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## OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN



JANUARY - FEBRUARY, 1966



ALLEN KESLER, PRESIDENT SEZ:

Having just returned from the National Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana, I should be loaded with important events to relate, but it seems the days at a convention are so busy and so much going on, it takes a week or two of reflection after getting home before one can remember more than the highlights.

For me, one of the most interesting meetings of the whole convention was the banquet where Senator Allen Ellender was the main speaker. He was supposed to talk about Soil & Water Conservation, but this being an election year, it was very political. Of course, while talking to us, he was talking a great deal for the Louisiana one folk and what he would do. For me, however, it is always interesting to hear the other fellow's point of view.

To my eyes, the Southern people do seem a little different. There is no hurry; their way of life is, or seems, slower; their food is different. It was brought out in the District Operations Committee, of which I was a member, that during World War II, when men were being examined for army duty, that in several of the Southern states, 7 out of 10 men were rejected because of bad eyes, bad teeth, heart, lungs, one structure, etc. While in the Western states, 7 out of 10 passed their physicals. They all filled their stomachs three times a

day, but erosion and Teaching had robbed the Southern soil and disabled their children's bodies; while out here, most of the minerals and vitamins are still intact.

Continued on Page 11 - Column 1

### KEEPING ABREAST OF CONSERVANCY DISTRICT LEGISLATION

The Legislative Subcommittee, studying the need for Water Conservancy Districts at its February 25 meeting in Helena, set up some guidelines for its staff to draft a proposed bill. The thinking of the committee is that Water Conservancy Districts should be organized by the courts as separate entities of state government. They expect to have a rough draft of a proposed bill ready for the April 2 meeting.

Proposals by the State Soil Conservation Committee and the Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts that Soil and Water Conservation Districts could and do function as Conservancy Districts brought a reply that SWCDs should not branch out in other fields, such as water development, range renewal, recreation, and related resource development. The development of uncommitted water supplies in Montana need the best people, engineering services, etc. A program of that scope shouldn't be entrusted to SWCD Supervisors. The size of the conservation of the state's water resources requires greater efforts.

Expressions of encouragement were made that all concerns for water development were being considered and that each meeting brings a better consensus of opinion.

A study of NACD District Outlook Committee shows that SWCDs throughout the United States are moving toward a broader more active role in resource development. They point out that SWCDs are in a position to coordinate at the local level the oncoming job of resource management (planning, development, use, and conservation of renewable natural resources). SWCD Leaders in Montana have expressed strong feelings that they are willing to take on the job at the local level and that existing agencies of government should be strengthened to give assistance to districts.

Elizabeth tries to pull her fur coat a little closer to her body. These winter winds sure seep into a girl's system.

Elizabeth's nose is red and running. Shivers race from her belly to her spine - and sprit back again. Chills gallop up and down her back. Her ankles are trim and eye-appealing - but who can admire trim ankles when they're buried in eight inches of snow?

All in all, Elizabeth is a plump miserable hereford this morning. She turns to look at Sally. Sally's plumb miserable, too.

"This weather is for the birds," Elizabeth remarks, "..... and I do mean penguins."

Liz and Sally are munching breakfast in the middle of a snowy, windblown pasture. The rest of Bill Perkins's cattle are scattered around stuffing hay down their throats, too. They're also shivering.

"What's with this Perkins-" asks Lizzie. "How come he doesn't furnish us girls some protection on glacial days like this?"

"Oh, Bill is all right," replies Sally. "He just doesn't think that we need protection. Guess he figures that we're tough and winter hardy."

"Well, in my book, Perks is a jerk," Lizzie retorts. "If he'd give us some shelter from this wind and cold he'd make us a lot more comfortable - and make himself some money at the same time."

"That doesn't figure," Sally says, "it's kinda expensive building sheds and barns for us. How's he going to make money that way?"

"Who needs sheds and barns?" snorts Liz. "Trees and brush make some of the best - and cheapest winter protection there is. And this clown, Perks, cleared several acres of trees and brush down by the creek last summer. I believe his thinking apparatus is wired backwards."

"Well, I gotta admit," Sally replies, "that it was kinda warm and cozy down there in the winter. But he probably figured he needed the land for crop production. After all, he's gotta make a living, too."

"For your information - and his," Lizzie says, "that brush was making him money just as it was. The scientific fellers have found in experiments that a group of girls, like us, wintered on a creek bottom with brush protection gained 35 pounds more per girl than another group wintered with shed protection. And both groups had the same kind and amounts of food."

"Course, that was in a mild winter," she admits. "But these fellers also found that in a severe winter the girls in the brush each lost about eleven pounds less than the shedders did."

Middle age is when you want to see how long your car will last instead of how fast it will go.

"That brush wouldn't be a very good place for a girl who was trying to lose weight, would it?" giggles Sally.

"Nope," agrees Liz. "On the other hand, it'd be a mighty good place for Perkins to keep his cows - unless, of course, he's trying to help his bank roll lose weight."

"Multiply those extra pounds by the price of beef and he'd have a pretty good chunk of extra income from his brush," she explains. "The only other way that he can make up that extra weight is to put more food on the table - and that costs extra money."

"He's losing even more by wintering us out here with no protection," she continues. "We can't even keep up with the girls in the sheds. We'll end up in worse shape than they did. We're liable to be bags of bones by spring."

She shivers and adds, "Besides that, he's created an erosion hazard by stripping the creek bank. If it goes on a rampage it might wash those extra acres right down into the Missouri River. Then he won't get anything from them."

Now it's Sally's turn to shiver. Her teeth want to chatter - but she hasn't got her upper plate in.

"I wish I were down there in the brush putting on weight right now," she sighs. "I wish Perks would have gotten all of the facts before he started to remodel that bottomland."

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#### SOIL STEWARDSHIP WEEK

Soil Stewardship Week sponsored by Soil and Water Conservation Districts will be May 15 through 22, 1966.

"Crisis in the Countryside" is the theme.

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#### MONTANA CONSERVATION COUNCIL

The Montana Conservation Council Annual Meeting will be April 22, and 23 at the Rainbow Hotel in Great Falls. The theme of the meeting is "Land - Montana's Basic Economic Strength".

Don Tavenner, Deer Lodge, is conference Chairman.

"Conservation Week", sponsored by the Montana Conservation Council, will be April 24 - 30.

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"I think he's got you whipped," said the manager in disgust after the ninth round.

"Yeah," agreed the pugilist, gazing dizzily through nearly closed eyes. "I should have got him in the first round when he was alone."

Community Development and Water Resource Development was the theme of a recent Montana Rural Area Development Committee Meeting held in Bozeman. It was clearly evident that Montana communities need to awaken to the need for more development of its water to lay claim to it ahead of users out-of-state. Dr. R. R. Renne, Director, Office of Water Resources Research, U. S. Department of Interior, told of the increasing water demands across the nation. He said federal programs are available which provide Montana with a golden opportunity to develop sound plans and embark on water and related resources development projects that will be highly beneficial.

A panel on Local Participation brought statements from 1) Senator McGowan that inability to coordinate has been a problem, and there is a need for a better system of taxation; 2) Alex McDermott who said we will not reach our potential until local people are concerned, rural and urban; the human factor is a major factor holding up development; 3) Bob Cooney who said the key is to understand each others problems and work together; 4) Ken Baldwin who stated emphasis on recreation and wildlife is current and should be heeded, that recreation will share the cost of its development, and more research and evaluation of benefits is needed; 5) Dean Hanson speaking for John Schroeder told that Soil and Water Conservation Districts are in a good position at the local level to plan, coordinate, and promote projects and otherwise take on the objective of a Conservancy District. He also stated that a million dollars a year appropriation by the state legislature to the Water Conservation Board is needed to match federal monies to construct projects.

RAD Subcommittee reports were encouraging showing plans and action. Jim Wempner stated that good Range Management can add more dollars with less investment than any other industry in Montana and with less smog. Hans Roffler told of the high potential forestry has for development and in manufacturing. The most important resource, people, is the concern of the Manpower Development Committee and plans are being considered to close the gap between high school and college with adequate Vocational Technical Education facilities.

Committees dealing with Soil Fertility and Management and Hog Production are shaping up and are pointing the way for big economic developments potential in Montana.

Irate passenger on New York commuter train to ticket inspector: "What do I need a ticket for? According to this timetable I'm home having dinner."

The State Soil Conservation Committee, after making a tour of the state and meeting with the steering committees of proposed active watershed projects, have set the following priorities for planning in 1966:

#### Investigation

1. Big Spring Creek In Fergus County
2. Carbon Hills In Custer County - Pending
3. Kinsey Flats In Custer County
4. Beaver Creek In Hill County
5. Sand Coulee In Cascade County
6. Fort Belknap In Paradise County

#### Work Plans

1. Sidney Water Users in Richland County
2. Racetrack Creek in Powell County
3. Boulder Creek In Jefferson County
4. Valley Creek In Stillwater County

A big bottleneck in getting projects to the construction stage seems to be in planning, as well as organization.

Construction stage should be reached in 1966 on City of Shelby Watershed, Recreation facilities on Box Elder at Plentywood and Jawbone Creek at Harlowton.



Pictured above are members of the State Soil Conservation Committee - O. M. Ueland, Oscar Hippe, Torlief Aasheim, C. Lowell Purdy, John Schroeder, Dean A. Hanson, William D'Ewart, and Joe Asleson.

A Marine lieutenant, straight from a platoon leader course, took over a battle-experienced outfit on the main line of resistance in Viet Nam. On the first night, as he watched as his men began to dig in, he asked a sergeant, "Where is my foxhole?"

Replied the sergeant: "You're standing on it, Sir. You just have to move the dirt."

## DISTRICT DOINGS

FLATHEAD SWCD - Board Endorsement was given for the watershed application for a feasibility study of Cedar Creek drainage flood control project for the city of Columbia Falls.

GALLATIN VALLEY SWCD - Harold Klump, representative of the City-County Planning Board, attended the supervisors meeting to discuss the possibilities of a block-type standard soil survey around the City of Bozeman. The City-County Planning Board are updating their plan for city expansion at present. It was thought that since a standard soil survey will eventually cover Gallatin County, that priority should be given to about a 5 mile radius surrounding Bozeman.

DANIELS COUNTY SWCD - Jack Sprague was asked to contact the Daniels County Leader about running the "Conservation Charley" column. This would inform the public of different types of conservation practices.

A motion was made by Bill Kegel to pay \$20.00 to each of the nine teachers registered for Lee Rovig's conservation education course. Motion carried.

MILE HIGH SWCD - Phil Judd and Francis McGan have been appointed to the Board of Supervisors as non-voting urban representatives. It is hoped that this will bring about closer and better relationships between urban and rural peoples.

A meeting was held on February 9 in regard to the Brown's Gulch Watershed Project for those people interested to get this project moving again.

BROADWATER SWCD - Lee Hart discussed the conservation talks to be held in connection with his office. They are a series of talks conducted by specialists. Each session will be about two hours and Lee urges everyone to try and attend some of these talks.

BEAVERHEAD SWCD - Roy Forrester reported on the educational material which has been distributed to the County Superintendent of Schools. He also indicated that he will take additional material to representatives of the District 10 for their opinion on it's educational value. Roy was authorized to spend up to \$50.00 to obtain this material at his discretion on the motion by Orville Sparrow, seconded by Emmett Blomquist.

CARBON COUNTY SWCD - J. D. Dykstra reported on the importance of improving the public image of Soil & Water Conservation Districts and their functions.

Hollywood has been described as the town where half the people are waiting to be discovered--and the other half are afraid they will be.

VALLEY COUNTY SWCD - The application for the Willow Creek Project north of Hinsdale was read and plans made to meet with the Water Board on January 25 to sign the application.

The Board approved the technicians starting a series of articles for the local paper.

ROSEBUD COUNTY SWCD - The Conservation Resource Needs Inventory was briefly discussed and it was requested to have four copies run off so other agencies would have the inventory as a reference record.

EASTERN SANDERS COUNTY SWCD - A short discussion was held concerning the consolidation of the Hot Springs and Thompson Falls offices. The hearing will be held at 1:00 P. M. tomorrow (February 3) at the courtroom in Thompson Falls. A. B. Linford, Doug Smith, and George Lackman will probably be on hand.

After reading letters sent and received concerning getting a conservation coordinator in Harriett Miller's office, the board passed a motion to allocate \$5.00 for that purpose and participate in the project with Green Mountain SWCD. Racicot will draw up the letters. It is possible that the Grange might back this idea too, once it is started.

RUBY VALLEY SWCD - Discussion was held on the possibility of changing district boundaries to correspond with school district boundaries for possible tax purposes and monies to go to the district.

Harold Smith read his workload analysis for the year which definitely showed a shortage of help for his office.

BIG HORN COUNTY SWCD - A. G. Slattery, Yugo Nayematsu, and Wayne Nipple will prepare the Annual Report. This report will be a 20 year progress report.

LINCOLN SWCD - Reports from each agency assisting the District are to be included in the District Annual Report for 1965.

PHILLIPS SWCD - Conservation Charley articles were read and discussed for possible use by Phillips News.

Monthly items of district news will be taken to newspaper by supervisors Friday or Monday following regular meetings.

MCCONE SWCD - Attendance at the Crop Production School at Vida was discussed. At least two supervisors plan to attend.

Chief of Police: "Got away, did he? Were all the exits guarded?"

Rookie Policeman: "Yes Sir, but we think he must have left by one of the entrances."

Printed on following pages in this issue of Treasure Acres are state summaries of planned or estimated Resource Developments that are projected within Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The figures were obtained by adding up those supplied by each individual district. Carrying out of these practices on non-federal lands is largely dependent on the efforts and investments of individual farmers and ranchers. However, educational, technical, and financial assistance is needed. Supervisors of individual districts are making every effort to realize these goals. A close analysis of these figures will give some idea of the magnitude and diversity of natural resource development with which Soil and Water Conservation Districts are involved. Cost-benefit studies for each of these practices show tremendous return and another column would be desirable to show what this amounts to.

