of which Mr. Heady is the head in Benton county. Although the contouring and strip cropping figures do not excel those of previous years, the mileage of terraces applied to crop land will more than double that of last year which was twice that of any previous year of terrace application.

"Benton county farmers are coming to realize," says Mr. Heady "the value of holding top soil in place by the fact that crop yields respond directly to these good management practices. Other factors influencing the rapid application of conservation practices on the land is the desire of farmers to hold the plant food nutrients in place which are being applied in such great quantities now in the form of commercial fertilizers and barn yard manures."

The heaviest application of terraces is in the Belle Plaine area where conservation farming got its start in Benton county a number of years ago. Terraces ap-



SOIL CONSERVATION AS IT APPEARS FROM THE AIR. This picture taken from about 1,000 feet above the ground shows one of the fields at the Richard Jahnke farm east of Belle Plaine. Mr. Jahnke recently built about 8,000 feet of terraces to help hold his soil on the fields rather than let it wash away. In the background can be seen a field on the Elmer Scheetz farm which was terraced last fall.

plied on farms in this area during the past year include farms of Dick Jahnke, Elmer Scheetz, Lloyd Albers, Otis F. Wright, Beatrice Uich, Oren James, Elmer James, Walter Boehmke, Ralph Heckroth (north of Luzerne), and Howard and Eugene McLeod.

Milage of terraces being applied to the farm land in the north half of the Benton Soil District now exceeds that of the south half, although community wise at the present rate of application it now appears that it may be a good many seasons before any other locality will surpass that of the Belle Plaine area in terracing.

63 Miles of Terraces Built In Benton County This Spring



THE ADVANCE in terracing progress in Benton county is typified by the 8,000 feet of new terraces on the Richard Jahnke farm east of Belle Plaine. Jahnke's terraces dominate the photo. In the background can be seen a field on the Elmer Scheetz farm which was terraced last fall.

By LLOYD WELCH
Conservation Aid
BENTON COUNTY NEWS

The rapid advancement of the Benton county soil conservation district program is well illustrated by the photo above. There were 63 miles of terraces built this spring, and requests for an additional 137 miles to be built this fall.

It is a rare mile you drive in Benton county without seeing some conservation on the land.

According to Glenn F. Heady, Benton soil conservationist, "until last year the terracing program was moving at practically a snail's pace." Heady says the gigantic increase in terrace mileage is mainly due to the fact that farmers who have contoured the past few years realize the need for better erosion and fertility control. We realize that contouring only gives about 50 percent control. Contours will still break over whereas terraces give us about 90 percent control and walks the excess water to our established waterways.

It takes approximately 20 inches of rainfall to produce 100 bushels of corn. The average rainfall in the spring in Benton county is approximately 10 inches.

Our average rainfall for the entire year is about 36 inches. How then do we store the much needed additional 10 inches. Terraces will catch our fall rains, the fall and winter snows, and retain this extra water until it has a chance to move down to our subsoil.

It is then stored in our subsoil until needed for plant growth. Marion Clarke stated at the recent contractors meeting at Ames that there was up to 14 percent and more increased yields on terraced land over "non-terraced" land based on a five-year research study.

The Belle Plaine (Iowa) Union Wednesday, May 25, 1955



FRANK SCHALLER (left) extension agronomist, Iowa State college, Ames, gave a soil judging demonstration at the Luther Anderson farm, 4½ miles east of the 218 junction on highway 30, Saturday, May 21, to a group of Belle Plaine vocational agriculture students. While giving his talk, Mr. Schaller explained the use of the Iowa soil judging score card which divides the tests

into four divisions: Surface features, characteristics of the soil profile, soil suitability and requirements for major crops and productivity and land class. Mr. Schaller was assisted by Lloyd Welch, assistant Benton county soil conservation officers and Harlan Backus, Marion, area conservationist.

Benton Soil Saving District in Contest

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
Benton county's soil conservation district has entered the national soil conservation awards program sponsored by the Goodyear Tire Co., of Akron, Ohio, it was announced today by District Chairman Henry J. Grunewald Jr., of Blairstown.

Members of Benton's district will compete against other soil conservation districts in the state. Non-partisan judging committees, selected from Iowa's outstanding exponents of the soil conservation movement, will determine the state's outstanding district for the period May 1, 1955, and March 1, 1956, on a basis of total points scored in performance of regular district duties.

Benton's district has placed second in the conservation contest twice, and are competing in this year's contest in which judging has not been completed.

Award for one member of each winning district governing body and the top cooperating farmer or rancher named by the district will be a one-week, expense-free, vacation trip to a winter resort in Arizona in December, 1956.

Members of the Benton district governing body are: Grunewald; Glenn Christy, Garrison; Harry T. Horak, Vinton; Lyle Olson, Atkins; Stuart Gulick, Garrison; and Lawrence Floyd, Vinton.

Benton Soil Dist. Enters Goodyear Annual Contest

Has Received Second Place in Previous Conservation Entries

The Benton county soil conservation district has entered the national soil conservation awards program sponsored by the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. of Akron, Ohio, it was announced today by district chairman, Henry J. Grunewald, Jr., of Blairstown.

Members of Benton district will compete against other soil conservation districts in the state. Non-partisan judging committees, selected from Iowa's outstanding exponents of the soil conservation movement, will determine the state's outstanding district

for the period May 1, 1955 and March 31, 1956, on a basis of total points scored in performance of regular district duties.

Grand award for one member of each winning district governing body and the top cooperating farmer or rancher named by the district will be a one-week, expense-free, vacation trip to Goodyear's fabulous winter resort, the Wigwam Guest ranch on Goodyear Farms, Litchfield Park, Ariz., in December, 1956.

The Goodyear company has sponsored this contest for several years, and the Benton district has placed second twice. The judging has not been completed for the year 1954-55.

The contest runs from May 1 to April 30 of the following year. Benton has again entered the competition.

HEADY TO TALK TO FARM CLASS

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
Special to Daily Times

NEWHALL — Glenn Heady, Benton county soil conservationist, will be guest speaker at a meeting of the adult farmer class here Tuesday, Oct. 11 at 7:30 p. m. The meeting date was changed to accommodate speakers.

The topic for the evening's program will be "soil conservation farm planning."

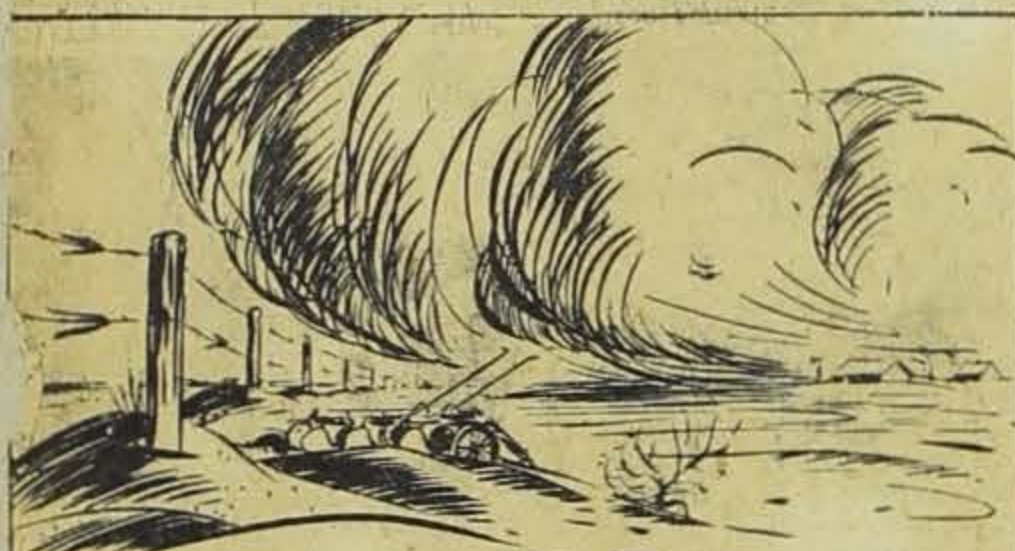
Heady asked farmers who have soil conservation farm plans on their farms to bring the plans to the Tuesday evening meeting. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Twenty-two farmers registered for the first adult class Oct. 3. Paul Janett, highway patrolman, led the discussion on road laws affecting farmers. Many points of interest were discussed concerning present road problems.

Thirty-eight women attended the first homemaking class. Orders were placed for reed for the basket making lessons which will begin Oct. 24. Anyone interested in ordering reed and attending these lessons may place their order with Mrs. Vernon Schroeder or Mrs. Lloyd Werning, Newhall.

Mrs. Mildred Scott of Cedar Rapids will demonstrate "Christmas Gift Wrapping" at the next meeting, Oct. 11. Nov. 2 is the date selected by those attending the classes for the tour of the Amana colonies. Plans will be completed at following meetings.

CEDAR VALLEY DAILY TIMES, June 18, 1955



"DUST THOU ART TO DUST RETURNETH."

