

Saving Our Soil

ANNUAL REPORT for 1961 of the Mills Soil Conservation District

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The Mills Soil Conservation District is 20 years old this year. From its beginning in 1941 we have all witnessed a change in the attitude of many of the people who use the land. Prior to 1941 people became aware of the need for soil conservation and this resulted in the formation of the Mills Soil Conservation District, which was the ninth Soil District formed in the State of Iowa. Since that time a great deal has been done as shown by the following accomplishment data.

The District regrets the loss of one of its leaders, Mr. Harold McCain, who passed away last summer.

The District again sponsored the "Queen of Conservation" Contest in which seven Mills County farm girls entered. Misses Denella Downing and Connie Lees won in the local contest and represented the District at the Regional Contest in Page County.

In August Mr. Dallas McGrew announced that he was not interested in renomination for District Commissioner. Dallas has served the District since 1941. Myron C. Jones of Glenwood was elected in his place.

Pony Creek Watershed was approved for construction by the Soil Conservation Service in September and it is planned that construction will start in the Spring of 1962. Easements are being obtained at the present time and a petition is being circulated requesting the formation of a sub-district to provide maintenance for the dams. Farmers are being encouraged to apply necessary land treatment measures.

During the year the farmers of Waubonsie Creek held several meetings in an effort to obtain assistance from the Federal Government in controlling the gullies in their watershed. At the present time this group is still in the formation stage.

In November of 1961, Senator Bourke Hickenlooper and Congressman Ben Jensen spoke at our banquet held in Glenwood on the theme of soil conservation.

At this banquet "First Commissioners Awards" were presented to—J. F. Wearin, Jr., Dallas N. McGrew and J. M. Steele.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the Soil Conservation Service for the technical assistance they have given to the conservation farmers in the District. We also appreciate the help we have received from the Extension Service, the Farmers Home Administration, the County Superintendent of Schools, the County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee, the Vocational Agricultural Departments, the County Board of Supervisors, the Mule Creek Board of Trustees and the Pony Creek Watershed Committee.

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

ALBERT WASHBURN, Chairman . . . Hastings, Iowa
MYRON C. JONES . . . Glenwood, Iowa
DALE LINCOLN . . . Pacific Junction, Iowa

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS

REW BURGOIN . . . Silver City, Iowa
CARL GREEN . . . Mineola, Iowa

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE PERSONNEL

R. L. France, Work Unit Conservationist
Allan L. Seim, Soil Conservationist
Leo M. Van Fosson, Conservation Aid
Gerald I. Bower, Conservation Aid
Lawrence A. Jones, Conservation Aid
Lillian C. Campbell, Clerk Treas.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

1960-61 STATE BUDGET

1-M		2-M	
Commissioners Exp.	\$ 46.05	Technical Assistance . . .	\$2,167.00
Office Supplies	130.14	Clerical Assistance . . .	3,180.00
Materials for Dem.	334.95	State Retirement	181.02
Office Expense	61.60	Federal Retirement . . .	160.41
Total Disbursed	\$572.74		\$5,688.43

REVOLVING FUND

Balance on hand January 1, 1961 (Malvern Bank)	\$ 927.06
Balance on hand January 1, 1961 (Mineola Bank)	381.18
Land Owner Contributions	1,055.80
Reimbursements from 1-M	496.90
Total Cash on Hand & Receipts	\$2,860.94

DISBURSEMENTS

Rodmen	\$397.00
Clerical	381.90
Office Supplies & Equipment	114.04
Postage	90.50
Utilities	70.61
Dues & Subscriptions	363.33
Field Supplies & Equipment	258.35
Printing	78.86
Total Disbursements	\$1,754.59
Balance Cash on Hand Dec. 31, 1961 (Malvern Bank)	725.17
Balance Cash on Hand Dec. 31, 1961 (Mineola Bank)	381.18
Total	\$2,860.94

MILLS SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 1961

	Unit	This Year	Total To Date
New District Cooperators	No.	125	837
Basic Farm Plans	No.	34	426
Farms Serviced	No.	217	
Terraces	Mi.	116.3	3,233
Open Drains	Mi.	2	120
Tile	Mi.	33	55
Waterways	Ac.	85	2,402