The private land figures were arrived at during a meeting of SWCD Supervisors, local resource people (SCS, Extension, ASCS, Forest Service, BLM, BIA, FHA, SSSC, and others who were invited). The figures are largely judgement figures based on best information available, agency records, etc. BLM, Forest Service, and Bureau of Indian Affairs at the state level reviewed the Form 2's for their respective agencies.

Inventory figures are necessary as a basis for conservation planning, which is a function of SWCDs. There is a continuing need to gather and accumulate this information, and it is necessary it be reviewed periodically.

The purpose of the NACD Public Lands Committee in conducting this inventory was for SWCD Supervisors to get a better total picture of conservation needs (what exists, what remains, what is planned, what it costs) on both public and private lands, to form a better basis for planning and to justify in their minds monetary appropriations. - Emphasis was meant to be in the judgement of the grassroots, the SWCD Supervisors.

This has been a challenge to supervisors and to agency people and a test of the use of existing record keeping, and to point up what is needed.

Your suggestions for future inventories are welcome.

All use possible should be made of this inventory in SWCD planning for use by state and federal agencies, businesses, private organizations, legislators, congressmen, and publicity purposes.

Individual district inventories are available together with definitions of practices.

### THIS IS CONSERVATION

A stream checked by brush on the banks ... providing fish habitat.  
A grass waterway replacing an eroded gully.  
Dry land range reseeded to provide forage for more livestock, birds and game.  
Stubble plowed into a field to provide moisture-holding tilth and fertility.  
Native grassland allowed to come back by skipping grazing a year or few months.  
Irrigated pasture taking pressure off range -- feeding 10 times as many head per acre.  
Sprinkler irrigation, doing more with half the water.  
Timber harvesting to leave wildlife habitat and hold water.  
Logging roads and skid trails seeded to prevent weeds and erosion.  
Adequate dams or structures to allow measurement and to save water and labor.  
Ditch and canal lining to halt erosion, wasting of water and water-logged land.  
Drainage to reclaim unproductive land.  
Leveling to save water and boost production.

INVENTORY  
 RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT NEEDS WITHIN SOIL AND WATER  
 CONSERVATION DISTRICTS IN ELEVEN WESTERN PUBLIC LANDS STATES  
 AS OF JANUARY 1, 1965

Name of District Montana Summary State MontanaThis report covers land administered by Non-Federal

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Practices	Unit	Units Completed (existing)	Total Units Remaining to be done	High Priority Needs (in units) Projected for 5 years	Estimated total cost of high priority needs (at 1962 price levels)	User contribution toward cost of high priority needs (column F) ...express in percentage of total cost
1. Management	Ac.	16,196,376	24,642,739	7,382,718	4,429,606	
2. Erosion Control	Ac.	7,404,356	6,456,789	2,071,404	8,969,347	
3. Detention or Retarding Dams	No.	215	1,268	335	1,443,700	
4. Diversion Dams or Dikes	No.	6,506	18,504	3,629	3,232,650	
5. Reservoir and Stock Watering Facilities	No.	43,111	39,157	10,872	8,561,128	
6. Seeding	Ac.	267,843	922,668	188,010	2,834,700	
7. Fencing	Mi.	171,972	63,321	15,754	7,257,460	
8. Noxious Plant Control	Ac.	1,863,357	2,524,390	932,000	12,500,600	
9. Management (timber)	Ac.	1,058,533	2,033,610	398,275	385,400	
10. Timber & Woodland Planting	Ac.	2,029	346,824	10,730	576,400	
11. Timber & Woodland Cultural Treatment	Ac.	116,405	1,000,452	40,225	1,748,450	
12. Windbreaks	Ac.	18,791	74,370	11,107	2,442,600	
13. Wildlife Habitat Improvement	Ac.	51,389	235,024	33,395	1,223,470	
14. Wildlife Stream Improvement	Mi.	330	4,368	780	188,200	
15. Fish Ponds, Lakes and Improvements	No.	2,842	5,094	1,280	1,113,630	
16. Standard Soil Surveys	Ac.	15,448,213	46,154,961	19,609,491		
17. Rodent and Pest Control	Ac.	1,253,205	2,173,569	1,112,465	930,585	
18. Fire Control	Ac.	37,374	234,495	55,565	216,450	
19. Insect and Disease Control	Ac.	2,557,000	8,287,972	4,443,622	6,310,242	
20. Roads and Trails	Mi.	7,351	5,475	1,595	3,104,500	
21. Outdoor Recreation Developments (camp and picnic)	Fam. Units	1,273	7,107	2,022	1,032,150	
22. Outdoor Recreation Developments (other)	Units	4,403	4,051	1,244	13,266,700	
23. Buildings and Physical Facilities	No.	97	33	8	134,564	
24. Land Leveling	Ac.	231,759	591,110	123,801	9,130,300	
25. Irrigation (wells)	No.	231	891	184	808,000	
26. Storage Reservoirs	No.	1,867	2,812	468	6,920,350	
27. Reorganization of Irrigation Systems	No.	4,964	16,640	4,722	8,395,100	
28. Pasture or Meadow Establishment or Improvement	Ac.	1,142,158	1,390,384	483,593	6,387,456	
29. Terracing	Mi.	195	3,760	177	44,700	
30. Soil Improvement	Ac.	5,181,575	7,314,706	3,150,289	18,357,738	
31. Total	xxxx	xxxxxxx	xxxxxxx	xxxxxxx	131,946,166	xxxxxxx
32. Maintenance	\$\$\$\$				xxxxxxx	xxxxxxx

Use All Assistance Available in Obtaining Information - But Remember - This is a District Inventory and District Decisions Are Needed

## INVENTORY

 RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT NEEDS WITHIN SOIL AND WATER  
 CONSERVATION DISTRICTS IN ELEVEN WESTERN PUBLIC LANDS STATES  
 AS OF JANUARY 1, 1965
Name of District State Summary State MontanaThis report covers land administered by Bureau of Land Management

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Practices	Unit	Units Completed (existing)	Total Units Remaining to be done	High Priority Needs (in units) Projected for <u>6</u> years	Estimated total cost of high priority needs (at 1962 price levels)	User contribution toward cost of high priority needs (column F) expressed in percentage of total cost
1. Management	Ac.	4,099,327	4,730,325	3,997,797	633,873	
2. Erosion Control	Ac.	184,613	456,841	222,199	1,225,690	
3. Detention or Retarding Dams	No.	119	396	200	3,742,325	
4. Diversion Dams or Dikes	No.	76	3,198	1,106	337,300	
5. Reservoir and Stock Watering Facilities	No.	3,636	3,011	1,343	4,722,400	
6. Seeding	Ac.	181,493.5	344,094	115,135	1,111,695	
7. Fencing	Mi.	9,505.45	4,200.42	1,624.17	1,286,300	
8. Noxious Plant Control	Ac.	26,913	258,784	115,958	352,650	
9. Management (timber)	Ac.	156,245	369,915	51,400	26,000	
10. Timber & Woodland Planting	Ac.	1,970	6,986	1,728	103,760	
11. Timber & Woodland Cultural Treatment	Ac.	2,158	446,306	41,743	444,550	
12. Windbreaks	Ac.					
13. Wildlife Habitat Improvement	Ac.	8	12,462	2,569	191,265	
14. Wildlife Stream Improvement	Mi.	2			20,300	
15. Fish Ponds, Lakes and Improvements	No.		30,003	2	6,000	
16. Standard Soil Surveys	Ac.	2,658,317	4,579,651	2,156,933	155,678	
17. Rodent and Pest Control	Ac.	14,230	44,444	7,450	22,150	
18. Fire Control	Ac.	5,078,487	6,195,958	6,066,467	486,399	
19. Insect and Disease Control	Ac.	244,720	238,800	172,070	210,600	
20. Roads and Trails	Mi.	6,875	3,097	712.5	2,722,750	
21. Outdoor Recreation Developments (camp and picnic)	Fam. Units	150	2,910	758	4,125,000	
22. Outdoor Recreation Developments (other)	Units	12	106	43	36,500	
23. Buildings and Physical Facilities	No.	17	19	11	223,000	
24. Land Leveling	Ac.					
25. Irrigation (wells)	No.					
26. Storage Reservoirs	No.					
27. Reorganization of Irrigation Systems	No.					
28. Pasture or Meadow Establishment or Improvement	Ac.	20				
29. Terracing	Mi.	405.5	1,165.7	283.8	409,620	
30. Soil Improvement	Ac.		20			
31. Total	xxxx	xxxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxxx	16,566,405	xxxxxxxx
32. Maintenance	\$\$\$\$	12,639,299.45	7,402,592	32,72,957,586.87	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx

**INVENTORY**  
**RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT NEEDS WITHIN SOIL AND WATER**  
**CONSERVATION DISTRICTS IN ELEVEN WESTERN PUBLIC LANDS STATES**  
**AS OF JANUARY 1, 1965**

Name of District \_\_\_\_\_ State Summary State MontanaThis report covers land administered by U. S. Forest Service

A Practices	B Unit	C Units Completed (existing)	D Total Units Remaining to be done	E High Priority Needs (in units) Projected for <u>10</u> years	F Estimated total cost of high priority needs (at 1962 price levels)	G User contribution toward cost of high priority needs (column E expressed in percentage of total cost)
1. Management	Ac.	2,612,821		1,761,881	518,838	
2. Erosion Control Rehabilitation	Ac.	644,821		2,260,000	2,700,000	
3. Detention or Retarding Dams	No.	)				
4. Diversion Dams or Dikes	No.	)				
5. Reservoir and Stock Watering Facilities	No.	2,193		520	570,000	
6. Seeding (Range Revegetation)	Ac.	85,928		1,500,000	1,500,000	
7. Fencing	Mi.	2,309		1,206	690,619	
8. Noxious Plant Control	Ac.	1,602		5,860	110,092	
9. Management (timber)	Ac.	1,539,819		86,000	1,690,000	
10. Timber & Woodland Planting	Ac.	29,008		1,888,708	7,957,730	
11. Timber & Woodland Cultural Treatment	Ac.	121,163		835,794	16,220,190	
12. Windbreaks	Ac.	)				
13. Wildlife Habitat Improvement	Ac.	1,679		21,000	271,816	
14. Wildlife Stream Improvement	Mi.	110		155	61,942	
15. Fish Ponds, Lakes and Improvements	No.	11		36	17,000	
16. Standard Soil Surveys	Ac.	868,548		1,175,652	360,000	
17. Rodent and Pest Control	Ac.	98,226		888,873	1,100,000	
18. Fire Control	Ac.	1,834,274		344,110	3,537,413	
19. Insect and Disease Control	Ac.	1,874,150		3,230,658	6,251,631	
20. Roads and Trails	Mi.	21,065		6,953	113,392,000	
21. Outdoor Recreation Developments (camp and picnic)	Fam. Units	3,022		4,369	5,500,000	
22. Outdoor Recreation Developments (other)	Units	158		27	840,000	
23. Buildings and Physical Facilities	No.	923		1,021	8,428,229	
24. Land Leveling	Ac.					
25. Irrigation (wells)	No.					
26. Storage Reservoirs	No.					
27. Reorganization of Irrigation Systems	No.					
28. Pasture or Meadow Establishment or Improvement	Ac.					
29. Terracing	Mi.					
30. Soil Improvement	Ac.					
31. Total	xxxx	xxxxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxxxx	171,777,500	xxxxxxxxxxx
32. Maintenance	\$\$\$\$	1,697,844		4,913,427	xxxxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxxxx



ART CHRISTENSEN, Chairman of Public Lands & Watersheds Committee, MASWCD

Many matters of great importance to Soil and Water Conservation Districts were discussed at the recent Montana Rural Areas Development Committee Meeting at Bozeman. Among these was the proposed Reichle Dam on the Big Hole River.

Since Resolution #6 of the Watershed Committee at the Havre Convention of Soil and Water Conservation Districts asks that a study be made of the Reichle Dam by the Headwaters Association and that a report be made at a future date, this report will deal with the writer's impressions of what appears to be the prevailing opinion in regard to the project.

In a nutshell, Reichle Dam, an earth and rockfill structure, will (according to the best estimates of the Bureau of Reclamation) store 530,000 acre feet of water on the Big Hole River, 15 miles upstream from Twin Bridges. The town of Glen and 8,500 acres of land would be inundated. 10 miles of Blue Ribbon Trout stream would be lost. Water from the reservoir would be carried 135 miles to supply needs along the way from Whitehall to a point near Canyon Ferry Dam. Some of the water would be stored in Milligan Reservoir near Three Forks.

64,000 acres of land in the Whitehall, Toston, and Townsend area would receive a full supply of irrigation water under the Jefferson-Whitehall Project. The economy of the area would be strengthened and stabilized. Reichle and Milligan reservoirs would provide recreational benefits. The project would also provide flood control. \$77,771,000.00 would be the cost and the cost benefit ratio would be about 1.5 to 1.

After attending the RAD meeting and sampling the opinion of the people from the Area, I would conclude that the majority favor the project.

Most, but not all, residents of the area to be inundated are in strong opposition. The Montana Fish and Game Department, along with trout fishermen from all over the United States, are in opposition. Many people from all walks of life feel that as long as our government must expend huge amounts of money to support farm prices and to curtail production, it is premature to build the project at this time.