"NEED NOT BE SPOKEN OF THE SOIL"



CEDAR VALLEY DAILY TIMES, June 11, 1955



WHAT IS GOOD FOR THE SOIL
IS GOOD FOR THE SOUL

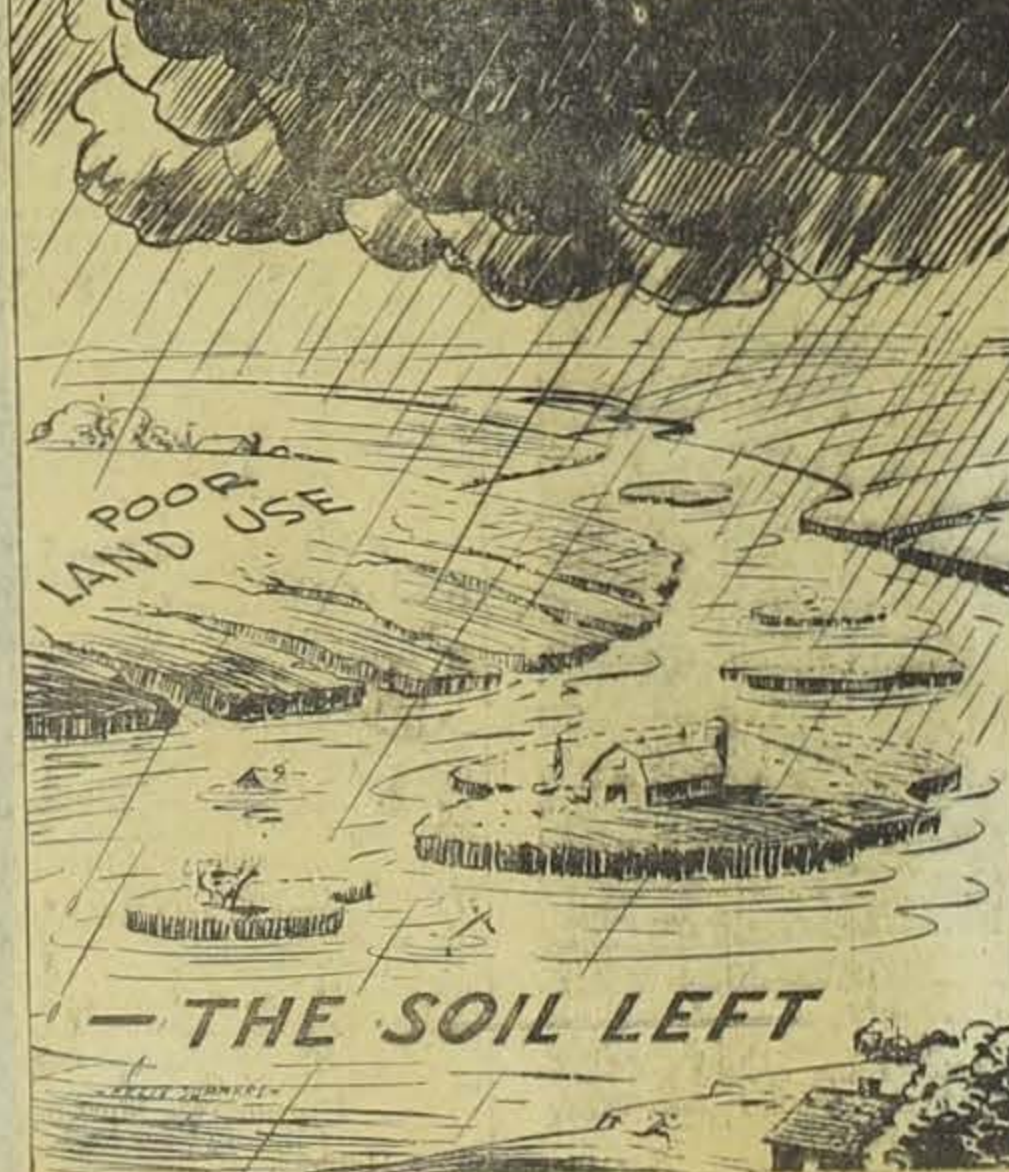
Club Turnout Urged For Soil Competition

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

NEWHALL — The Extension Service and Soil Conservation Service called on the Benton County FFA chapter and 4-H clubs to turn out for a soil demonstration contest being held Friday, Sept. 16 at 9:00 a. m. Everyone who is interested should meet at the Newhall school at 9:00 p. m. Excuses will be made for each 4-H boy to use as an explanation of their whereabouts. It is advised that everyone bring a sack lunch for dinner and plan to stay until about 2:30 p. m. Frank Schaller, Iowa State college, will be in charge of the demonstration. John Highland, area soil surveyor, will assist.

June 18-55

THE RAINS CAME —



— THE SOIL LEFT

June 11, 1955

Harry Carr Builds Farm With Conservation



A NEW FARM pond, which covers about a half an acre, at the Harry Carr farm north of Shellsburg, dwarfs the Daily Times jeep.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS.
SHELLSBURG—Harry Carr, who farms just north of Shellsburg, is one of Benton county's ever-growing group of farmers who swear by soil conservation and the great accomplishments which come from taking part in conservation programs.

When Harry moved on his 120 acres 14 years ago many of his friends and neighbors told him he "would starve to death." Harry adds that after the first year "I thought I'd starve to death, too."

But he began to build up his soil, and land that formerly produced only 20 bushels of corn per acre now tops 80 bushels now.

Harry credits soil conservation with the "more than 100 percent increase" in the productivity of his acres in recent years.

Farming hilly land, he constantly had to fight damaging gulleys. Nine years ago he began to terrace his hills. In four years he had four miles of terraces. Now, he says his gulley control problem no longer exists.

However, a few rods away from Carr's acres, deep gulleys gut a neighbor's hillside.

Speaking of his terraces, Harry said, "the rain water I get on my farm is no longer going to waste."

"I believe that the water that falls on my land is mine and with my terraces I am able to keep it, instead of letting it flow down a creek."

Conservation officials say Carr follows a "good" crop rotation plan. He has also pushed in gulleys, seeded waterways, laid tile and moved fences to help his rotation of crops.

Harry Carr of Shellsburg practices soil conservation and offers proof of what it has done for a farm.



HARRY CARR
 'Conservation Pays'

AT LEAST ONE good thing promises to come out of the flood disaster in New England, New York and New Jersey; there is going to be a great speedup in flood control work.

Advices from the stricken areas and from Washington state that plans are in the making for the construction of more dams, particularly on the smaller streams feeding large rivers.

More important, an ambitious soil and water conservation project is taking shape in official and lay minds. The project includes thousands of miles of terracing, and the planting of large areas to grass, brush and trees. When completed the terraces and plantings will hold back enormous quantities of water when cloud-bursts strike. In addition they will help prevent costly soil erosion and ease the effects of droughts.

If the program is carried through to the optimum, not even a second visitation of a 14-inch deluge from the skies will result in serious flood damage.

But it will take time, and it will cost many, many millions. The only real worry of the disaster victims, so far as the long range prospect is concerned, is that they may be engulfed a second time before considerable progress can be made in the installation of dams, terracing and plantings. They're not worried about the money. They are convinced it will be money well spent, feeling certain that in the long run the savings will amount to far more than the cost.