The majority, however, feel that downstream interests are eyeing Montana water and unless we develop this resource, we may lose it. Farm surpluses are dwindling and may be a thing of the past by the time the project can be completed. Almost no one denies that the project will be needed someday. Some tax base will be lost in Beaverhead and Madison Counties, but this will be offset many times by the economic growth in the downstream area. The project has widespread support in the Townsend, Toston, and Whitehall area. It has been endorsed by the Governor and the State Water Board.

Since the construction of this project is almost a foregone conclusion, the major concern of districts ought to be on overall longtime planning. Shortcomings of other projects should not be repeated here. The years ahead will serve as a real challenge to Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Standing in a line at the ticket office of a movie theater, an old gentleman whispered to the person behind him, "Take a look at the little character in front of me with the poodle cut and the blue jeans. Is it a boy or a girl?"

"It's a girl," came the angry reply. "I ought to know. It's my daughter."

"Forgive me, sir!" apologized the old fellow. "I never dreamed you were her father."

"I'm not," said the slacks-clad parent. "I'm her mother."



"I used my head to get him to propose. I just put it on his shoulder."



CARL JOHNSON, Chairman  
Education Committee, MASWC  
Director, MASWCD

Last week I had the very gratifying experience of attending the NACD Convention in New Orleans. While there, it was my good fortune to meet with, and exchange ideas with many people; to see first hand what conservationists were doing in other states.

Montana's delegation was not too large, but from the comments received from other delegates, I think we were rather effective. The remarks made at the Northern Plains Area V meeting by your State President, Mr. William Kester, concerning the Public Image of conservation, were met with a great deal of approval by representatives of the several states that comprise Area V.

As your Education Committee Chairman, I confined myself primarily to education. I find that Montana supervisors are aimed in the right direction. However, I think districts should do some more advertising as to the availability of scholarships to teachers where they are offered in their respective districts.

Many of the Units of the University of Montana are offering excellent courses in Conservation. I can speak with authority on this subject because I have just completed a five credit course on "Trends of Teaching Science" from Montana State University, and there is a wealth of interesting conservation material taught in it. I'm sure there are just as many offerings in the other Units. THEREFORE SUPERVISORS, LET'S GET OUT AND ADVERTISE!

There is another item which I think should be of vital interest to all supervisors. It was brought to my attention by Mrs. Gladys Hippe, who is President of NACD's Ladies Auxiliary. It seems that there is nothing in the Davis Memorial Library concerning the history of the conservation movement of the State of Montana. If all local districts in Montana would send in something along these lines to myself, Mrs. Hippe, or Ole Ueland, we might come up with a manuscript of some worth and merit and have it placed in the library. We would appreciate any comments, adverse or otherwise, as to such an undertaking.

At our State Meeting in Havre, much was said about the public image of conservation. We who are engaged in agriculture know what we are doing, but I think we must do more to acquaint urban and metropolitan areas as to their part in the overall picture.

A bouquet of roses to all districts for what they have accomplished, but let's intensify our efforts. Along the aforementioned lines, I would like to quote from a letter sent out by NACD Education Chairman David H. Kistner of Loganville, Georgia: "Why Spend Millions to Circumnavigate a Dead Earth!"

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "Harold L. Ickes, former Secretary of the Interior, in an address, February 27, 1939, said, 'Why do we not teach conservation in our schools? Is the waste and pillage and threatened physical destruction of our country less important than the names of State capitols?'"



A typical classroom session in conservation

A paper written by W. L. Wilhite of San Antonio, Texas was given to us and in this he asks this question from the Scriptures: "Do you believe the sins of the fathers are visited upon the Children?" and then he answers it this way: "Yes, when the Parents sin against the Soil, that sin will be visited upon their Children".

I feel that Montana had a good representation there this year, but it was small compared with some of the other States. Even so, we wore our large yellow and blue "I'm from Montana" buttons proudly. They got us into many conversations concerning Montana and the West.

I believe every member of the Montana delegation was glad to return to the "Big Sky Country", resolved to do a better job of Soil & Water Conservation.

BILL

GOVERNOR BABCOCK APPOINTS OSCAR HIPPE TO SSCC

Oscar Hippe, a long time Soil & Water Conservation District Supervisor and NACD Official, from Froid was appointed for a four year term to the State Soil Conservation Committee. He replaces Carl Hunter of Fairview.

The State Soil Conservation Committee at its reorganizational meeting held in Miles City in January, re-elected John Schroeder, Lolo, as Chairman, Bill D'Ewart, Wilsall, Vice-Chairman. Ole Ueland of Butte was re-employed as Executive Secretary.

SHOW - ME TRIP SCHEDULED

A "Show-Me trip to see Tree Plantings and Shelterbelts in the state of North Dakota is planned for the week of June 6 and is jointly sponsored by the Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the Montana State Forester.

North Dakota SWCDs have had outstanding success with their tree planting program. This trip will provide an opportunity for Montana Supervisors to see first hand what can be done. Each SWCD in Montana is hereby notified to write to R. W. Arnold, Assistant State Forester, 2705 Spurgin Road, Missoula, Montana, giving him the name or number of persons from their District who desires to make this trip.

The State Forester will provide bus transportation and will arrange to pick up those going along the way. This information should be submitted by May 1, 1966. Choyteau County District have already indicated they have a busload lined up for this trip.



Pictured above is Governor Tim Babcock who spoke at the Lewis and Clark Soil and Water Conservation District's Annual Meeting on January 28, 1966.

Approximately 400 people were in attendance. The Governor gave a brief talk and then showed slides that were taken while he was on a tour through the Orient last fall.

STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE - WATER CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING

The State Soil Conservation Committee and Montana Water Conservation Board Members met jointly in Helena, February 15.

Members of the Joint University Water Research Committee from Montana State University, University of Montana, and Montana Tech gave a report on water research underway.

A delegation from Valley County presented an application for a proposed Watershed Project which would be primarily for irrigation benefits. The Water Conservation Board is co-sponsor. The State Soil Conservation Committee accepted the application for investigation and feasibility study under P. L. 566. No priority was given at this time because of a backlog of other projects in the works, and a shortage of planning funds.

The State Soil Conservation Committee and Water Conservation Board Members discussed proposed Conservancy District legislation and Soil and Water Conservation Districts - Water Conservation Board Memorandums of Understanding.

At this meeting, Chairman John Schroeder suffered a slight heart disturbance and was hospitalized. Vice-Chairman D'Ewart had also suffered a slight heart attack a couple days before and was hospitalized. We wish these gentlemen a complete recovery. No doubt, service on these public boards can be very hard on a person.

## WES D'EWART STRESSES NEED FOR WISE USE OF WATER

"We must protect the present and future use of water in Montana," Wesley D'Ewart told members of the Park Soil and Water Conservation District at their annual meeting.

Mr. D'Ewart is a former Congressman and U. S. Secretary of Agriculture and is currently serving as Montana chairman of the Western States Water Council.

He stressed the importance of the wise use of water by federal, state and private groups. It would be a tragedy, he stressed, if we would allow our water to be prior used before we could use it in Montana. "Once it's gone," he said, "we will never get it back."

Mr. D'Ewart said Public Law 566 is a great aid to farmers and ranchers regarding the building of medium-sized dams and reservoirs.

He said it is necessary for Montana to have a clear understanding of the need for use of water today, 20 years from now and 50 years from now. Other states have the same problem, he said and we must work with them to find the answer.

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A Directory of Summer 1966 Workshops, Courses and Adult Training Programs in Conservation of Natural Resources is available from Dr. W. F. Clark, Eastern Montana College, Billings, Montana 59101.

Montana Association of Soil and  
Water Conservation Districts  
(Return postage guaranteed)



## DEER LODGE VALLEY AND NORTH POWELL SWCDs WIN SECOND PLACE IN NEWSLETTER CONTEST

Congratulations to the Deer Lodge Valley Soil and Water Conservation District and the North Powell Soil and Water Conservation District.

These districts won \$50.00 as the second place winner in the Northern Plains Area of the National Newsletter Contest.

Newsletters are scored on readability, regularity, and conservation content.

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## SOIL CONSERVATION SOCIETY OF AMERICA

The Montana (Bozeman) Chapter of the Soil Conservation Society of America is soliciting memberships. Mail your dues (\$11.00) to Anthony Gels, Route 2, Bozeman, Montana.

The Soil Conservation Society of America is a national professional organization made up of farmers, ranchers, businessmen, range specialists, soil scientists, economists, educators, and many others to advance the science and art of good land use.

A bi-monthly publication entitled "Journal of Soil and Water Conservation" is well worth the price of dues. If you aren't now a member, Why not become one?

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MAY 27 1966

# Treasure Acres

O. M. Ueland, Editor, Montana Tech.



## OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN

MARCH - APRIL, 1966



BILL KESLER, PRESIDENT SEZ:

And the trash piles grow:

Twenty years ago, the average American discarded about two pounds of refuse daily, according to the U. S. Public Health Service. Today there are far more Americans and each discards about five pounds of trash daily.

Every minute of the day, the agency reports, some 251 tons of garbage and rubbish are produced. A little arithmetic shows that piled together at days end, it amounts to 362,000 tons and by the years end, it is a whopping 150 million ton mountain of trash.

The biggest problem seems to be in finding a place for the rubbish once it has been collected. Current disposal methods in many communities are being pushed almost to the limit in handling the increased volume. At the same time, available economic space for waste disposal has declined.

"The annual outlay by our communities for public collection and disposal services in 1964," reports the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, "was over \$1.5 billion - exceeded only by community expenditures for schools and roads. In addition, it has been

estimated that annual expenditures for private sanitation services (industry and the like) are over \$1 billion."

(The above figures were taken from a report by the U. S. Public Health Service and Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.)

Here in the Flathead area, we enjoy our lakes and streams, but with the great increase of disposable boxes, throwaway bottles and cans and cartons containing convenience foods - quite an amount of this is finding its way into the streams and lakes, also along our roads and highways.

### That's the problem - What's the solution?

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### CONSERVATION WORKSHOPS

Resolutions of the Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts Education Committee reads "Districts offering scholarships should notify the Director of Conservation Workshops at the following colleges:

Northern Montana College at Havre, Eastern Montana College at Billings, University of Montana at Missoula, Montana State University at Bozeman, and Western Montana College at Dillon.

The MASWCD also urge districts to make scholarships available for teachers who are interested in taking further study on conservation at any of our State Institutions. All District Supervisors should make special effort to have at least one or more teachers attend these conservation workshops.

HAS YOUR DISTRICT TAKEN ACTION ON PROVIDING SCHOLARSHIPS FOR TEACHER WORKSHOPS?

## STRIP MINING AND CONSERVATION

(Excerpts from an article by S. L. Groff, Chief Ground Water & Mineral Fuels Division, Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology)

Montana's coal resources and coal land lease activity have been much in the news in recent months. The nation's growing need for fossil fuel energy sources has focused attention on the vast Fort Union coal region of northern Wyoming, eastern Montana, and western North Dakota. This region contains the largest reserve of coal on earth, and it is only natural that industry is looking at Montana's coal and the necessary water resources essential for production of electric energy, liquid fuel, and coal gas.

### The Conservation Issue

Many citizens view the spoil piles and debris of a bygone mining era with apprehension and fear that a new industrial mining program will tear up the earth and destroy its beauty and usefulness. Some such citizens would favor strong preventive measures prior to the initiation of large scale mining. Some would insist on complete surface restoration, and go so far as to recommend and accept statutory measures that would seriously impede, if not prohibit, progress for the revitalization of the Montana coal industry.

On the other hand, some segments of the industry, itself, impelled by the profit motive, might well be inclined to the practice of improper conservation measures--or worse, to a denial of the necessity of any conservation practices at all.

The conservation issue, by all reasonable tenants, lies between these extremes. It will require consultation and cooperation of the various groups to achieve the "happy media" so necessary to both citizens and industry.

It is the business of both the Coal Council, which serves as the State's coal promotional body, and the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology to be familiar with coal and coal matters. Therefore, both the Council and the Bureau are interested in conservation practices following coal extraction, and is preparing considered rules and regulations for the future.

### Recommendations and Conclusions

Shortly after the State coal lands auction on May 27, the executive committee of the Coal Council will meet for the purpose of creating a joint committee to consider practical legislation pertinent to conservation practices in

Wonder what the skirt designers will be up to next.

strip mining. The joint committee will be formed of representatives from pertinent state agencies (including SWCD), industry, interested citizens, and legislators.

It is anticipated that this committee can provide the State Legislature with adequate, equitable, and comprehensive recommendations by the 1969 session. The realization that a thorough study should precede the drafting of legislation is a necessity. Preliminary studies by the Bureau of Mines and Geology show the inapplicability of laws now in effect in the east and middle west. Conditions of climate, soil, and occurrence of water very widely, and it is indicated that the semi-arid western states will be forced to enact original statutes of their own.

Present thinking of technical persons are along the lines that each case (each stripping operation) has its own peculiarities, and must be considered on an individual basis. The concept of surface restoration is not tenable in the great majority of the coal mining areas of the Fort Union Region. The concept of "restoration to a condition in keeping with the concept of best beneficial use" is believed to be far more practical. This, for example, involves considering to what use a particular stripped area might be put. In one case, fish ponds, seed grasses, trees, and game might be considered as best; in another case, the area may be amenable to irrigation, soil restoration and agricultural practice.

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### DATES TO REMEMBER

*Meeting of Supervisors of NACD Northern Great Plains Area - Jackson, Wyoming, June 12 - 14.*

*Meeting of Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation District Directors - Bozeman, Montana - June 15.*

*Meeting of State Soil Conservation Committee Members - Bozeman, Montana - the evening of June 14, and June 15.*

*Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts and State Forester "Show-Me Trip" to North Dakota to observe tree planting program of North Dakota Association and Districts - June 6 - 9.*

*Soil Stewardship Week - May 15 - 22.*

*Montana Stockgrowers Association Annual Convention - May 19 - 21, Great Falls, Montana.*

He: "You NEED me."

She: "I need you like Richard Burton needs a recreation room"



GORDON HOLTE  
Director, MASWCD

It has long been said that research is the key to development of any resource. It is equally true that research is necessary merely to properly maintain and preserve our soil and water assets. What have conservation districts been doing to help research?

A summary of research activities of northeastern Montana districts would probably be typical of most districts in Montana. Starting in the 40's, there was high interest among districts concerning research. They helped the Soil Conservation Service at that time with arranging projects, with moral support, and with making good use of all new research findings. In the 1950's, when conservation research was turned over to the Agriculture Research Service, district participation was greatly accelerated to include direct financial assistance and the furnishing of district owned land. Memorandums of Understanding have been used for many years between districts and research agencies. Districts have always been outspoken about research needs, and they have secured the cooperators land for field projects.

It is estimated that districts in northeastern Montana have made direct financial contributions of over \$18,000 to aid research. These were cash outlays and includes not one cent for the mileage, time, effort, and work of district supervisors.

Districts have done a tremendous job in promoting soil and water conservation research. A continuing program needs to emphasize:

1. Secure funds for research. We are still losing soil and water faster than they are being replaced.
2. Give direct help to agencies. Districts have the unique position of being close to the problem. They can arrange for and encourage projects on cooperators farms.
3. Inform the public of the benefits of conservation research. Farmers and ranchers have been quick to utilize new research findings, but does the public realize that such research is for the public benefit? The taxpayer is inclined to think of research as something that will increase production, rather than as an answer on how to use, improve, and conserve.
4. Make sure the most important research needs are given priority. Despite the demand for increased attention to other parts of the district program, soil and water conservation is still the primary objective of districts. Our land is still losing too much soil and water.

It seems all of this could be summed up by saying, get the money, give help, inform the public, and establish priorities.

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**"WE ARE AMONG THE ELECT"**

*"Have you ever stopped to think how fortunate we are to be District Supervisors? Most people do not have such an opportunity to render worthwhile public service as has been extended to us...We are among the elect."*

*"As a token of our appreciation for this wonderful opportunity that is ours,...let's look at our jobs with keen anticipation of the opportunities for service they offer rather than as a dull duty that has been imposed on us." - Sterlin Hurley, President, Arkansas Assn.*



FRANK THOMPSON  
Director, MASWCD

I hope some of you fellow Supervisors have taken a little time to study the recommendations of the Budget Bureau that pertains to Soil and Water Conservation.

It appears to me that the Association and the District Supervisors could well spend a little time to help some of the agencies that are working with us and for us, to retain some of the funds in the budget that will enable them to do a complete and effective job.

Some of our friends who could stand a little help are: Watershed planning, Watershed protection, Conservation operations, and the Great Plains Conservation Program.

To break some of these down into specific projects, appropriations for watershed planning could stand a substantial increase. There has been a sharp cut-back in soil survey funds. This is one of the major needs of landowners and operators and one of the vital tools in farm and ranch planning. Technical assistance to Soil and

Water Conservation Districts could also use more help than we are now provided; many requests for assistance now have to be passed over due to lack of manpower.

If you fellow Supervisors are interested in one or more of these projects, it would be time well spent to write a letter or two to the proper persons, explaining your ideas and feelings on these matters.

It is my understanding that the money saved by the Budget cuts is earmarked to go into the Poverty Program.

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"LEAFY SPURGE - INCH BY INCH"

by

Bill Richter, County Extension Agent, Montana Extension Service, Butte, Montana

Concerns about the economy are grave by farmers and ranchers when prices for crops and livestock are down. These concerns are very noticeable at the end of the year when looking at the balance sheet of gross income that is low, and operating expenses that are high.

One problem that is more reserved on how it affects the income are weeds. They resemble what we would call a hidden tax in that they take their tolls generally before the crops are harvested.

A good example of weeds affecting income is leafy spurge infestation. The direct effects of leafy spurge are felt by low weaning weights on calves or lambs, and reduced numbers of livestock that can be grazed on a section of land. The direct result of weed infestation on the range is loss of grass for grazing. Land owners being of the nature they are, tend to say that "we didn't get enough rainfall" or "it was a poor grass year", instead of investigating and finding what the problem really is.

The infestation of weeds that are of a noxious nature will usually lower the range condition class one grade. If the range condition classes are based on SCS method of classifying range as excellent, good, fair, and poor, this means a range with a weed infestation of leafy spurge could be classed no higher than fair condition, and a moderate to severe infestation would put the range in poor condition class. Range condition is a basis of estimating the number of grazing units a given range will carry and prevent deterioration.

Gross income can be compared among the various range condition classes as listed in the following table:

Range Condition	A.U.M. per Section	**Total Lbs. of Beef	*Gross Income per Section
Good	190	8100	\$1944.00
Fair	156	7029	1686.00
Poor	64	2700	648.00

Heaven's Nectar - Growing Juice - Rain, Snow, Sleet and Fog - Water. Any way you spell it you end up with one of our basic necessities of life.

Perhaps we should all take a closer look at our water resources occasionally. What do they mean to us? What responsibility for the wise and proper use of these resources do we have to ourselves, to our companions on this little ball we call the earth and to those who will call it home in the centuries to come.

Charley was reading an article on the subject this morning as he absorbed his breakfast coffee. His wife wasn't getting much conversation out of him but he was getting some good conservation out of the article. It was written by the Soil Stewardship Advisory Committee to the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts.

This is the article which Charley inhaled with his second cup of Java:

"In a world of many choices, you have no choice about water. You must have it. Water is the necessity of the hour and of the ages. It is among the supreme gifts of the Lord and He has provided no substitute for it.

"Vital to all living things and immense in its power, water conditions the course of nations and influences the lives of each of us. It is the artery of civilization and the constant challenge to man's resourcefulness. Here and now it is as personal as your thirst.

"Our demands on this priceless resource are multiplying; our responsibilities for it are being compelled to invent and manage, sacrifice and share, in order to lengthen the use of what God has given us. There is enough - but only if we are stewards of our limited supply, use it with far greater care, and recognize the urgency for new and concentrated efforts to meet the oncoming needs.

"What we have today will not be enough in the years ahead unless we act to halt the waste of pollution, excessive evaporation, and needless flooding. We must learn to convert the salt water of oceans to fresh water that can be used to nourish men and their plants and animals. We need to blunt the damaging effects of violent rainstorms striking the earth and develop better methods of recharging our underground water supplies while they are in use.

"We must store more water in glent reservoirs for the common good, harness it for power, and develop it for recreation. We need to protect our streams and lakes for the fish and wildlife that so often lack defenders.

"And across the landscape of thousands of watersheds, there is opportunity and even obli-

gation for the good soil steward to manage water for his crops without damage to the land, while capturing billions of raindrops in the giant reservoir of the soil. By his control of the land and all the water falling on it as rain and snow, the steward has a unique and vital responsibility to God and man to serve as first custodian of the stream of life."

Charley read the last period twice, glanced at his watch, leaped from his chair, bussed his better half as he galloped by and exclaimed, "Holy Macaroni, Ma, I'm late. It was mighty fine coffee and good-bye."

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Leafy Spurge - Inch by Inch, Continued

\*Based on calf price of \$24.00

\*\*Based on Calf gain of 1.5 pounds per day.

If weeds were the cause of range being in poor condition, a rancher would lose a gross income of \$1296.00 per section. The next question can agriculture really afford the hidden tax?

Quite often the argument is given that you can't afford to control weeds because it costs more than the land is worth. At the present time it costs around \$50.00 per acre to control leafy spurge, considering methods and chemical available at the present time. Range land, if it could be bought separately would probably cost somewhere around \$30.00 to \$45.00 per acre. This argument doesn't hold water because we have limited land resources available and the landowner is confined to making a living on what he has now. If weeds aren't controlled the weeds still pose a threat to his neighbor's property because they aren't confined to boundary lines, or fence lines.

One reason weeds seldom appear to be much of a problem to the average land owner is that a small patch usually spreads slowly at first but speeds up as more land becomes infested. Experimental work with the spread of leafy spurge in Canada indicates that the average annual increase is four feet in diameter. Small patches of 7 square feet increase in size by 387 times in five years, while large patches increase by only 30 times in five years. At these rates of increase, landowners can't afford not to control isolated patches of leafy spurge, or any other noxious weeds.

Controlling weeds is a problem of grave consideration. This problem breaks down into two parts: (1) the amount of money required; and (2) actually doing something about them. All too often the last problem prevails rather than the first.

Fellow we know came back from a trip, raving about how he enjoyed the scenery. Seems his wife did the driving, and all he had to do was steer the car.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

BIG SANDY SWCD - It was moved by William Sibra, seconded by Joe Moravec that Kenneth Heen be called to serve as associate board member to represent non-farm residents in the District. This will be a non-voting, advisory, and consultive position.

CHOUTEAU COUNTY SWCD - Howard Axtman, local manager of the Green Line Implement Company, has been named associate supervisor to the Chouteau County SWCD. Mr. Axtman will represent the urban people.

Joe Moose, President, First Chouteau County Bank, announced that a cash award of \$50.00 will be presented by the bank to the outstanding conservation farmer named by the local SWCD at their annual meeting and banquet. The cash award will be given in 1967 in addition to the plaque presented by the district.

DAWSON COUNTY SWCD - Tom Baldwin suggested that a contact be made with the surrounding supervisor districts and that an interchange be suggested. This would offer the opportunity of getting acquainted with supervisors in the other districts as well as learning what their problems are and some of the things they are doing.

GREEN MOUNTAIN SWCD - A letter was read from A. B. Linford giving the two Sanders County Soil Conservation Districts the "Go Ahead" on a project proposed by R. Racicot. The project is to consist of mailing form letters to all SWCDs and 4-H clubs in Montana, requesting them to write Harriet Miller's office with a suggestion for a Conservation-Education coordinator, using Title 5 money from the 1965 Primary and Secondary Education Act. The Board was in favor of initiating the action.

LITTLE BEAVER SWCD - Mr. Bob Irvine was present and he brought up the fact that he thought announcements should be made over the radio previous to each of the monthly meetings of the SWCD. This way the public would know that the supervisors are meeting and probably more people would attend the meetings.

LIBERTY COUNTY SWCD - 172,000 trees were purchased from the State Forest Nursery in Missoula. The District planting crew planted approximately 50,000 on various farms and ranches. Supervisor Eugene Bjornstad used his truck to deliver bulk trees to each farmstead.

NORTH POWELL SWCD - The Supervisors tour was discussed. They decided that this tour should be on weeds. Wendell Copenhaver suggested that

Every year, it takes less time to fly across the ocean, and more time to drive to the office.

they should have something on identification. The County Agent should locate someone to conduct the tour. The tour will be held sometime between June 1 and 15. The primary purpose of this tour is to stir interest in weed control. Meeting will be in the Helmville vicinity. Fresh samples of weeds and weeds that can't be identified should be brought in.

PHILLIPS SWCD - The Board considered joining the Malta Chamber of Commerce and alternating supervisors would attend meetings. Chairman Knudsen will contact Chamber of Commerce and join if he so decides.

PONDERA SWCD - The teacher scholarship was discussed. It was felt that it was a very worthwhile program and should be continued in the future. It was decided that each teacher in the county be sent a letter informing them of the scholarships available. Three scholarships of \$50.00 each will be made available in 1966 to teachers of Pondera County.

A discussion was held regarding the Poster Contest and Soil Stewardship Week, which is May 15-22. It is the wish of the Supervisors that these posters be displayed during Soil Stewardship Week. The District Supervisors will be the judges for the poster contest.

ROSEBUD COUNTY SWCD - The Range Plant Identification Contest was discussed. Merits of program explained and it was decided by those supervisors present to support this activity as in the past, in conjunction with the Rosebud County Fair.

One or two range tours will be planned this year as these are felt to be worthwhile and educational.

MISSOULA COUNTY SWCD - Cardon discussed the audio-visual aids available that the District might use to publicize conservation to urban people. The cost of such equipment (18" by 24" screen, suitable lens, and an automatic projector) would be approximately \$300.

DANIELS COUNTY SWCD - A motion to write to the E. S. Gandrud Company in Owatona, Minnesota, for information about a granular spreader which would mount on the tree planter and would apply a four foot band of granular weedicide was made by Bill Kegel and seconded by Ray Garberg.

SWEET GRASS COUNTY SWCD - Range pitter and inter-seeder projects were briefly discussed. ASCS are in favor of the projects and will cooperate fully.

CASCADE COUNTY SWCD - Dick Golie moved, John Zeller seconded that \$10.00 be sent to the Soil Judging Team in accordance with Resolution #2 of the Education Committee of the MASWCD.

According to a recent letter from John Olsen, Chairman, NACD Public Lands Committee, Soil and Water Conservation Districts have an opportunity to assist the Bureau of Land Management in recommending to what use and classification federal lands within their boundaries should be.

A review of the inventory of Conservation Needs on BLM lands would help to determine the classifications. In Montana, SWCDs can be particularly helpful in assisting the Bureau in identifying and classifying the uses of small acreage of intermingled federal lands.

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RECREATION INVENTORY

Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Montana, with the outstanding assistance of Members of Local Technical Action Panels, have nearly completed a review and updating of the Income Producing Recreation Enterprises in each of their counties. This information will be used by the State Fish and Game Department in the State's recreation plan.

It also will be used by Districts in determining needs for additional recreational enterprises and advising prospective recreational developments.

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CONSERVANCY DISTRICT LEGISLATION

Pete Jackson, Chairman of the Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts Legislative Committee and O. M. Ueland of the State Soil Conservation Committee continue to meet with the Legislative Subcommittee to draft proposed Conservancy District Legislation.