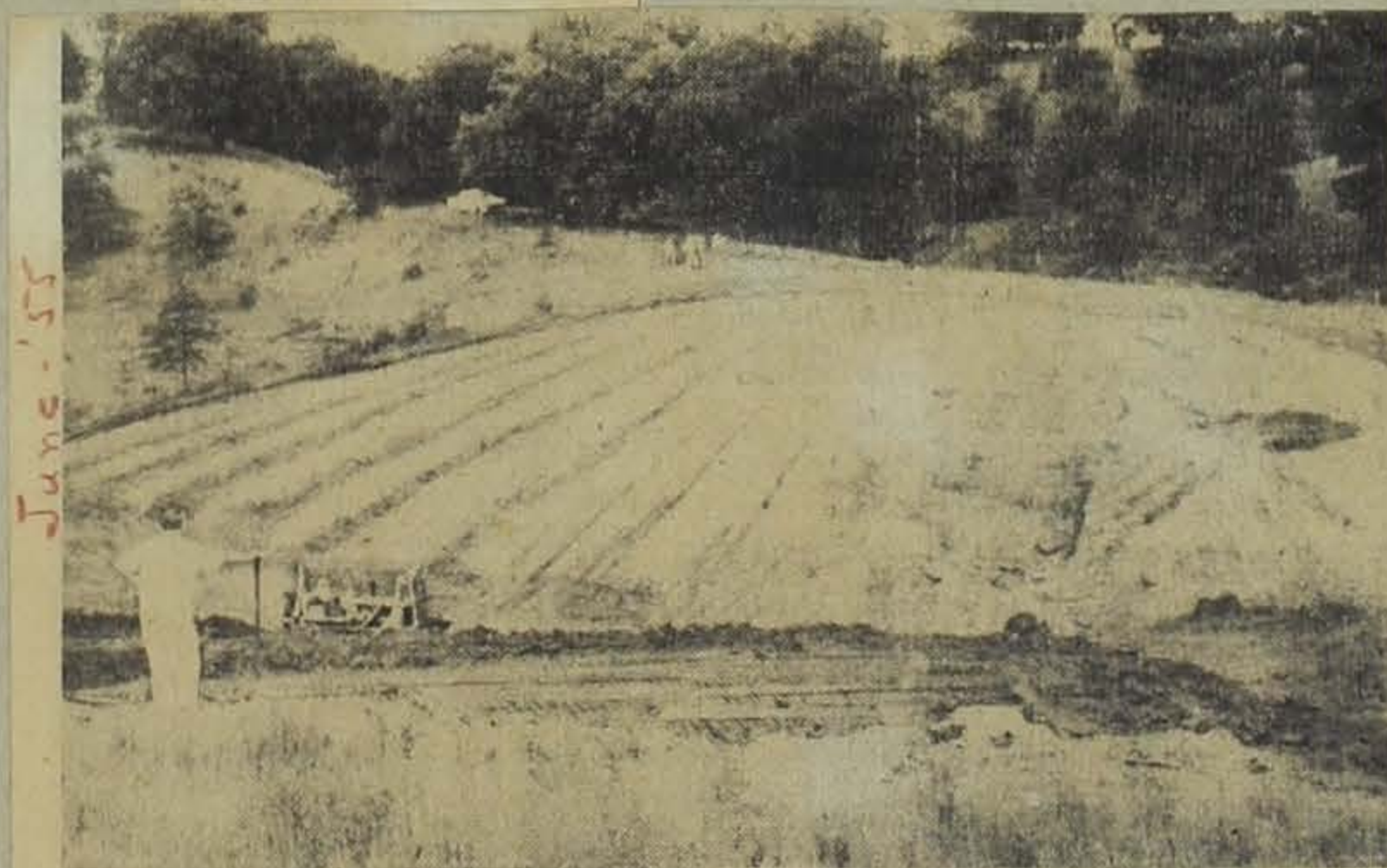


OUT OF DATE. Parade entry of the Benton county soil conservation group told visitors that "this rig is as out of date as plowing up and down hill." 9-8-55

6-15-55 Conservation Tour Tonight for Jaycees

VINTON NEWS
 Vinton Jaycees will observe soil conservation week tonight with a conservation tour directed by Conservationist Glenn Heady. Jaycees are to meet at the north side of the courthouse at 5:30 o'clock and will be taken on a tour of various farms in this area on which soil saving practices have been used.

The Jaycees will eat a picnic supper on the banks of "Swede" Cantonwine's farm pond, east of Vinton.



BIGGEST FARM POND in Benton county is being built at the Bayard Scott farm two and a half miles east of Vinton on the county home road. The pond will be 42 feet deep and cover 4.2 acres. It will be supplied by a 28-acre water shed and is being built 90 rods northeast of Scott's house. The pond's fill will contain 28,000 cubic yards of earth fill. The pond is expected to be completed by about the middle of July and is expected to take about one year to be completely filled, according to Conservationist Glenn Heady. An emergency outlet will be located just behind the auto in the background of the photo. The tiny figures in the background are men. In the left foreground Heady is standing where the water line is expected to be next year.

Newhall Agriculture Class Gets Soil Instruction

9/17/55



THE NEWHALL HIGH school agriculture class (sitting at right) yesterday received lessons on soil types and origins at the Don Weichman farm three and a half miles northeast of Newhall. Holes were dug at various points in the farm and the boys judged the soil after getting instructions in soil judging at the first hole. The boys were told about different types of soils by Frank Schaller of Iowa State college, seated at far left, and John Highland, soil specialist of the Soil Conservation

Service at Grundy Center, second from left. Other high school ag classes were invited to attend the instruction session but were unable to do so. Standing in the picture, left to right, Craig Seely, Benton county extension director; Ralph Goodman, Newhall agriculture instructor; Don Weichman, farm owner; Don Rainer, veterans' instructor at Newhall; and Glenn Heady, head of the Benton county soil conservation service.

terraces have been built on the Frank Beatty farm six miles prevent soil erosion and to conserve water. Four miles of foot treeoil will replace the present bluegrass pasture.



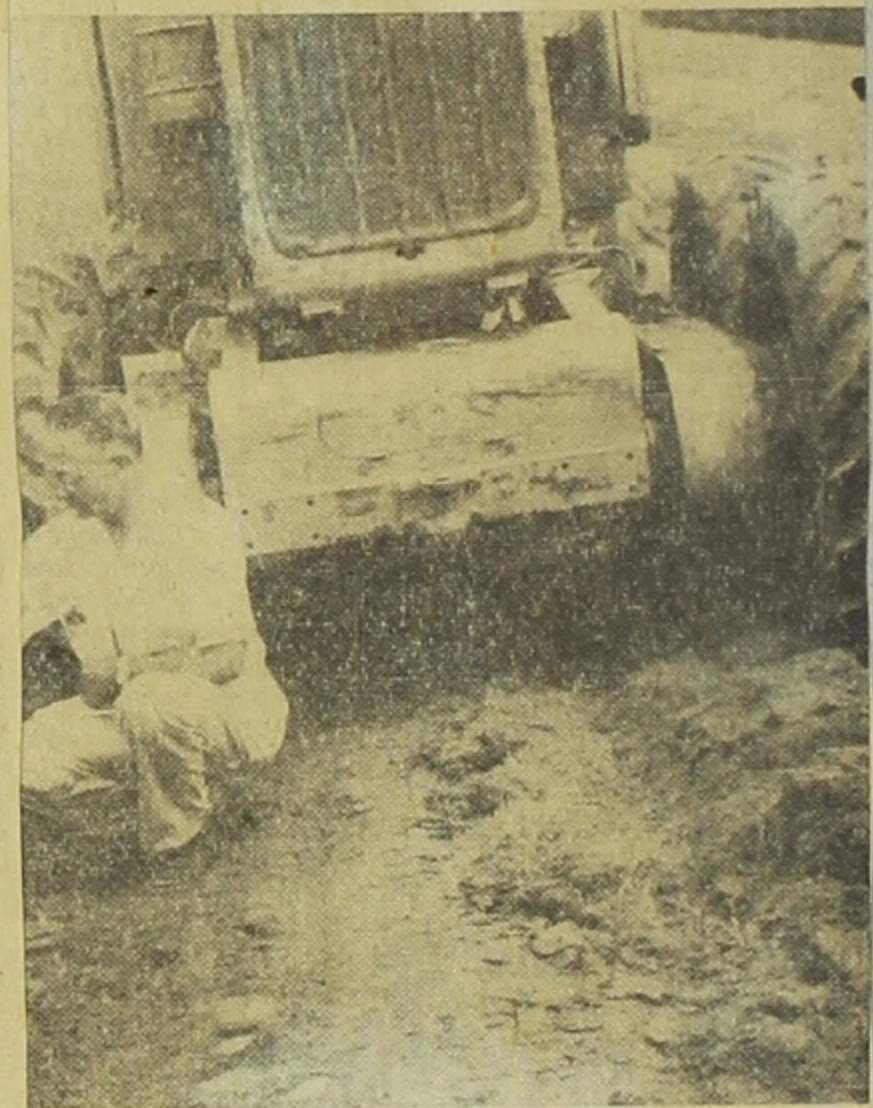
August 10, 1955



IT WAS ANNOUNCED this week that the Benton County Soil Conservation district commissioners have again won second place in the contest sponsored by the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. for the year 1954-1955. This competition included all soil conservation districts in the north half of the State of Iowa. First place went to Clayton county. This is the third successive year the Benton county soil conservation district has won second place in this competition. Since the first place winners are normally given a one week paid vacation by the Goodyear company to their Arizona farms at Litchfield Park, Ariz., competition in this district commissioners contest is normally very keen. The Benton soil conservation district won second place award through

high accomplishment in the application of soil conservation practices on the farms of Benton county, along with a heavy program of activities which broaden the conservation education planning, and application of practices on the land—and with the organization and activities of committees which assist the district governing body in carrying out the soil conservation program of the district. Members of the Benton county soil conservation district commissioners are: Henry Grunewald Jr., chairman, Blairtown; Glenn Christy, Garrison; Harry Horak, Vinton; and assistant commissioners, Lyle Olson, Atkins; Stuart Gulick, Garrison; Lawrence Floyd, Urbana.

CES continue to gain in popularity with Benton county. In the photo below, Benton Conservationist Glenn Heady shows the initial cut made by a grader in the preparation of a terrace on a Frank Beatty farm north of Shellsburg. The cut is about 15 to 18 inches deep and is followed by more the hill from the initial cut. The ridge of the terrace where the right wheel of the grader is located. The channel will be located where Heady is kneeling. The photo above, Duane Belknap, left, and Earl Richards, Vinton, show the depth of a terrace channel, which is 14 inches deep and contains 10 square feet of space. Ice channels are about 15 feet wide. Richards is kneeling outside of the terrace.



against said estimate; a
n was made by Tyler, sec-
by Barry to adopt budget
published.
s: Tyler, Stuart, Barry.
None.
on by Tyler seconded by
to adjourn. All voting aye.
A. H. Fry
Mayor
Melvin G. Happel
Clerk

Fight Results
ROIT — Frankie Ryff, 138,
rk, outpointed Joey Lopes,
acramento, Calif. (10).

Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Peter-

WCS of the Methodist
will have its annual
supper Oct. 5. They will
e a country store booth
ction with the supper.

et Johnson, Eva Grace,
Mullinex, Grace Whit-
Nina Geiger attended
S seminar at Geneseo
day.

edar township Farm
omen will have their
izational tea the after-
Sept. 23 at the Legion
Officers will serve as

rally was held last
the Church of Christ
85 present. William
Bristow, Ia., was the
Present were guests
ell, Brandon, Bristow,
ell Rock, and Wat-
ellowship hour and
e basement followed.
meeting will be the
y in October at Bran-

Phone 84

PLUMBING & HEATING

**Edwards Plumbing
and Heating**

Torrid-Heat
Mueller Furnaces
York Air Conditioning
Phone 25 Vinton

**EHLINGER'S
PLUMBING & HEATING**
508 1st Ave. Phone 92

JOE FUCHS, Jr.
Plumbing & Heating
"No Job Too Big or
Call Too Small"
Phone 1199 — Vinton

**"COMPLETE PLUMBING"
KEISTER Plbg. & Htg.**
Kohler Bathroom Fixtures, Oil
Burning Warm Air Heating and
Kewanee Boilers.
PHONE 294—VINTON

WELDING

**SAVE THE OLD PARTS—IT
WILL BE HARD TO GET NEW
ONES. TAKE THEM TO
Vinton Welding Co.**

SHOE REPAIR

HARRIS THARP
"Buster's" Shoe Shop
Where competent shoe repairing
done at reasonable prices

College All Stars Professional

CHICAGO (UP)—Curly Lam-
beau's hand-picked collegiate foot-
ball players can play professional
style as well as the best of the
veterans, it appeared today.

Lambeau's 1955 aggregation, se-
lected to play the platoon system,
were more adept in both offense
and defense than the National
Football League champion Cleve-
land Browns and turned on the
pressure in the last half for a 30-27
victory in the 22nd annual battle
Friday night.

There were nearly as many
heroes as All Stars, but tiny Tad
Weed, a 146 pound left footed place
kicker from Ohio State, L.G. Dupre,
speedy halfback from Baylor, and
Ralph Guglielmi, Notre Dame
quarterback who played the full
game for the collegians, stood out
on offense.

Bettis and Grier Shine

On defense the flashiest were
linebacker Tom Bettis of Purdue,
tackle Rosey Grier of Penn State,
and Jim Temp of Wisconsin, and
halfback Frank Bernardi of Colo-
rado.

Weed set a game record with
three field goals, from the 28, 20
and 41 yard lines, while Guglielmi
completed 10 of 19 passes for 129
yards and hit Henry Hair of Georg-
ia with a five yard pitch for one
touchdown.

Dupre ran for 74 yards on 12
carries and caught three passes for
49 yards, including one 19 yard
toss which took the Stars to the

Cleveland Takes Full Game Lead

The Cleveland Indians a-
their winning streak to five
today in the first "big mo-
culated to break the log
the top of the American
standings.

The Indians swept to t-
last year on a combina-
sound pitching and long-
ting—and that's exactly the
la they used in sweeping
day-night doubleheader from
Kansas City Athletics, 17-1.

The five-game streak is th-
ond longest of the campa-
the best any of the four co-
has put together in three

As a result, the Indians
up a one-game first-place
the Chicago White Sox—no
of a margin but the long-
A.L. team has held since
held the same lead on Aug.
White Sox defeated the
Tigers, 2-1, Friday nig-
dropped back a half game.
place New York and four
Boston were rained out of
uled games with Baltimo-
Washington.



EIGHT AND A QUARTER miles of terraces have been built on the Frank Beatty farm six miles north and a mile west of Shellsburg to prevent soil erosion and to conserve water. Four miles of the terraces were built this month. Birdsfoot trefoil will replace the present bluegrass pasture.



June 155

TERRACES continue to gain in popularity with Benton county farmers. In the photo below, Benton Conservationist Glenn Heady shows the initial cut made by a grader in the preparation of a terrace on a Frank Beatty farm north of Shellsburg. The initial cut is about 15 to 18 inches deep and is followed by more cuts up the hill from the initial cut. The ridge of the terrace will be where the right wheel of the grader is located. The center of the channel will be located where Heady is kneeling. In the photo above, Duane Belknap, left, and Earl Richards, both of Vinton, show the depth of a terrace channel, which is about 12 to 14 inches deep and contains 10 square feet of space. The terrace channels are about 15 feet wide. Richards is kneeling on the outside of the terrace.



IT
Soil
plac
Co.
con-
Fir-
yea
pla-
ally
to
thi

Benton soil conservation

10-19-55 Wallaces Regional Awards Winners in Soil Conservation

VINTON NEWS
S. Earl Wallace and his son Virgil recently were named regional awards winners in the 1955 Iowa Soil Conservation achievements awards program in the landowner-tenant division.



S. EARL WALLACE

They were entered by the Benton County Soil Conservation district commissioners.

The Wallaces have worked hard for the betterment of their farm through the application of an intensified conservation program which includes the terracing of all fields on the farm, a complete liming program, and the tilling of all wet areas. The tilling is being completed this fall.

The judging committee which selected the Wallace farm as the

Speaker



MEL COHEE

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

The annual co-operators dinner of the Benton county district Soil Conservation commission will be held at the Vinton American Legion hall Monday evening, Jan. 30, at 6:30 p. m.

The meeting will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the organization.

Mel Cohee, agricultural economist (land) in the engineering and watershed planning unit, serving an eight-state area with headquarters in Milwaukee, Wis., will be guest speaker.

Polls will be open from five o'clock until 9:00 for election of a district commissioner. Henry Grunewald Jr., Blairtown, and Lyle Olson, Norway, are the candidates to be voted on.

Judges for the voting will be S. Earl Wallace, Hiram Lanam and Herman Franzenburg.

No tickets will be sold at the door, so all wishing to attend must purchase tickets beforehand.



VIRGIL WALLACE

regional winner was composed of out-of-county state officials.

This is the third year the awards program has been carried out in the 100 soil conservation districts of Iowa. In case

Wallace & Son Win Awards for Soil Conservation

Local Farmers Winners In Benton Co. Contests

S. Earl Wallace and son, Virgil, have recently been named Regional Awards winners in the 1955 Iowa Soil Conservation Achievement Awards program, in the Landowner-Tenant division.

They were entered by the Benton County Soil Conservation District Commissioners as the District's choice of conservation farmer during the past year, for the Landowner-Tenant division.

There were three divisions which included, along with the Landlord-Tenant combination, the Owner-operated conservation farm, and the most recent cooperator who was accomplishing the most with his conservation program. The Benton County conservation group chose Harry Carr of Shellsburg as their Owner-operator entry; and Elmer Scheetz of Belle Plaine as their most recent conservation farmer entry.

In winning the Regional award, Mr. Wallace and Son have worked ardently for the betterment of their farm through the application of an intensified conservation program, which includes the terracing of all fields on the farm, a crop rotation of corn-corn-oats-meadow-meadow, a complete liming program, and the tilling of all wet areas, the latter practice is being completed this fall.

The judging committee who selected this farm as their Regional winner consisted of out of county non-partial state officials. The final judging will be done by Frank Mendell, state conservationist, chairman; along with Secretary of Agriculture Clyde Spry; Othie R. McMurry of the State Soil Conservation Committee; Allen Schroder of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation Districts; Richard Frevert, of Iowa State college; and Wayne Pritchard of the Soil Conservation Society of America.

This is the third year this awards program has been carried out in the 100 Soil Conservation districts of the state of Iowa. In case the Wallace and Son partnership is successful in being named the State Awards winner, a \$500 government bond is the prize.

Benton county has a great many soil conservation minded farmers, and the selection of the outstanding farmers in each division was a difficult problem for the district commissioners. Of top-most consideration, in each of the three categories for selection of the Benton county winners were:

Owner-Tenant Division: W. E. Burd-Carl Edmonds, Vinton; Wilson Brothers-Melvin Sheffler, La Porte City; Elsie Mehlhaus-Willard Ohde, Dysart; Uttley Estate-Robert Baughman, Garrison; Gene McLeod-Howard McLeod, Belle Plaine; Caroline Mussman-Ralph Heckroth, Luzerne, and Walter Van Steenhuyse-Ray Van Steenhuyse, Mt. Auburn.

In the Owner-Operator Group were named: Elmer Scheetz, Belle Plaine; Arthur Sears, Traer; Kozik Brothers, Elberon; Harry Horak, Vinton; and Harry Carr, of Shellsburg.