The last meeting was April 25 at which time suggestions for a third draft were submitted. Progress is encouraging; however, the recommendations of the State Soil Conservation Committee and the Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts that organizational procedures through the courts be changed has not been accepted.

Also, the recommendation that SWCDs may be given, if they desire, additional authorities as proposed for a Conservancy District has thus far not been accepted.

Another meeting will be called by Chairman McGowan near the end of May.

You have reached middle age  
when the weight lifting you do,  
consists of standing up.

If you've remembered what  
they taught you in the history  
books, you'll recall this  
nation was founded largely to  
avoid taxes

STATE WATER USERS COMMITTEE

A new water users organization is being set up in Montana. Its objective is to get the collective efforts of all organizations to work together to develop Montana's remaining unclaimed water, to put it to beneficial use before it is lost. The proposed organization would set up a Board of Directors from 12 Districts across Montana.

The reaction of present organizations is that this is a duplication of their efforts and what is needed is to make better use of present organizations instead of setting up a new one. However, hopefully, no doubt, the present organizers feel that their efforts will, by combining the efforts of present organizations, come up with one effective organization.

Soil and Water Conservation Districts are caught in this also as legal entities organized at the local level to promote, develop, and carry out water conservation programs.

In the last analysis, financing water development projects is the problem.

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MONTANA CONSERVATION COUNCIL

Land, Our Basic Resource was the theme of the Annual Meeting of the Montana Conservation Council held in Great Falls. Dick Fabrick of Choteau gave an outstanding talk on "Land and People". He emphasized the dangers of reappointment as recently enacted, which does not give proper representation to the land.

Fred Ritchie, Director, Conservation and Land Use Policy, ASCS, USDA, spoke on "Who Pays for Conservation?". Over two billion dollars a year is required to maintain conservation of our resources. Less than one-half is presently being done, and this mostly by farmers and ranchers. On the brighter side, Ritchie stated, however, much is being done and told of many examples.

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NATIONAL 4-H CONSERVATION AWARDS PROGRAM

District Supervisors should talk the Conservation Awards Program over with their 4-H officials and do whatever is possible to get 4-H boys and girls to take part.

This program is sponsored by the John Deere Company.

People will believe anything,  
if you whisper it.

We know a character who got  
his somewhat reckless wife to  
drive carefully. He told her ff  
she had an accident, the papers  
would print her age.

## "DISTRICT OUTLOOK"

A report of the special committee on District Outlook has been mailed to all SWCD Supervisors. This is an enlightening and challenging report. It serves as good background and is timely to districts in Montana, inasmuch as it can serve to recommend to the Legislative Council proposed legislation for Conservation Districts in Montana.

The Committee has concluded that if districts are to grow and make their most effective contribution to our society in the future, they must expand their programs to embrace new phases of conservation and resource development.

If our analysis of potential resource requirements and the prospective limitations of districts in meeting them is correct, there exists in America a need for organized legal bodies to:

1. *Represent all the people and all community interests in ascertaining conservation needs and responding to their desires.*
2. *Develop conservation and resource development programs for all of the people.*
3. *Involve all the people through appropriate representation in the decision-making process relating to natural resource conservation and development.*
4. *Accept and carry out responsibilities, including the expenditures of local, state, and federal financial allocations on behalf of all the people, in connection with resource programs and projects.*

Bill Kesler, Pete Jackson, O. M. Ueland, and A. B. Linford recently attended a seminar in Kansas City on District Outlook. Consideration of valuable guidelines for strengthening districts were reviewed.

Many districts in Montana are to be congratulated for taking steps on the above for strengthening their districts, such as appointing associate members from outside agriculture, joining their Chambers of Commerce, extending relations with other Conservation agencies through Memorandums of Understanding, and revising and updating their long-range programs and getting key people to participate in their programs.

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O. M. Ueland, Editor, Montana Tech.



## OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

MAY - JUNE, 1966

JUL 22 1966

### NASWCD DIRECTOR'S MEETING

#### LIBRARY

Directors of the Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts met in Bozeman, June 15 and heard reports of progress of the various committees.

Frank Dunle, Director of Fish & Game Commission, Everett Darlington, Deputy Director, Water Conservation Board, and members of the State Soil Conservation Committee were guests for part of the meeting.

President Kesler, in his report, suggested a broadening of the district's outlook. He stated Conservancy District proposals are confusing and must be clarified to get a law passed. Kesler told of the pressures for increased demands for water downstream calls for more upstream storage. Also, the pressures for recreation are of concern to districts; however, he warned not to turn over large areas to recreation only. There must be multiple use of projects. Kesler said that better inventory of resources are needed; better planning.

Dick Setterstrom, NASWCD Secretary, in his report, told of efforts of SWDCs in soil and water conservation. We have recognized the problems as ours and have tried to do something about them. Others have been willing to stand and look and consider the problems as belonging to someone else. Now, some additional people are beginning to recognize water as part of their problems; how can we best help to direct their efforts into useful channels? Setterstrom again urged that one thing we should do is to meet with other organizations in joint meetings to get a better understanding of their goals and objectives.

Continued on Page 2



BILL KESLER, PRESIDENT SEZ:

I have just returned from the "Northern Plains Area Meeting" at Jackson Hole, Wyoming, in which Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming all had representation and took part. I can report that many ideas were exchanged.

Ideas are a most important ingredient required in the development of any program; good ideas and poor; all are needed. A point in mind is that many of the above mentioned States' Soil and Water Conservation Districts have Memorandums of Understanding with the Highway Commission because they have found the expense prohibitive to put a drain or an irrigation culvert under a four lane highway once it is built. Another is, there may be several places where a highway might be used for a dam for a reservoir. With planning, it may be that funds for the extra cost could come from P. L. 566 for rip rap and irrigation development or from other sources if it is a recreation development or both. This is not new. It is already being done in some states.

It was a privilege to meet and talk with the National President, Sam Studebaker, and listen to his observations. We were also privileged to hear a very moving address by the Governor

Continued on Page 2

The second meeting discussed the subject of the "Feasibility of Districts and Revised Water Conservancy Legislation. The Directors voiced no strong support or non-support for conservancy districts as presently proposed. Rather, the feeling seemed to be to spend more time on improving existing agencies to be in a better position to get water development and other resource programs. Some expression was made that SWCDs should have all needed authorities. Several Directors suggested that county commissioners are in a good position to help districts and that districts should be working closely with them. County commissioners present aid to districts is working. This could be expanded to include financing and sponsoring water developments. Also, more realistic appropriations by the legislature for watershed planning and construction costs that could be proven as benefiting the state as a whole, is needed.

The Directors took action to ask Districts to cooperate in an inventory of "Services and Facilities for the Development of Farm Forestry".

A proposal was agreed to for eventual consideration by the State Land Board that lessees of state land be allowed credit for improvements in range condition the same as for fixed improvements should the lessee lost his lease to competitive bidding.

Conservation Education was chosen as the theme of the Annual Meeting to be held in Glendive, November 16-18, with Carl Johnson of Livingston as Chairman.

Directors attending the meeting were Bill Mesler, Frank Thompson, Pete Jackson, Bob Anderson, Gordon Holte, Oscar Hippe, Milo Milstad, Harold Jensen, and Carl Johnson.

Absent were Ralph Briggs, Art Osburnsen, Carl Sinne, Clint McFarland, and Charles Lane.

Others present were R. C. Satterstrom, Secretary, and Art Christensen, Chairman, Public Lands & Watersheds Committee.

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PRESIDENT SEZ, Continued

of Wyoming, Honorable Clifford P. Hanson, who by the way is also a district cooperator. He is also very concerned about the increasing downstream competition for water.

Oscar Hippe, the Montana Councilman, has done a lot of hard work in the Great Plains program and deserves our thanks.

There were approximately 14 supervisors and representatives from Montana, including State Executive Secretary Ole Heland, and State Commissioner, A. W. Linford

The Teton Local Conservation Committee spent a long afternoon June 15 in Bozeman when representatives from five localities in Montana presented applications for Watershed Projects.

The following were accepted for preliminary planning, but no priority given at this time:

1. Cedar Creek in Flathead County is sponsored by City of Columbia Falls and Flathead SWCD. This is primarily a flood control project.
2. First Day Creel in Richland County sponsored by Lower Yellowstone Irrigation District, Richland County SWCD, and endorsed by the Richland County Natural Resource Committee of the Community Development Association. This is a combination flood control, irrigation, and recreation project.
3. Lower Deer Creek in Sweetgrass County sponsored by Sweetgrass SWCD and county commissioners. This is primarily for irrigation with some flood control and possible recreation participation.
4. Alkali Creek in Yellowstone County sponsored by Yellowstone SWCD, City of Billings, and County commissioners and endorsed by Yellowstone County Fair Board and Billings Chamber of Commerce. This is primarily for recreation and flood control, with some possible irrigation participation.
5. Bozeman Creek in Gallatin County sponsored by Gallatin Valley SWCD and City of Bozeman, and endorsed by Bozeman Chamber of Commerce, Montana State University, and a dozen other organizations. This is a truly multi-purpose project for municipal, recreation, irrigation, and flood control.

The above projects show increased concern and participation by county and city governments. This may be a sign for future water development.

A young actor came home and announced proudly that he had been hired for his first role in a new play. "I'm going to be a husband who has been married for 25 years," he said.

"That's not fair for a start," his father said. "Maybe in your next play you'll get a speaking part."



ROBERT ANDERSON  
Director, MASWCD

Total the Governor took to the Legislature a bill to create a Conservation District. There has been much talk on the subject and several bills have been drafted in at least rough form. Very often their own ideas on what such a bill should contain, I being no exception.

I could change my mind, but for the present, I believe that we could benefit by a change clear at the top; a merger of the State Water board and the State Soil Conservation Committee. They might both be put under a Department of Natural Resources for instance. We seem to have some personality conflicts or jealousies at the present and such a merger would eliminate the problem of who is to oversee the new Conservancy Districts.

In the Districts, we should have urban representation on the governing board, not on a population basis, however. Perhaps directors could be apportioned on the basis of project-cost percentages. If recreation development makes up 20% of the cost of a project, then 20% of the directors should come from recreation interests and should be elected by all voters in the district. Recreation development should be paid for by taxing all property in the district.

Irrigation water should probably be paid for by taxing only agricultural property and the power to levy these taxes should rest solely with agricultural property owners.

The courts should be left out of routine organizational procedures, thereby eliminating many delays. Conservancy Districts would need powers of taxation, eminent domain, condemnation, etc. Individual rights are protected by the courts.

Many of our present day Soil & Water Conservation Districts would prefer to remain in the role of a sponsoring agency only. This might be possible in some cases; however, it is also possible that an entire district, or even two or three districts, would be included in a new Conservancy District. This leaves the fate of the present day district somewhat in question.

These points mentioned are only a few of the many encountered when trying to write legislation suitable to all. It is the duty of every Supervisor to study the problems and inform your legislators of your desires. Your ideas may be different and better than mine.

It has been said that when the American people have a job to do, they will get it done, maybe not in the best or most logical way, but the job will be done. A little forethought now might help guide our footsteps in the future.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS

We, as farmers, ranchers, and stockmen, should change our ways. We should as a group hire good public relations men, advertise and let the rest of the people see a true picture of the way we live and work, as well as our expenses and returns. Above all things, try to stop a lot of the misinformation that is published.

We should as a group make a much greater effort to get acquainted and learn to know as well as to educate the other side. Right now our relations with hunters and other people are just about zero.

True, we all have had a lot of hunter problem. We will have a lot more, but I think we should consider the over-all long time picture and attempt to meet these people half-way. I think we could establish a much better relationship with all concerned and perhaps show a true picture of ourselves instead of the one we have now. ~ ~ ~ ~ From the Judith Basin Daily Letter ~ ~ ~ ~



BILL BOARD TWO SIGNS WITH STONE

Shown at the left is a picture of one of the weed signs erected by the Miles Hill SWCD shortly after the sign was placed.

Pictured left to right: A.C. Fleege, WUC, GUS, Bill Richter, County Extension Agent, and Bill Connan, overseer of the District's weed spraying program.

It is hoped that these signs will make people conscious to control their weeds before they get out of hand and not gamble on letting them spread. Farmers and ranchers who have noxious weeds will testify that weeds are costly and often through no fault of their's, weeds do get started. It is much simpler and less costly to correct the weed situation in the beginning than after it has had a chance to spread and get out of hand.

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MEETING OF McCONE AND DAWSON COUNTY SWCDs

Shown at the right is a picture of the combined Dawson SWCD Board of Supervisors and the McCone SWCD Board of Supervisors. The McCone Supervisors were holding an exchange visit with the Dawson County Supervisors to promote and develop better relationships.

Pictured left to right: Verle Jones, George Rice, John Kubesh, Tom Baldwin, Vern Dillon, (all from Dawson County), Bob Brown, Wilbur Eggbrecht, Stanley Robbins, and Milo Hilstad (all from McCone County).

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BLAINE COUNTY SWCD CONSERVATION TOUR



Shown above is a picture of the school children of Blaine County as they attended the 1954 Annual Conservation Tour. 175 children were in attendance. They toured the Bull Pool project for flood control and the Fresno Dam. The school children were accompanied by teachers and drivers from the various schools. Students came from Turner, Turley, Gainok and various rural schools.

The tour is sponsored by County Superintendent of Schools, the Extension Service, and the Blaine County SWCD. Tour arrangements were made by Mrs. H. Langner, Supt. of Schools and Earl DeFries, Blaine County Extension Agent.

"...and you've been doing...? Skinny...  
you have and obvious been doing...? Skinny...  
...a handful of flowers in Charley's  
direction.

"Fair to middling and as little as possible,"  
Chuck retorts as he massages Skinny's gnarled  
and calloused paw. "And what have you been up  
to lately, you elongated drink of diet juice?"

"Still wallowing in the same old rut," Skinny  
sighs. "Chaperoning grain, grass, hay and  
cattle doesn't leave a feller much time for mis-  
chief -- although I have been getting some con-  
servation practices worked into my busy schedule  
he hastens to reassure Charley.

That's the kind of conversation that Charley  
thrives on. The grin on his face broadens until  
it nibbles at each of his ears.

"By the way, have you heard any good stories  
lately?" Skinny changes the subject - he thinks.

"Yeah, I was reading an article this morning  
at breakfast," Chuck replies, "...and I just  
happen to have a copy with me."

"...about conservation?" Skinny asks appreh-  
ensively.

"Yep," Chuck says enthusiastically. He ad-  
justs his bifocals and starts reading:

"Conservation," according to Dr. F. Fraser  
Darling, a distinguished British conservation-  
ist, "is reaching forth to a larger concept than  
caring in an earnest but rather hazy way for  
animal species, for forests, soils or fresh  
water; it is becoming the care of the human  
habitat, which is the whole planet."

"Which means what?" Skinny interrupts.

"Don Williams, Administrator of the Soil Con-  
servation Service, elaborates on that in this  
article right here," Chuck replies as he jabs a  
finger at the paragraph he starts to read:

"The care of the human habitat, which is the  
whole planet, is precisely why we should all be  
interested in conservation.

"...Not because poor soils yield poor crops  
but because poor soils make poor people.

"...Not because of what soil erosion does to  
land but because of what it does to men, women,  
and children in our crowded cities as well as  
in our developing rural areas.

"...Not because of what fire or flood can do  
to the beauty and productivity of the forest or  
valley but because of what they can do to hope  
and dignity of human beings who live and work  
there.

"...Not because we need vanishing species of  
wildlife for its meat or feathers, but because  
we have no right to deprive future generations  
of any of the fullness of the world as God  
created it.

"...Not because we need good things? In-  
crease because our...? But because we  
want peace between man and man -- a peace that  
means in large measure... the conservation  
and development of soil and water resources  
from which people draw their sustenance in  
every part of the world."

"Well, I'd kinda have to go along with that  
thinking," Skinny agrees as Charley looks up  
from the article.

"It makes sense, all right," Chuck says.  
"Conservation of natural resources isn't for the  
benefit of the resources but rather for the bene-  
fit of people who need those resources for a  
good and full life. If it weren't for people,  
we wouldn't need conservation. Conservation is  
man's solution to problems which man created.  
If we destroy the earth's natural resources,  
nature will create more -- in time -- but the  
human race might not be around to make use of  
them."

"True," Skinny concedes, "and I reckon I'd  
better not be around here much longer. I've  
got a heap of work waiting for me. It's been  
nice seeing you again -- and thanks for the  
story," he sarcastically adds.

"You bet," Charley replies. "It's been my  
pleasure."

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GOVERNOR BABCOCK ENDORSES BITTERROOT RC&D  
PROJECT PLAN

Governor Tim Babcock on May 19 announced his  
endorsement of the Bitterroot Valley Resource  
Conservation and Development Project Plan.

John Schroeder, Chairman of the State Soil  
Conservation Committee, Ave Linford, SCS State  
Conservationist, Clarence Popham, RC&D Program  
Committee Chairman, and Jack Iman, RC&D Program  
Committee Vice-Chairman, submitted the first  
copies to Governor Babcock for review on May 17.

"Sponsors are the Bitterroot and Missoula  
County Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and  
Ravalli and Missoula County Commissioners.

To date, 44 project proposals have been re-  
ceived. A unique feature of RC&D projects is  
that they are not a "one shot" and finalized  
effort, but a continuing, growing and flexible  
program. Project measure proposals are contin-  
ually being received by the sponsors while  
others are being completed.

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REMINDER - SWCD Supervisors are reminded to meet  
with their county commissioners regarding their  
budgets for the coming year.

A handicapped golfer is one who  
plays with his boss.

DISTRICT BOARD

FOX ELDER SWCD - A letter from Leo Carter County Fair Board asking if the supervisors wanted an ad in the premium book was read. A motion was made by Bickerdyke and seconded by Teigen that a \$10.00 ad be placed in the book.

GARFIELD COUNTY SWCD - The Secretary was instructed to contact the Fish and Game Department regarding a memorandum of understanding. The District will be glad to discuss this at any of their regular meetings.

JUDITH BASIN SWCD- The teachers scholarship was discussed and John Metcalf moved and Carl Hill seconded that the scholarship for conservation workshops of \$75.00 be offered again this year. Motion carried.

They requested the Secretary to send a letter to Dr. Wilson F. Clark for a single copy of the 1966 Directory of Summer Workshops, Courses and Adult Training programs. It was decided a letter be written to all Superintendents in the county informing them of this scholarship and that they be invited to the next board meeting to give their views and further discuss this program, along with the County Superintendent.

Joe Morris reported on his trip to Oklahoma with the judging team and stated the team placed 11th out of 21.

LITTLE BEAVER SWCD - A check has been made on the elevators, hospital, Doctor's offices, and the Library concerning the subscription to the Soil Conservation magazine. All of these organizations are receiving the magazine. It was decided that this year the magazine would be placed in the office of Dr. Weeks, Dr. Joyce, Dr. Hogeboom, and the two High School libraries.

McCONE SWCD - There were two applicants for the Conservation Scholarship for teachers in McCone County. They were Elaine Garfield and Mrs. Roy Sorely. There were no applicants last year, so the scholarship was not used. Motion by R. Brown that the 1965 and 1966 funds be used this year and the awards given to both applicants and seconded by J. Bieber. Motion passed.

Motion by J. Bieber to join the Circle Chamber of Commerce was seconded by S. Robbins and carried.

PETER MUSSELSHELL SWCD - Gary Wetzsteon, Forest Service, reviewed the memorandum of understanding between the Board and the Forest Service. In brief, the understanding authorizes the Forest Service to work with the Conservation Districts. The individual articles were read and discussed.

Jim said the boys can think  
you are doing this to me  
and I am not sure.

TRAIL COUNTY SWCD - Bill Carter advised that the Trail County Chamber of Commerce has a Chamber Associate membership listing the names of the supervisors. Motion suggested by Ted Hildebrand and passed.

STILLWATER SWCD - The possibility of preparing maps of the county showing ownership to sell for about \$3.00 was discussed. These maps can be made at large or as small as it possible to read. More information was needed so the secretary was instructed to write to the McCone and Fallon County Districts. Information needed would include how large can or should the maps be; cost of preparation; printing cost, etc. Sale of affiliate memberships to contractors and businessmen is a possibility. The general feeling of the Board is that they are opposed to hitting up the businessmen who are hit up every day already.

MISSOULA COUNTY SWCD - Cardon reported that the deadline for up-dating the Conservation Needs Inventory is December 2, 1966. This inventory is necessary to determine current soil series by samples. The land capability units, land use and treatment needs on 156 samples representing 160 acres for each sample will be determined for Missoula and Mineral Counties.

CHOUTEAU COUNTY SWCD - The teachers scholarship was discussed. Warren Elwood, local Jr. High history teacher has applied and was accepted by the Board. He will attend at Missoula. The Board will pay \$50.00 toward his expenses.

Fair exhibits were discussed. Everyone is to encourage entries.

FLATHEAD SWCD - The annual 8th grade conservation tour for all 8th graders in Flathead County was held May 2, 3, and 4. 835 students were taken on the tour. The Pomona Grange and the Flathead SWCD financed the bus transportation.

The SCS, State Fish & Game, United States Forest Service, Montana State Forestry Department Extension Service, Supervisors, and Koenig Brothers (Ranchers) were instructors.

Teachers supervised the children and assisted with the planning. Youngsters brought sack lunches and Equity Supply furnished milk and ice cream for everyone. Instructors and bus drivers were provided dinner by local Grange ladies.

YELLOWSTONE SWCD - Earl Morrow, BIA, Leo Pipal, WUC, SCS, and representatives of the Yellowstone SWCD will tour the Pryor Creek area for the possibilities of developing a watershed.

"Dad," said the boy. "What does a man's better half mean?"  
"Usually," the father said, "it means exactly what she says."

...ter... Montana Soil and Water Conservation District supervisors and their wives attended the six state meeting of supervisors of the Northern Plains area in Jackson, Wyoming, June 13, 14.

The group discussion covered a variety of subjects. An interesting observation in discussing district outlook showed that the supervisors unanimously feel that they should broaden the scope of their work and that the programs of SWCD should be expanded. Supervisors were unanimous in stating they were not able to spend the necessary time on district activities. Most supervisors were for including urban areas within Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

On the other hand, supervisors were divided and mostly against including non-landowners on SWCD Boards, power of taxation, hiring a manager or similar staff to do the work.

Sam Studebaker, NACD President, spoke to the group at the final session. He told of his concern to know the feelings of the grassroots. He admonished the group of the need for continually keeping up on their long range planning and to have patience.

D. D. Baldwin, Assistant State Forester, speaking for those who took the show-me tour to North Dakota to view tree plantings there, said the group was very favorably impressed with what they saw: 1) the hospitality of the North Dakota people and the thorough preparations that had been made for the visit; 2) the quantity and quality of the tree plantings; 3) the pride which farmers had for their tree plantings. Our only regret is that more supervisors did not make the trip.

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OPPOSES CUTS IN FUNDS

The Petroleum County SWCD wishes to go on record as opposing the cut in funds for practices C9, C10, C11, C13, and C14, as listed in the ACP handbook.

In letters addressed to the Congress and other officials, they state: "it is our opinion that this restriction of these practices will work a particular hardship on western irrigation areas".

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## OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN

JULY - AUGUST, 1966

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### NACD PUBLIC LANDS MEETING

At a recent meeting of the NACD Public Lands Meeting held in Denver, new BLM-SWCD supplemental Memorandum of Agreement forms were introduced. Copies of these forms are now available from the Executive Secretary, State Soil Conservation Committee, and the State Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

A second item that came out of the Denver meeting was that the NACD Public Lands Committee will suggest and provide guidelines to the Soil and Water Conservation Districts to hold interagency planning meetings at the time the SWCD formulates its yearly annual work plan.

The idea is to recognize the proposed conservation programs and annual work plans of the several agencies with conservation responsibilities. This will give an opportunity for the SWCD Supervisors to make suggestions and approve or disapprove the various conservation plans and to accept them as part of an overall conservation plan for the Soil and Water Conservation District. Also, the Conservation Agencies will have an opportunity to take part and be advised of the private sector conservation plans.

This procedure should result in an overall integrated, comprehensive, coordinated conservation plan.

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### SSCC MEETING

The State Soil Conservation Committee has scheduled a meeting for Thursday, September 8 in Helena. Follow-up on watershed applications and legislative matters will occupy most of the meeting.

A joint meeting with the Water Conservation Board is also planned.



WILLIAM J. KESLER, PRESIDENT SEZ

Got a phone call today at noon from Ole Ueland telling me to get something in for this column. Haying season is pressing, and the past few days has been threatening rain; a lot of hay down; baler down and waiting for parts from Minneapolis; hay crew waiting; thus my mind somehow doesn't come up with a single inspiring thought for President Sez.

The crops are good over here in the Flathead, but we have a few worries too. Money is kind of tight and interest getting higher etc.; however, none of it is so serious that a cattle buyer looking for heavy yearlings at about 24¢ and 26¢ per lb. couldn't cure.

I realize that many of you are having water troubles and drought that look much bigger than lack of cattle buyers, but hang tough, and maybe it will all look different come convention time.

Fall is fast approaching and the time for the Area Meetings is at hand. Ralph Briggs or myself plan to attend each of your meetings. In these ever-changing times, we need good opportunities to review and set new policies and objectives. Each of us should make an effort to do our part to fulfill our responsibilities as supervisors.

The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse - Famine, Pestilence, Death and Destruction - are a bunch of ornery hombres. Singly and collectively they gallop over the face of the earth. Their contribution to the welfare of the world is misery and grief.

There's also another mean and mangy varmint slinking around, however. He didn't make the first team but he's a bad one, nevertheless. When it comes to dishing out desolation, Fire can be every bit as bad as the other four. He's a substitute for Eath and Destruction. He leaves both in his wake.

We, here in the United State, probably suffer less from the Four Horsemen than any other country on earth. Fire, however, is not so considerate. He delights in pillaging our land. And, right now, we're in the middle of one of his busiest seasons.

Spring has become a middle-aged woman. That fresh, green blush of May and June is gone. Time and the wear and tear of sun and wind have taken their toll. The crops in the fields and the grasses on pastures and rangelands have matured - or will in the near future. They're turning yellow -- drying out. The trees of the forests are still green but they too, are dry.

Fire has a malicious sneer on his face as he thunders hither and yon. He rides a big red stallion. His breath is hot. His nostrils belch smoke. He roars as he scours the countryside for assistants.

Fire is impotent if he doesn't have help. He can't start a racing prairie fire nor a crackling forest conflagration. He needs people to keep him in business. Smokers and campers are high on his list of desirable employees. But he can use any heedless human -- man or woman, boy or girl.

He's looking for you and I - and our cigarettes, cigars, camp fires, matches and careless burning habits.

From now until the rains come or the snow flies we live dangerously. Any vagrant spark can start the flames jumping or the smoke rolling.

"So what?" Walter asks. We have to expect fires in summer. It's part of life. Besides, the grass and trees will grow back again. So we don't actually lose much, anyway."

Charley snorts.

"We lose a year's crop of grain and grass or a hundred year's crop of lumber to begin with," Chuck says. "And that's only the beginning."

"Yeah?" replies Walt. "What's the ending?"