In the New Cooperator Group were named: Ray Van Steenhuyse, Mt. Auburn; Charles Zeiser, Center Point; Elmer Scheetz, Belle Plaine; Art Sears, Traer; Charles Hoffman, Urbana; Ralph Heckroth, Luzerne; and Willard Ohde, Dysart.

Shellsburg, Lawrence Floyd of Vinton, Max Miller of Blairtown, Ralph Underwood of Garrison, Robert Ullrich of Dysart, Ralph Heckroth of Luzerne, Rudy Halva of Vinton, Glenn Pardun of Brandon, Clyde St. Clair of Vinton, Raphael Martin of Van Horne, Leroy Robbins of Vinton, U. J. Cantonwine of Vinton, Orrin James of Luzerne, Melvin Sheffler of La Porte City and Harold Wingert of La Porte City.

Soil Commissioners Dinner January 30

The annual Benton county soil commissioners' dinner meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 30, in the Vinton Legion hall. Guest speaker will be Mel Cohee, regional farm management specialist in watershed program of Soil Conservation Service.

The election of a district commissioner will also be held.

The price of the dinner is \$1.75 and reservations have to be in by Jan. 25. The following men have tickets available:

Henry Grunewald, Jr., of Blairtown, Lyle M. Olson of Atkins, Gilbert Gluesing of Newhall, Ted Stark of Newhall, Harry Horak of Vinton, Larry Becker of Watkins, Jack Tatge of Belle Plaine, Lloyd Albers of Luzerne, Glenn Christy of Garrison, Graydon McQuilkin of La Porte City, Louis Coberly of

Soil Conservation Continues to Gain In Popularity in Benton County

Soil conservation is still progressing rapidly in the south part of Benton county with many more miles of terraces being applied than were built last year.

Total mileage of terraces built in Benton county last year was 82, with mileage to be over 200 for this year. This week there are five motor patrols and one whirlwind terracer constructing terraces on the south slope of Benton county. Currently these patrols are constructing terraces on the farms of George Backes, John Thede, Elmer Scheetz, Grunewald and Sons, and Richard Harrington.

Especially noticeable in terrace construction in Benton county is the fact that the farmers are applying terraces in much greater quantities on their farms now than they were up to a year or two ago. Exemplified is the fact that up to two years ago it was unusual if a farmer applied over a mile of terraces on his farm.

It is now unusual to find a farmer who applies less than a mile of terraces on his farm.

South slope farms which have terraced this year or will be terraced this fall from Belle Plaine are: Robert Allers, Orrin James, Dick Schild, Max Miller (Scheetz estate); from Luzerne, Ralph Heckroth, Lloyd Albers, Elmer Scheetz, George Backes, John Thede, Jesse Mapes, H. C. Williams, and Paul McMann (Ed. Wehrman); from Blairtown, Martin Kimm, Grunewald and Sons, Bruce Hannen and W. A. Drake; from Newhall, Walter Rinderknecht, Gilbert Gluesing, Theodore Stark and V. D. Weichman; from Van Horne, Raphael Martin and Leo Ellis; from Elberon, Beatrice Ulrich, Everett Wayman and Edward Kaufman; from Norway, Luther Anderson, Harold Schulte, and Richard Harrington; from Keystone, Herman Tecklenburg; and from Atkins, District Commissioner Lyle Olson.

Oct. 26, 1955

Jan. 19, 1956 Soil Commissioners Meeting On Jan. 30

BENTON COUNTY NEWS
The annual Benton county Soil Commissioners' dinner-meeting will be held Monday, Jan. 30 at 6:30 p.m. in the Vinton Legion hall.

Guest speaker for the affair will be Mel Cohee, regional farm management specialist in watershed program of soil conservation service.

A district commissioner will be elected at the meeting.

Tickets may be obtained from men in various county towns: Blairtown, Henry Grunewald Jr. and Max Miller; Atkins, Lyle M. Olson; Newhall, Gilbert Gluesing and Ed Stark; Vinton, Harry Horak, Lawrence Floyd, Rudy Halva, Clyde St. Clair, LeRoy Robbins, U. J. (Swede) Cantonwine; Watkins, Larry Becker; Belle Plaine, Jack Tatge; Luzerne, Lloyd Albers, Ralph Heckroth, Orrin James; Garrison, Glen Christy, Ralph Underwood; La Porte City, Graydon McQuilkin, Melvin Sheffler and Harold Wingert; Shellsburg, Louis Coberly; Dysart, Robert Ullrich; Brandon, Glenn Pardun; Van Horne, Raphael Martin.

Jan. 26, 1956



THIS AERIAL PHOTO shows how terraces have been constructed on the Orrin James farm. A whirlwind terracer was used for the conservation project.

Benton County Sets Ten Year Record in Building SCS Terraces

Jan. 25, 1956

During its tenth year of existence the Benton County Soil Conservation district farmers applied more miles of terrace than they had applied during the total of the nine previous years.

For the first time all 20 townships of Benton county have terraces on one or more farms. Terraces in the townships range from 20 to 40 miles, with Iowa, Benton, and Monroe townships vying for honors for the greatest mileage per township.

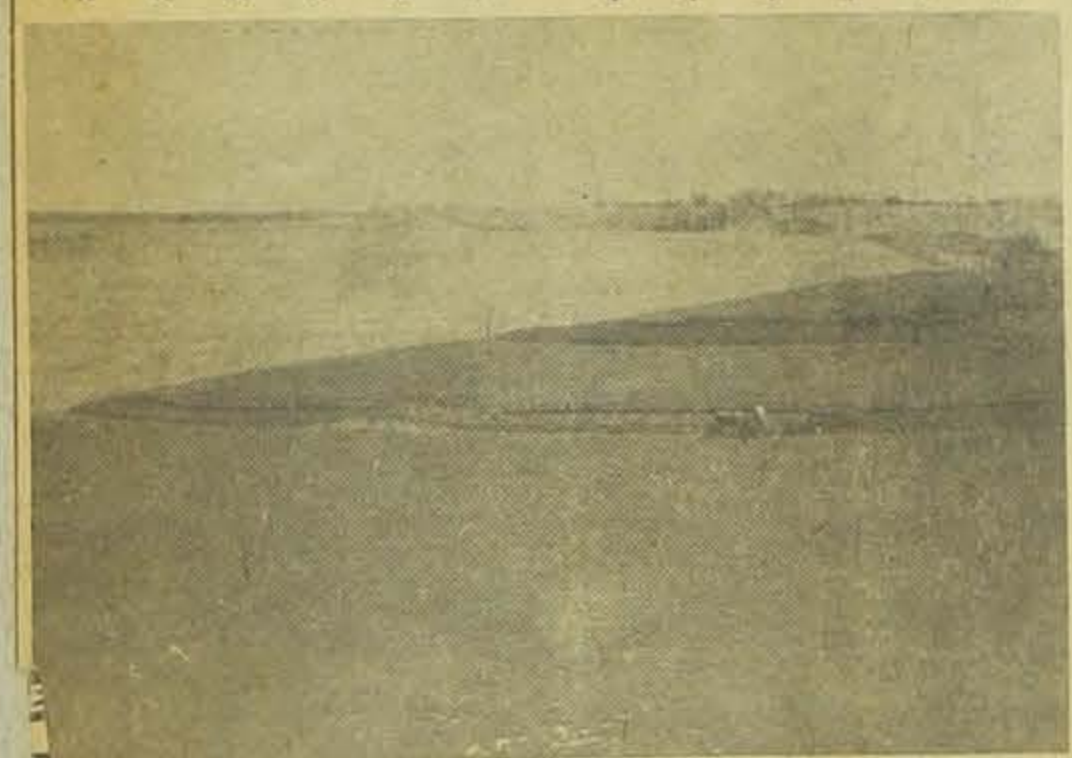
A total of 223.5 miles of terraces were built during 1955, which ranks the Benton Soil Conservation District among the leaders in the state in terrace application, and is excelled only by a few counties in western Iowa where a high mileage application has been prevalent for a number of years.

The fact that terraced land yields more crops was emphasized this year when a poll taken of the farmers indicated that they received from 10 to 20 bushels more corn per acre than from non-terraced fields. One farmer in the Dysart area believed he benefited by an additional 40

bushels per acre, as a result of having terraced his corn land in 1954. This past fall he had all remaining terraceable land on his farm completed.

The 1956 sign-up for terraces by the farmers, with the ASC, indicates another big year for this practice in conserving the soil, and will likely come near to equalling the requests of 1955. The Benton ASC committee has set aside \$25,000 for payment to farmers for terracing their land, which will be paid at the rate of two and a half cents per foot of terrace constructed, or 60 percent of the cost, whichever is least. Last year the Benton farmers collected over \$22,000 for terrace construction.

Orrin James, on the William Kaderavek farm, constructed his own terraces by use of a leased whirlwind terracer owned by Grunewald and Sons of Blairtown. In the picture he is shown pulling the equipment with his farm tractor. Mr. James constructed 3.67 miles which he feels paid him good dividends. Picture was taken from the air by Duane Belknap, Conservation Aid.