"When grass and trees burn we lost the protection that they give the soil," Charley retorts. "We also lose the mulch of dead material lying on the top of the ground. Raindrops can then beat the earth into a lather. They seal the surface. Rain and snow water can't get in. It runs off and we have erosion."

Walt interrupts. "You always manage to get back to soil and erosion in any conversation, don't you?" he asks.

"Yeah," agrees Charley, "but only because there's so many man-made opportunities."

He squirts snooze juice off to his right and continues.

"The loss of crops and soil is the price we pay for Fire's activities. But he also deals in death."

"Well, I might as well get the full treatment," Walt replies. "What's the story on that?"

Charley obliges.

"A good, hot fire," he explains is a ticket to oblivion for untold thousands of birds, fish, deer, rabbits, squirrels and the rest of the folk who live in fields and forests. Occasionally, even some of us human critters are the victims.

"And there's gobs and gobs of worms, bugs, bacteria and the like who live in the soil. A lot of them end up dead from heat and smoke. They're necessary for a healthy soil. Their deaths must also be included in the cost of fires."

"Can you sum this all up in a sentence or two?" Walt asks. "I gotta date to play pool in a couple of minutes."

"Yep," Charley says. "Be careful with fire-making tools. The soil and crops and forests you save may be your own."

"Well, it's been interesting, Charley," says Walt. "You and that talking bear they call Smokey ought to get along real good together."

As Walt walks off he takes a drag off of his filter tip and thoughtlessly flips it into the grass.

Charley sighs and disconsolately puts it out. There's one potential fire that won't go anywhere.

But there's billions of others that might.

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## "SOIL DISTRICTS HAVE COME OF AGE"



KENNETH COULTER  
Director, MASWCD  
Chairman, Budget & Finance Comm.

When Soil Conservation Districts were first adopted into the family of state government, they were treated similar to the role of a poor in-law come to live with rich relatives. We were given a privilege to exist, provided moral support, but as for feeding or financing, well, that was another matter.

These "poor in-laws" proved again the old adage, "It's no disgrace to be poor." Though not provided with finances, the people sponsoring this movement were neither dumb nor were they lazy. They were dedicated individuals who knew their cause was morally right, nationally imperative, and individually sole satisfying.

With determination and dedication, these newly organized boards called on all of their resourcefulness and imagination to implement a conservation program within their area. With no means of tax financing provided, various methods of funding were explored and tried by local boards of supervisors. This varied, depending on local opportunities and individual initiatives, but included operating large earth moving equipment, private contractor cooperative

agreements, supply retail sales, raffles, carnivals, associate memberships, and you name it; soil districts have probably done it to raise funds.

Sound absurd that such methods would have to be employed to conserve the soil and water resources and therefore the food supply of our nation? Well, it is still being done!

While there is merit in the individual action and a greater independence in the spending of funds so raised, should Boards of Supervisors time be spent pondering the various ramifications which arise from raising funds in such various ways? Would our time be better spent managing and promoting the many facets of soil and water conservation only? How long can we afford the luxury of this financial independence at the expense of conservation activities?

The "Poor In-laws" have come of age. SWCDs are now beginning to receive the recognition, which by a record of performance, they rightly deserve. At the 1963 session of state legislature, we were granted financing of district activities by limited local tax funds, upon approval of the Boards of County Commissioners. This is quite reasonable and long overdue. Our national government provides technical assistance and cost-sharing on specific practices. Now our local government provides support for local organization and administration. What about our state financial support? We receive only a meager appropriation designed to assist in coordinating activities among the numerous districts.

Are the fruits of a stabilized and productive economy, resulting from good conservation management, limited to the confines of the local district borders? Do you purchase your supplies, sell your products and even spend your recreation money only within your district? It would appear there is a broader responsibility to support district activities than we are receiving at this time.

If your district has all the funds it needs to organize, pay board members expenses, provide an active education program, acquire the necessary publicity, pay state and national dues, assist cooperators and conduct the administration of soil and water activities, then this would not apply to you. Our district could use state funds on a dollar for dollar matching basis, for money raised at the local level. This would help get the job done.

We now have organizations proven worthy of public support. We know how to apply practical conservation practices to the land and water. As we drive down the roads, the tasks unfold before our very eyes. Many cooperators know enough about our program to acquaint us with their needs. Let us, the once "POOR IN-LAWS" proceed with the job.



PETER V. JACKSON  
Director, MASWCD

Chairman, Legislative Committee

"OUR LEGISLATIVE IMAGE"

There is nothing more important to a person or organization than to have a reputation of honesty and sincerity.

Our Association has grown and matured until today we are an influential group in many projects and movements, that will change the lives and livelihood of both the urban and rural areas of our state.

The time has passed when our errors could be passed off as the normal mistakes of a young and immature group.

I believe one of the most vitally important places for us to show our true character is at our State Legislature. At every session we have found ourselves going to Helena with very important pieces of legislation that should be passed. This load has increased every time until now we have to work steadily between sessions, getting the next workload ready.

After completing one session as Legislative Chairman, I have learned one thing above all the many others. That the members are always willing to listen and work in our behalf. To me it is amazing that anything is accomplished with everyone nearly smothered in paper, bills for every purpose possible. It keeps them on the defensive at all times to protect the people from the unjust, let alone get the work ready for advancement.

This gets me to the gist of my article. Our "Image" at the Capitol is so important that when we go to the Legislature with our bills, we want the reputation of being a group who means business; that what we have in hand is important and needs their immediate attention without the worry of chicanery being involved.

The point that I am trying to make is, let's make sure that before we get all wrought up on a plan or problem, is it really important enough to take to Helena, or should we try to work it out at home first before we make such an important step, as changing or creating a new law.

So this fall, let's give our legislative work a good hard going over. It is much better to only get three truly important bills passed than to try to get a dozen started and half or more then killed. Then soon, our job will be much easier because we will be trusted and respected as a group of people who bring only important legislation that needs to be passed.

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GOODYEAR WINNER

Congratulations are extended to the Roosevelt County SWCD who this year have been named the State's outstanding District in the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company's annual Soil and Water Conservation Awards Program. A committee of state agricultural and conservation authorities made the selection after reviewing accomplishments of the various participating districts.

Fay Crusch, Bainville, selected as the outstanding farmer-cooperator in the district, and Harry Swank, Jr., Poplar, a member of the district's governing board, will be guests of the rubber company in December on a four-day visit to Goodyear Farms, located near Phoenix, Arizona. The two men, along with 104 others representing top districts throughout the country, will observe conservation practices on the 14,000 acre desert farm.

Goodyear's Soil and Water Conservation Awards Program, one of the oldest of its kind in the world, has hosted over 1,600 farmers from every state and Puerto Rico since its beginning in 1947.

The Stillwater Soil and Water Conservation District was awarded second place in the Goodyear conservation program, with Ted Keating, Molt, named the outstanding farmer-cooperator.



CHARLES LANE  
Director, MASWCD  
Chairman, Public Relations Comm.

"PUBLIC RELATIONS"

Public relations is a term that has many meanings to many people. My idea of it will probably differ from most of you. This is what it means to me as far as Soil and Water Conservation Districts is concerned: To sell the people not directly connected to the land and water the idea of using our natural resources without abusing them.

As a supervisor, there are many ways to accomplish this, and most of them take time. Time, the one thing besides money that we are all short of. We must use our time to best advantage to sell our people on conservation. This selling of intangibles is a slow, tedious process, as we have to start by educating people to new concepts of thinking and new terminology.

We have to get our message across to the majority of the people in order to enlist their help. To do this, we will have to turn to mass media (newspapers, television, and radio) to reach them. This will cost money and time, the two items we are all short of. The time is here to start the job on a national, as well as local, level.

Good land is fast disappearing to urban developments, and the water requirements rise every year. Unless we let people know of the many problems in conserving and using our resources, they can't help us solve the problem. By informing people of the problems, new ideas will be heard and discussed at various meetings.

By enlisting the help of all the people of our country, we will conserve our resources and leave to our children's children the beauty of this great country for them to enjoy.

Public Relations means many things, but for us, let's make it mean -- WE ALL WORK TOGETHER.

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AREA MEETINGS

Following are the dates of upcoming area meetings of the Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Locale</u>	<u>Host District</u>
September 28	Area III	Havre	Hill County SWCD
September 29	Area V	Missoula	Bitterroot SWCD
September 30	Area VI	Three Forks	Gallatin Valley SWCD
October 5	Area II	Sidney	Richland County SWCD
October 6	Area I	Glasgow	Phillips SWCD
October 7	Area IV	Billings	Treasure County SWCD

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MASWCD ANNUAL MEETING TO BE NOVEMBER 16, 17, 18, JORDAN HOTEL, GLENDIVE

Plans are being made for the 25th Annual Meeting of the Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The meeting will be held at Glendive, Montana, which was the site of the 1st annual meeting of the Association held in December, 1942. At that time, W. L. Staggs of Wibaux was elected first chairman of the Association. A feature of this year's meeting will be to try to have as many of the past presidents as possible for a special program.

The theme of this year's meeting is "Conservation Education". The Dawson County SWCD are hosts for the meeting. Supervisors and friends of Conservation should begin making plans now to attend to make this 25th Annual Meeting a huge success.

DISTRICT DOINGS

CARBON COUNTY SWCD - A letter from Governor Tim Babcock was read stating that he will discuss the budgeting for a Conservation Education Supervisor in the Department of Public Instruction.

Don Fraker wrote requesting the dues for the State and National Association. The Board decided to instruct the Treasurer to pay the State and National dues.

GARFIELD COUNTY SWCD - Chairman Coulter signed memorandum of agreements for the District with the Montana Fish and Game Department and the Montana State Forestry Department.

Max Stone of the Fish and Game Department and Don Baldwin of the State Forester's office reviewed what their respective departments had to offer in the way of helping the local Soil and Water Conservation District.

GREEN MOUNTAIN SWCD - Three standard signs will be purchased by the District which will read Green Mountain Soil and Water Conservation District with "entering" on one side and "leaving" on the other. These signs are to be placed at the east and west ends of the district and also on the Bull River Highway.

Cary Hull suggested that a lifesize Conservation Charley be obtained to use at the Fair Booth this year and also to use on other programs such as Conservation Day.

JUDITH BASIN SWCD - Ed Morgan reported on affiliate memberships, there now being 25 paid-up members. Ed thanked the Board for selling the memberships.

MADISON SWCD - The Schedule of Assistance from the Soil Conservation Service for the current fiscal year was reviewed as was the Madison County ASC Committee's 1966 fiscal year annual report to the District.

McCONE SWCD - A letter from Dawson County Jr. College was read informing the District that Margaret Sorley had satisfactorily completed the Conservation Education course. Also, a letter from Eastern Montana College informing the District that Elaine Garfield had satisfactorily completed course SC. 302, Conservation, was read.

The supervisors instructed Miss Metts to write the above teachers commending them for their interest in conservation and send them their \$50.00 scholarships.

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"A town is saved, not more by the righteous men in it than by the woods and swamps that surround it."

- Henry David Thoreau, 1817-1862.

MISSOULA COUNTY SWCD - Ernest Wills reported on the meeting held June 30, 1966, by the Bureau of Land Management on proposed disposition of public domain lands. Most people at the meeting felt that it was better for the community if these lands remained in BLM ownership.

ROSEBUD COUNTY SWCD - Don Baldwin discussed all aspects of Forestry in Montana, including the production of trees and shrubs for field shelter belts and windbreaks. He urged more tree planting. Their stock is good this year and they are now producing 1½ million seedlings.

A memorandum of understanding was signed by the Chairman of this group so as to strengthen working relationships between Forest Service and the District.

STILLWATER SWCD - The business meeting was adjourned and the BLM representatives presented an information program on their activities on BLM land classification status in Stillwater County. They have this county scheduled for completion in 1968. They will review the data with various groups, including the Stillwater SWCD.

TETON COUNTY SWCD - A letter was read regarding the publication called "Soil Conservation" with subscriptions costing \$1.75 per year. The publication is available through the Superintendent of Documents in Washington, D. C. After a brief discussion, it was moved, seconded, and passed that the District order 9 subscriptions to this publication. The subscriptions are to be sent to the five supervisors, the Dutton High School Library, the Power High School Library, and the High School Libraries at both Fairfield and Choteau.

Chairman Proff read a letter from Executive Secretary, O. M. Ueland of Butte to the Board of Supervisors, recommending increased cooperation between the Board of Supervisors and the Board of County Commissioners.

BITTERROOT SWCD - The Neighborhood Youth Corps was discussed to some length and the Board felt that the program may have more merit for girls due to a shortage of farm labor. By and large, the Neighborhood Youth Corps has been accepted with a few exceptions in the county.

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"He is the greatest patriot who stops the most gullies," said Henry Clay in the early 19th century.

It has been estimated by Dr. Milton Eisenhower that, from Colonial days until the end of the of the Dust Bowl, the average depth of America's topsoil was reduced by half.



4-H Members attending Conservation Camp are out in a field, looking over range conditions and discussing best range management practices.

#### 4-H CONSERVATION CAMP

Thinking conservation, along with the knowledge of the need for conservation and what should be done to promote good conservation, were some of the areas of learning experienced by 4-H members attending the 1966 state camp.

This was the 20th Montana 4-H Conservation Camp, held this year at Camp Kiwanis in Hill County, July 5-9, and attended by some 115 4-H members, staff and adult leaders. A staff of specialists provided the conservation subject matter materials in the areas of soils, weed control and prevention, forestry, range, and wildlife management, and designed a program for young people through lectures and instruction in actual field experiences, as well as seeing movies, slides and actual conditions within their workshop groups on field trips.

The concentrated week's experience, emphasizing the importance of conservation and what young people could do about it, included the best known educational techniques, as well as a systematic and planned follow-up for those participating in the camp.