THIS AERIAL PHOTO shows how terraces have been constructed on the Orrin James farm. A whirlwind terracer was used for the conservation project.

Reports Increases In Soil Conservation Practices in County

Feb. 1, 1956

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Significant increases in conservation practices occurred during last year in the Benton county Soil Conservation district with 223.5 miles of terraces laid out and 4,918 acres of contour in use, Henry Grunewald Jr., district chairman, has reported.

Grunewald stated that surveys among farmers last year showed that corn planted on terraced land averaged 15 bushels more per acre than corn on corresponding fields planted up and down hill.

Other conservation practices during 1955 which Grunewald considers indicative of increased interest are 107 acres of brush control, 102 acres of pasture

planting, 47 acres of wild life habitat areas established, 11 farm ponds constructed, 162 acres of waterways and terrace outlets seeded, 11 acres of trees planted, 840 rods of fence row improvement and 1,100 rods of field boundaries established on the contour.

Grunewald Jr. Is Re-elected To Soil Post

January 31, 1956

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Henry Grunewald Jr. of Blairtown was reelected district commissioner of the Benton county district Soil Conservation commission at the annual co-operators' dinner held in the American Legion hall Monday evening.

Guest speaker for the 10th anniversary dinner was Mel Cohee, a veteran of 23 years of soil conservation work and now an agricultural economist for the SCS from Milwaukee, Wis.

Foreseeing little major change in the current cost-price squeeze of the farm economy in the next few years, Cohee outlined two facets in the job before the farmer. First, the need for increased efficiency to offset the low prices per unit starting with the farmers' biggest capital investment, the soil. Secondly, the need for informing the urban population on the true operating costs of the farm economy.

Urges Public Education

Since the numerically greater non-farm population has considerably larger representation in state and national legislatures, it is vital for the farmer to get a true picture of his production costs over to the public, Cohee said. He added it is the responsibility of the farmers themselves to embark on this public education program.

Following Cohee's remarks, awards were presented to the three top conservation farmers of the district by the Vinton equipment dealers. They were Lloyd Albers, Luzerne; Willard Ohde, Dysart; and Clark Uttley and Robert Baughman of Garrison.

Gerald Pederson of Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. presented awards to the district and to Commissioners Henry Grunewald Jr., Glenn Christy and Harry T. Horak.

S. Earl Wallace of Vinton, was presented the award for distinguished service as district commissioner. More than ninety co-operators attended the dinner.

H. Grunewald, Jr. Reelected District Soil Commissioner

Henry Grunewald, Jr., Blairtown, was re-elected at the annual meeting of the District Soil Commissioners Monday evening, Jan. 30, for a six year term. Henry has just completed a six-year term as district commissioner.

The program consisted of guest speaker, Melville Cohee, SCS economist of Milwaukee, Wisc., delivering the main address in regard to our obligation in conserving soil.

Awards

For the fourth time in five years the Benton soil district was awarded second place in the annual Goodyear soil conservation award. Also, the commissioners presented the Distinguished Service Award for conservation to Benton County's outstanding soil conservation farmer for practices and plans followed.

The award went to Earl Wallace, Vinton.

In addition to these awards, Vinton implement dealers presented plaques to three top conservation farmers of the district. They are: Lloyd Albers, Luzerne; Willard Ohde, Dysart; and Clark Uttley, Robert Baughman, of Garrison.



CONSERVATIONISTS—Bob Daubendiek (left) Benton county conservation officer, and Elmer Scheetz are shown here looking over multiflora rose plants and red pine trees. On Tuesday of this week 1,000 of each variety were planted on the Scheetz farm located northeast of here. Mr. Scheetz is making a wild life refuge in a small area at the north end of his 160-acre farm. The stock was planted using the new tree planting machine which was purchased recently by various groups in the county.



IN A FEW YEARS there should be a small refuge for wildlife on the Elmer Scheetz farm northeast of Belle Plaine. Above picture shows Albert McCamant driving one of his tractors that is pulling Benton County's new tree-planting machine. Bob Newton, Vinton, is on the machine placing the small trees in the eight-inch furrow. You will note the trees that have already been planted at the right of the picture. The Scheetz farm, incidentally, is now farmed on the contour and has about five miles of terraces.

August 9, 1956 Queen of Furrow To be Selected At All-Iowa Fair

Will Receive Weekend
In Chicago, New
Wardrobe, Appear on TV

Two girls will be chosen from each county to compete for Queen to reign at the National Field Day and Plowing matches in Jasper county, Sept. 20, 21, and 22. Judging in this region will take place at the All-Iowa fair Aug. 14, and the two girls chosen from Benton county will appear with others from: Buchanan, Dubuque, Linn, Johnson, Jackson, Cedar, Scott, Delaware, Jones and Clinton counties.

The winner selected at the All-Iowa fair will represent this re-

gion for final judging.

At Plowing Match

In addition to reigning at the National Field Day and Plowing matches in September, the Queen will receive a "Dream Weekend" to Chicago, including new wardrobe, dining and dancing, and radio and TV appearance for herself and her parents.

The contest was open to single girls between ages 16-21, living in rural Iowa. There has been radio and poster publicity to interest girls in participating. Benton district's deadline to the contest was July 31.

Guests at Dinner

Girls from this county will be given a dinner by the Soil Conservation District Commissioners of Benton District, and the American Fence Dealers of the county, at the Frontier Inn, at Newhall on Aug. 10, to which parents of the contestants are also invited.

Benton county had 12 entries as of Aug. 3. They will be judged by: Bob Simmons, WMT, who will act as Master of Ceremonies; Dave Albright of KCRG; and a representative of the society department of the Cedar Rapids Gazette. The two girls chosen at Newhall to represent Benton District at the All-Iowa fair will each receive a bracelet from the American Fence Company.

Your American Fence dealer in Belle Plaine is the Great Plains Supply company. The "Queen of the Furrow" contest is a combination of personality, poise, intelligence and beauty.

August 11, 1956 2 Named to Represent Benton in 'Queen of The Furrow' Contest

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Bonnie Riley, 17, Norway and Cecelia Schulte, 17, Watkins, also representing Norway, were chosen as Benton county's representatives in the "Queen of the Furrow" contest in competition held at the Frontier Inn at Newhall Friday night.

The two girls will compete for the queen title in regional competition at the All-Iowa fair Aug. 14, at Cedar Rapids. The winners from each of the Soil Conservation districts will compete for the title of "Queen of the Furrow" on a basis of personality, poise, intelligence and beauty.

The queen will reign over the National Field Day and Plowing Matches in Jasper county Sept. 20-22.

The queen will receive a "Dream Weekend" in Chicago with a new wardrobe, dining and dancing and radio and TV appearances for herself and her parents.

The contest is sponsored by the Soil Conservation districts of Iowa and American Fence dealers.

CEDAR VALLEY DAILY T

Queen of Furrow



QUEEN OF THE FURROW candidates chosen Friday night for Benton county are Cecelia Schulte, 17, Watkins, on the left and Bonnie Riley, 17, of Norway. The girls will compete next week at the All-Iowa Fair in regional competition. Later the queen will be chosen from candidates from each Soil Conservation district in Iowa to reign over the National Field Day and Plowing matches in Jasper county in September.

Special to Daily Times

members of the Fellowship of Grace Lutheran enjoyed supper Sunday in Cedar Rapids. Attend-dinner were Rev. W. H.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Smith
children and Mr. and Mrs.
Johnson of Cedar Rapids
Sunday evening callers of
and Mrs. Kenneth Johnson
boys.

BENTON COUNTY NEWS 11-24-56

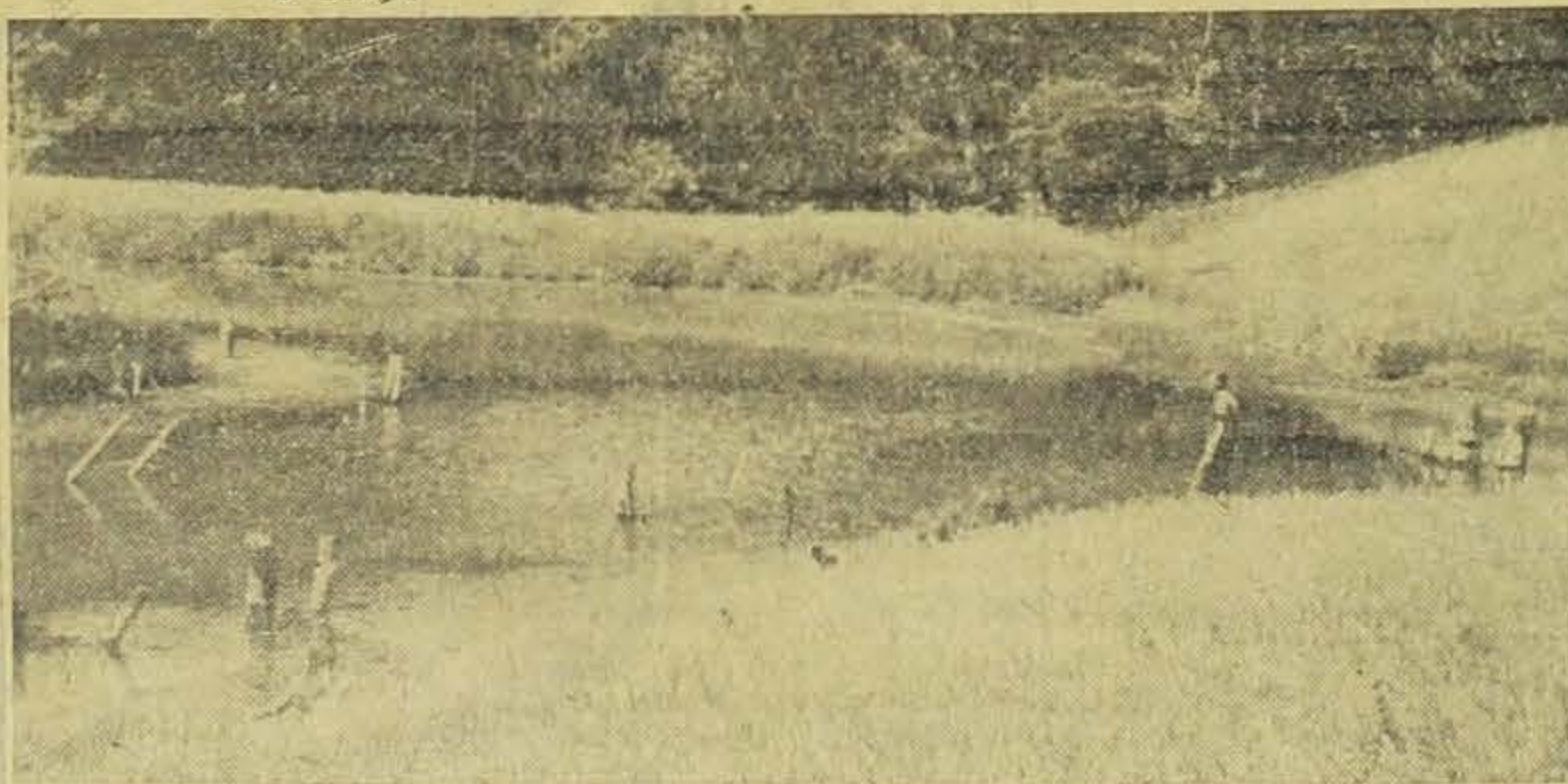
Farm ponds, although designed only for livestock water purposes, also have other diversified uses, such as a supply of water in case of a farm fire, and recreational purposes such as fishing, swimming and ice skating.

N. A. POTTER, Manager

Building a new man

A vintage advertisement for Northwestern Bell Telephone Co. The central element is a circular logo with the text "NORTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE CO." around the perimeter. Inside the circle is a cartoon character with a large head, wearing a suit and a top hat, holding a telephone receiver to his ear. To the left of the logo, a moving truck is shown with the word "MOVING" on its side. A man in a suit is standing next to the truck, holding a long pole. The background is a light, textured surface.

6-16-56



FARM POND on the Ray Cantonwine farm seven miles east of Vinton. Artificial ponds of this type throughout Benton county are providing livestock drinking water, wild life refuges, recreation for farm families, and aid in gully control and water conservation by catching the run-off from a watershed area. National Soil and Water Conservation Week is June 10 through 17.

T
E

Terracing as a mechanical conservation practice in Benton county is again leading the other practices for the year 1956, with a total mileage about to pass the 100 mile mark, according to Glenn F. Heady, Benton county conservationist.

Again this year the percentage of farmers applying terraces to their land is greater among those who already had terraces on their land than those who are applying terraces for the first time. Fifty-five percent already had some terraces with 45 percent applying terraces for the first time on their land.

Low hog prices of a year ago, along with a low corn year and tight money supply, evidently has been responsible for the cutting down of application of all conservation practices. Tiling has been cut down percentage-wise more than any other practice. Dry weather has also contributed to a lack of interest in tiling.

Eighteen south-slope farmers have applied terraces to the land this year. They include: Richard Jahnke, Robert Allers, Tubaugh Brothers, and Elmer Van Scoyoc of Belle Plaine; Beatrice Ulch of Elberon; Rev. Fred Voigtmann, and Sarah Jean Senior of Luzerne; Grunewald & Sons, and William Danker of Blairstown; Tuttle Brothers, Lyle M. Olson, and Larry Becker of Norway; Harold Schulte of Watkins; Bernard Smith, Raphael Martin, and Leo Ellis of Van Horne; Carl Ritscher, and Earl Leimbacher estate of Keystone; and Theodore Stark and Walter Rinderknecht of Newhall.

next time lets keep needed water AT HOME



We can't call back the water that got away from us in the rainy years of the past. Neither can we bring back the fertile soil and crops that washed away with it. But we can make sure now that when we get the rain again we keep more of it in the soil for future use. We can also be sure we keep more of our fertile topsoil.

A comprehensive study of a western Iowa watershed showed recently that if level terraces had been in use on 37 per cent of the watershed, and if the related contouring and improved crops and soils practices had been on the whole watershed, the water runoff in that watershed's greatest flood in history would have been more than cut in half. That would have meant a reduction of the peak flood flow from 66,000 cubic feet of water per second down to 30,500 cubic feet of water per second. If only 17 per cent of the watershed had been terraced the peak of the watershed's biggest flood would have been reduced to 45,000 cubic feet per second.

Resources saved by that kind of protection are the foundation of future prosperity for all communities. The saving may not be as dramatic everywhere, but it is just as real. We feel soil and water conservation is vital to the future prosperity of our community.

This Message Sponsored By

JOYCE L. COMPANY
VINTON RS SUPPLY, INC.
ELLIS-McL LUMBER CO.
THOMPSON STORE
VINTON ROCK
STEPHENEMENT CO.
VINTON LENT CO.
FARMERS & COOP. CO.

MEYER TRACTOR
BENDULL & SONS
BENTON COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP. ASSN.
PETERSON-HUSTON LUMBER CO.
DAVIS IMPLEMENT CO.
McVEY FEED & SEED
R. W. (Dick) HALL CONSTRUCTION CO.

This Is Soil Conseation Week

Not For This Week Alone, But Through The Year

MORE BENTON FARMS SIGNED UP FOR PLANS

Cite Work Accomplished
On Acres
County

AUG 12 1957

Benton County's
Queen of the Furrow

JAYCEES HONOR KADEL URICE



MARY
SHELLSBY

Beatty, 18-year-old daughter of Mrs. J. Beatty, a 1957 day queen of Benton County, was crowned queen of the year at the annual Jaycee dinner held at the Vinton hotel Wednesday night. She is a member of the Vinton Junior High School and is active in the Vinton Jaycee chapter. She is also a member of the Vinton Beauty Club and is interested in cosmetology, cooking and keeping scrapbooks.

On The Farm ...

Dysart Farmer Is Adding Terraces On His Farm Now

SEP 27 1957

Roy Casey of Bruce Township

Name Howard Knupp Commissioner Soil Conservation District

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Soil Bank Will Help Wildlife

MAR 16 1957

SPEAKS JAN. 31 AT BLAIRSTOWN

Charles Brown to Address
Soil Group at Dinner

Elmer Scheetz Winner in Soil Conservation

AUG 14 1957

PLAN CONTEST IN SOIL JUDGING

JUN 29 1957

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Discuss Plans for Air Tour of Benton County

Benton Farmers Plant 42,000 Trees, Shrubs

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

48 Vinton 6th Grade Pupils Given Soil Conservation Tour

Roger Twito to Work For the Benton Soil Conservation District

BENTON COUNTY NEWS

Roger Twito, Iowa State college graduate of 1953, reported for duty to the Benton Soil Conservation District this week. He is a trainee for a farm planner position and will work and plan soil conservation practices with the local Soil Conservation personnel. Having worked in Montana from 1953 to 1956 Twito gained many experiences that developed him into an avid sports fan. He has fished throughout the Northern Rocky Mountain areas, as well as in Canada and in Minnesota. He is also interested in and plays considerable golf. Twito was born and reared at Lake Mills, Iowa where his parents own a farm.

APR 27 1957

Soil	Soil	Soil	Soil	Soil	Soil	Soil	BENTON COUNTY Soil Conservation District News By Glenn Heady U.S. Soil Conservation Service
ON THE LEVEL. Roy Mollenhau is two miles east of an erosion control structure that is of attention and stru-ctured last fall with livestock as well as to pr-son. Latest farmers ty signing up for control structures sing and Maur Vinton; Charles Walker; and Ele Norway. Reque- structures have b- year than ever be Former assitan ton Soils District called at the Vin last week. Althoug only a short tim into the service a wide acquainta ton county and de his regards to fri works with the S- socation. H. H. Coon, s-	Thirty-five far built in Benton c- Surface area of ponds when full and they will hol- 61 1/2 million gallo- The uses of a- sides for livestoc- numerous. Among- uable are for fir- well as for recr- farmers of Bente- have a pond cor- surrounding their- most valuable ac- The Benton cov- stems are registe- lief in conservatio- including the su- curriculum. There are alme- seventh and eigh- conservation wor- write a lot of lett- for information o- Carol Holst of- Delores Mackey- are the most re- write in for fact- Benton county- operation with- Game club, plan- trees and shrubs- itat areas, and f-	The recent e- not contributed- to Benton count- tion. Besides be- the moisture in t- the water ran o- conservation. The snows pr- ter for the farm- haven't seen any- were helped by- Cleary, state co- gist, says that c- est ways to kill- your pond is l- lay on the ice- clearing off sn- a few days. This provides a- for the fish. Erosion contr- stabilizing the- ways are in cor- this year. Last- ran grade survi- on the farms- and Carl And- burg, Louis M- Merle Bruch of- Irvine of Dysar- son and Chester- Rasdal or Nor- way.	Soil Conservati- June 16-23, but- be considered u- poor taste to dev- column to the- conservation. The land we t- generation must- or better than, t- ceived from our- amount of land y- tively fixed, but- that it must fee- faster than most- In 1940 we wert- 133,000,000. By- mate is that 225- in the United S- Our civilization- the top eight- earth's surface- ist without it, fo- furnishes the need- for plant growth. The United St- about one-third- This loss was- largely by poor ag- tices during the- No other nation- has been more w- agement of farm- Rasdal or Nor-	Benton county- all be proud of- of land over th- St. Clair and Le- gained 8 percen- Vinton brought- the previous ye- Their farm was the U. S. Depa- outstanding conse- culture. the state in th- owner-renter gro- Goodell has doi- ing job of farm- and as State- Frank Mendell c- couldn't have ac- work without the- tion of Mrs. St- Bob Sawyer o- recently finished- miles of terraces- He began his t- three years ago- complete farm to- Bill Donovan- and Clifford Ba- have finished- projects on their- ly. Donovan ha- tile and Bassett h- Forty acres of- out for William- week for the p- cropping. He h- acres laid out l- he liked well end- the additional th-	As of July 1,- ton county has- of Feb. 4. Th- District now has- of terraces on it- During the p- over two-thirds- of Benton coun- races on their f- City, will terr- terraces on the- alone should be- terraces are valu- in erosion cont- creasing yields. John McQuilke- City, will terr- terraces on the- alone should be- terraces are valu- in erosion cont- creasing yields. Farming is an- at the table tog- a day. Dick Jahnke- Robert Sawyer- Alvin Block of- in asking for- this year, with- days. These th- rate within the- Benton county- age. Vincent Becke- his preference- farming by layi- tional 60 acres- Vince has had- strip crop farm- years. There continue- tude of farmers- Soil Conservation- dozing in their- ing down their- of their trouble- This practice- Congress fi- funds to comb- menace of soil- With this mon- Secretary of- lished ten soil- mental farms.	One farm in ev- ton county has- purchased the Hanna Cooly The district commissioners and Vinton implement dealers will make six awards to conservation farmers of Benton county soon. In behalf of the Des Moines Register and Tribune, conserva- tion awards will go to Lloyd Al- bers of Luzerne, Charles Sauer of Vinton, and Melvin Sheffer of La Porte City. Receiving awards by decision of the commissioners and im- plement dealers as Benton con- servation farmers of the year will be Elmer Scheetz of Belle Plaine, Ralph Heckroth of Lu- zerne and Ted Stark of Newhall. Dr. Charles Brown, assistant state geologist, will talk on the underground water supply at the annual soil district commission- ers' dinner meeting on Jan. 31 at Blairtown. Plow planting of corn may be one of the next new tillage changes to come in corn pro- duction. The agricultural re- search service has found no significant difference in yields compared with the convention- al methods of growing corn. A big saving in cost of pro- duction is made by plow plant- ing. By this method of plant- ing corn only two tillage oper- ations are required prior to planting; that is, disking the ground followed by plowing.	Leo Ellis of Van Horne has farm on Highway 20. He will continue farming the Elsie Meffert farm on which he now lives, and has farmed for sev- eral years. A farmer in the drought-hit West Virginia area estimated that his livestock watering pond was worth \$5.50 per day this year. That's what it cost him per day to haul water every day last year. Charles Sauer of Harrison township expects that he will have his farm drainage prob- lems completely under control next year. He has applied for 240 rods of toling next year. Charlie has 100 percent of his cropland under erosion con- trol. The "Iowa Farm Science" is a free monthly publication of Iowa State college which many Benton farmers receive regu- larly. The November issue is one of the most interesting I've ever read. It deals large- ly with our changing agricul- ture and some of the adjust- ments needed. Conservation farmer, Raph- ael Martin of Van Horne, had a field of beans that yielded 50 bushels per acre this year. His south farm along Highway 20 is 100 percent terraced. All of his land was in the acreage reserve program of the soil bank this year.

The Benton County Fish & Game club has purchased and sent to the Benton county schools 1,100 Conservation Activ- ity books to be used by the sixth, seventh, and eighth grade stu- dents. They award certificates of merit to those who have the best books at the end of the school year.

This is only one of the many Fish & Game club annual con- servation projects. In my opin- ion probably one of the most notable is their annual tree planting campaigns in the devel- opment of wildlife habitat areas. For a number of years this ac- tivity has been headed by Art Beard of Garrison.

Car swept into creek, two girls escape

June 12, 1984
CVTimes

By JEFF BUTTS
Times Intern

VINTON— The situation could have been much worse, but the rains of the past four days did little more than wash out some farm fields, send many county creeks over their banks and make two girls very wet and very scared.

Vinton received 2.33 inches of rain since Thursday, said Ida Higgins, Vinton reporter for the National Weather Service. About 1.75 of that total came Saturday.

Other areas of Benton County, particularly the northern part, received much more—reports ranged from 1 to 5 inches over the past few days.

The Dudgeon park area and other low-lying areas along the Cedar River are flooded, a not-so-rare occurrence. Some county roads were reported closed as small creeks overflowed their banks. Most were reported receding today.

Two girls found Bear Creek north of Vinton a little bit more than they could handle Sunday afternoon when the car they were driving tried to cross a low-water bridge on the creek.

Angle Radcliffe and Kris Bortner, both 16 and both of Vinton, were returning from the Radcliffes' cabin on the Cedar River Sunday afternoon when they came upon the flooded crossing.

At the time, the creek was flowing about 2-3 feet over the bridge, area resident Melva Marovec said.

The crossing, designed so water will go over the bridge during times of floods, was marked by several warning signs, but the girls said they thought the creek could be crossed.

The 1981 Chevrolet Citation made it to the middle of the bridge before the engine stalled.

Radcliffe and Bortner got out to push the car back across the bridge but the current floated the car around, knocked Radcliffe into the water and then rolled into the creek.

Radcliffe, a member of the Vinton Aquatic Club, was swept down the creek several feet before she swam to the creek bank, said Linda Radcliffe, Angle's mother, who was on hand to see her car pulled from the creek today.

Bortner was able to hold on to a post on the bridge and climb to safety. The car, submerged to its roof, floated about 50 feet from the bridge, coming to rest in a clump of weeds along the creek.

Neither of the girls was injured, and the car, although a bit drenched, was pulled from the creek this morning by Auto Rebuilders of Vinton. Owner



WHOOPS— Angle Radcliffe and Kris Bortner, both of Vinton, didn't heed the sign posted at a flooded crossing on Bear Creek north of Vinton. The 1981 Chevrolet Citation they were in managed to stay afloat

after being swept into the creek. Only its roof barely could be seen. The girls were uninjured. The car was a bit soggy.



1-2-3-PULL— The once-submerged car owned by Linda Radcliffe of Vinton and driven by her daughter, Angle, into the rain-swollen Bear Creek, is pulled out

by Moose Madorin and his son, Mike, of Auto Rebuilders in Vinton. (Times photos by Jeff Butts)

Moose Madorin and his son, Mike, had to use more than 160 feet of line to pull the car out of the creek.

Marovec said she and other residents of the area have complained to the county about the bridge. The county rarely barricades the approaches to the crossing during floods, she said.

The incident Sunday is the fourth since the bridge was constructed, Marovec said. In fact, Marovec and her husband David helped pull another driver out of the crossing Saturday

evening, she said. The driver, Darrin Halstead of Vinton was uninjured and his car, unlike the Radcliffe car, was not swept into the water.

The county claims no responsibility for incidents when people use the crossing during floods because of the posted warning signs, said Jack Hopper, a county road worker who was placing barricades on the bridge approaches Sunday afternoon.

Mother Nature played some havoc with area farms, but damage was

reported spotty.

Soil damage appears to be concentrated in the northern part of the county, where most of the heavy rains fell, especially Thursday night, said Becky Clark, an engineering aide with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service.

Some silt damage is noticeable and some fields still are flooded, she said.

More rain, possibly heavy, was expected tonight, tomorrow and tomorrow night, the National Weather Service said.