Nearly 100 slide sets, which show conservation practices or problems, were ordered by the members to be used in helping dramatize the story of conservation when they go back to their home clubs and communities to tell others about their learning and the real need for spreading the word on conservation.

The camp was again made possible through \$750 contributed by the Federal Cartridge Cor-

poration through Mr. Charles Horn, President; \$131.25 contributed by Republic Steel Corporation; \$50.00 from the Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts; along with numerous contributions by local Soil Conservation Districts toward paying expenses of delegates in traveling to and from the camp.

Since the young people came from most of the counties of the state, all interested in conservation might do well to contact their County Extension Office and schedule talks on the learnings of this program on the part of those who actually represented their local counties and who are in a position to come back to tell of their experiences at the state camp.

Special staff included: Dr. Don Ryerson, Extension Range Management Specialist - Range Management; Eldon Smith, Extension Wildlife Specialist - Fish and Wildlife; Charles E. Peterson, Fir Control Officer, Lewis & Clark National Forest; Robert Roush, Hill County Extension Agent, and Elbert Perkins, Bureau of Indian Affairs - Forestry; Dr. Charles Smith, Extension Soils Scientist, and Roger L. Wilson, Liberty County Extension Agent - Soil and Water; Les Sonder, Extension Weed Control Specialist - Weed Control.

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#### GOVERNOR BABCOCK TELLS OF PRESSURES ON MONTANA WATER

Governor Tim Babcock says that the pressures from interests outside of Montana for water means that the state will need to take action to develop and establish further rights on our water faster than what might otherwise be the opportune time.

The Governor visited with persons attending a combined meeting of the Montana Reclamation Association and Montana Water Users Association in Butte, August 25-27.

A good attendance of representatives from many organizations representing various water uses showed a spirit of need for cooperation to gain all beneficial uses of Montana water.

Reports were received from several agencies and organizations which emphasized cooperation.

Wes D'Ewart, Director of the National Reclamation Association, told the group that it is important that the State of Montana study and develop a plan for further development of our water.

Gordon McGowan, State Senator, gave a rundown on proposed Water Conservancy District legislation. A fourth draft is about ready and will be ready for review and suggestions from all interested parties.

A highlight of the meeting was an all day tour of the proposed Jefferson-Whitehall Bureau of Reclamation Project, better known as the Reichle Project.



Pictured above from left to right are: Russell Boe, SCS, Don Warner, Neil McCurdy, and Ron Talcott discussing the identification and uses of some of the native grasses found during the businessmen's tour.

A businessmen's tour was held in Powder River County on June 8. It was sponsored by the Powder River SWCD Board of Supervisors, with assistance from the SCS staff.

The tour started out from Broadus at 9:00 A. M. via of Stanley Damm's bus. The first stop was

a native range site where the group was shown the many native plants found on Montana ranges. Examples of stubble mulching tillage and wind strip cropping were viewed next. One area that had been burned by a prairie fire was observed and it was pointed out how fire can completely remove big sagebrush.

Bill and Jim Minow guided the tour through their ranch where they looked at several grassed waterways that have been constructed in the cropland to carry excess run-off without creating gullies. They also have all of the cropland in strips which helps to reduce the hazard of wind and water erosion.

The next ranch the tour stopped at was the Sam Minow ranch. Here the group was shown a waterspreading system, the diversion works, water control structures, a proposed flood control dam site, sprayed big sagebrush, a cross-fence constructed for grazing management, and a stock water dam in the process of being constructed. Sam also has several grassed waterways and his cropland is stripped for erosion control.

The last stop on the tour was on the Lew Janssen ranch. Lew showed off his shelterbelt which was planted in 1962 and has been set back by hail, but showing good recovery.

The group on the tour represented many of the businesses in Broadus by having people from the Bank, Post Office, Newspaper, Propane Sales, a car dealer, and a rancher.

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Water Conservation Districts  
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# Treasure Acres

State of Montana  
UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

O. M. Ueland, Editor, Montana Tech.



## OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN

NOVEMBER, 1966

KEN COULTER WROTE AN ARTICLE ENTITLED " SOIL DISTRICTS HAVE COME OF AGE" IN THE JULY-AUGUST 1966 ISSUE OF TREASURE ACRES. THERE WAS MUCH FOOD FOR THOUGHT IN THIS ARTICLE WHICH TIES IN WITH OUR 25th. ANNIVERSARY MEETING IN GLENDALE.

### 25 YEARS LATER

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN YOU WERE 25 YEARS OLD? MOST OF YOU HAD COMPLETED YOUR EDUCATION AND MANY HAD A FEW YEARS OF PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE BEHIND YOU. YOU WERE READY TO GO OUT AND SET THE WORLD ON FIRE. AS YOU OLDER SUPERVISORS WILL TESTIFY THE WOOD WAS PRETTY DAMP AND THE WIND WAS BLOWING AND SETTING THE WORLD ON FIRE WAS NOT AN EASY CHORE. LIKEWISE, IT HAS BEEN A LONG HARD STRUGGLE TO ACHIEVE THE SUCCESS WE NOW ENJOY IN SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION IN MONTANA. WE HAVE CERTAINLY LEARNED THAT SUCCESS DOES NOT COME EASILY AND CONTINUED SUCCESS FOR THE FUTURE WILL REQUIRE GREAT EFFORT. SOME OF THE OLDER SUPERVISORS WHO HAVE SERVED SO FAITHFULLY FOR 15, 20 and 25 YEARS WILL BE STEPPING ASIDE TO TURN THE REINS OVER TO YOUNGER MEN. TO THESE YOUNGER MEN WE GIVE SOME WORDS OF WISDOM. THE JOB AHEAD DURING THE NEXT 25 YEARS IS OF GREATER IMPORTANCE THAN DURING THE LAST 25 YEARS. WHY?? THE FIRST 25 YEARS HAVE BEEN CHARACTERIZED BY FOOD SURPLUSES IN OUR COUNTRY. THE NEXT 25 YEARS WILL VERY LIKELY BE CHARACTERIZED BY A STRUGGLE TO PRODUCE SUFFICIENT FOOD. PREDICTIONS ARE THAT FOR EVERY 100 PEOPLE ON EARTH TODAY THERE WILL BE 216 BY THE YEAR 2000, WHICH IS ONLY 34 YEARS FROM NOW. PEOPLE MUST BE EDUCATED TO THE NEED AND VALUE OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION TO MEET THE CHALLENGE DURING THE NEXT QUARTER CENTURY OF FEEDING AN EXPLODING POPULATION.

READY  
FOR THE  
CHALLENGE  
OF THE  
FUTURE



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

2:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. - Registration -Jordan Hotel

3:30 P.M. - Tour of Crisafulli Irrigation Pump Co.

5:30 P.M. - Social Hour—Jordan Hotel  
 Courtesy of Caterpillar Dealers of Montana  
 Central Machine Co., Havre, Great Falls and Lewistown  
 Tractor and Equipment Co., Billings and Sidney  
 Westmont Tractor Co., Kalispell and Missoula

6:30 P.M. - Smorgasbord—Jordan Hotel  
 Master of Ceremonics—Stanley Robins, McCone County Supervisor  
 Entertainment—Bob Yarger, Vocalist; Fred Hayne, Vocalist; Mrs. Bill Peace, Indian Religious Interpretation—Courtesy of McCone SWCD.  
 Address—A. H. Harris, Bureau of Indian Affairs

8:30 P.M. - Legislative Committee meets as Resolutions Committee

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

8:00 A.M. - Registration—Jordan Hotel

8:30 A.M. - Movie—"The Real Security"—Jordan Hotel Banquet Room

9:00 A.M. - Opning Session—Ralph Briggs, Presiding  
 Area Meetings -Jordan Banquet Room

9:30 A.M. - Committee Meetings—  
 Public Relations—Charles Lane—Hospitality Room, First National Bank Program & Research—Ralph Briggs—Exhibit Room, Jordan Hotel  
 Public Lands & Watersheds—Art Cristensen—Community Room of the Courthouse  
 Education—Carl Johnson—Banquet Room, Jordan Hotel  
 Budget & Finance—Ken Coulter—Room No. 230, Jordan  
 Great Plains—Oscar Hippe—Room No. 222, Jordan

10:30 A.M. - Coffee Break—Courtesy of First National Bank of Glendive

10:40 A.M. - Continue with Committee Sessions

12:00 P.M. - Keynote Luncheon  
 Master of Ceremonies—George Rice, Jr., Local Supervisor  
 Invocation—Rev. H. E. Meyer, Our Savior Lutheran Church  
 Color Ceremony—Glendive Boy Scout Troop No. 130  
 Mayor's Welcome—Honorable Mayor Phil Auble  
 County Commissioner's Welcome—Don Gibson, Dawson County Chairman  
 Keynote Luncheon Address—Mrs. Elnora Wright, Montana State University, "Conservation Education In A Changing World"

AFTERNOON SESSION  
 Wm. Kesler, Presiding

2:00 P.M. - Address—Don O. Fraker, NACD Great Plains Area Director, Belfry, Mont.—"Conservation Education—What Must Be Done"

2:45 P.M. - Coffee Break—Courtesy of Exchange State Bank of Glendive

3:00 P.M. - PANEL—"WHAT IS BEING DONE IN CONSERVATION EDUCATION"  
 Moderator—Carl H. Johnson, Chairman, Education Committee, MASWCD—This panel will include: Louis W. Hagener, Dean, Basic Curricula Division, Northern Montana College; Clark Fowler, State Department of Public Instruction; Hugh J. Murphy, Jr., Mile High SWCD Supervisor; Eugene R. Hoff, County Extension Agent, Baker; Dr. Hayden Ferguson, Plant & Soil Science, Dept., Montana State University and Mrs. Gladys Hippe, NACD Auxiliary President.

5:30 P.M. - Social Hour—Courtesy of Elk River Concrete Products Co., Billings, Helena and Great Falls

6:30 P.M. - Awards, Banquet  
 Master of Ceremonies—Dick Starr, Dean, Dawson Junior College  
 Invocation—Rev. Kenneth Biel, First Congregational Church  
 Entertainment—Bob Kinton, Hypnotist  
 Address—Dave Unger, Assistant Executive Secretary National Association Conservation District, Washington, D. C.—"The Next Twenty-Five Years"  
 Awards—  
 Goodyear Awards—D. E. Roberts, Billings

Newsletter Awards—Charles Lane,  
Maxville  
Supervisor Awards—Gordon Holte,  
Plentywood  
County Agent Award—Milo Hilstad,  
Circle  
Work Unit Conservationist Award—Bob  
Anderson, Fort Benton  
Recognition of Past Presidents



WILLIAM J. KESLER, PRESIDENT SEZ

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

- 7:00 A.M. - Director's Breakfast—Jordan Hotel  
Courtesy of Glendive Chamber of Com-  
merce, Ralph Briggs, Presiding
- 8:00 A.M. - Lewis & Clark District Slide  
Presentation
- 8:30 A.M. - Talk by Burl Winchester, Extension  
Specialist, Montana State University,  
"How Do We Communicate?"
- 9:30 A.M. - Contractor—District Agreements—Talk  
by Frank Thompson, Lewis & Clark  
SWCD
- 10:00 A.M. - Coffee Break—Courtesy of Production  
Credit Associations of Montana
- 10:15 A.M. - President's Report—William J. Kesler  
Ladies Auxiliary Report—Mrs. Harold  
Jensen, President  
Secretary's Report—R. C. Setterstrom  
Treasurer's Report—Wendell Martinell
- 11:00 A.M. - Business Session  
Action on Resolutions  
Select 1967 Convention Site  
Other
- 12:30 P.M. - Luncheon  
Master of Ceremonies—John Kubesh,  
Local Supervisor  
Invocation—Rev. M. J. Burke, Sacred  
Heart Catholic Church  
Talk by Dr. Wilson Clark, President,  
Conservation Education Association,  
"Conservation Education—How Do We  
Do It?"  
Drawing for Door Prizes  
ADJOURNMENT

Our needs for soil and water are both increasing rapidly. Every morning when we sit down to breakfast, we have almost 9,000 new mouths to feed. Just a few years ago the rate of increase was only 8,000 per day.

With this increase in population, did you know that highways, airports, schools, housing, etc., are taking more than 3,000 acres of good farm land out of production each day - 365 days of the year? We have more acres in golf courses than there are in the entire state of Maryland.

Experiment Stations, Extension Service, Fertilizer, Chemical, and Implement Companies, Soil Conservation Service, etc., have done a wonderful job in increasing the yield per acre; but, do you realize that everything they recommend requires "more water"?

Did you know it takes about 4,000 gallons of water to put one pound of beef on your table? It takes 15,000 gallons of water to produce one barrel of gasoline; it takes 37 gallons of water to produce one slice of bread; it takes about 5,500 gallons of water to produce one sack of sugar; it takes 40 gallons of water to produce one pound of paper pulp. Weigh your Sunday paper and see how much water it took to produce it. I should add that according to reports it takes about 17 million gallons per man each year in our chemical plants.

The Science Committee in our Congress made this report - "It is likely that the United States will be the first civilized nation to find itself in difficulty due to fresh water shortage. This shortage will be felt in 1970".

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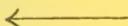
This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Annual Soil and Water Conservation Districts meetings. To celebrate the occasion, the site of the meeting this year is in the same city as it was 25 years ago - "Glendive". I sincerely hope you will find it possible to attend.

Bill Kesler

# MASWCD CONVENTION SPEAKERS



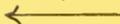
ELNORA A. WRIGHT  
Professor  
Montana State University  
Bozeman, Montana  
Topic: "Conservation Education  
In A Changing World"



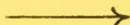
DON O. FRAKER  
Great Plains Area Director, NACD  
Member, Education & Public Lands  
Committees, NACD  
Rancher, Montana-Wyoming Border  
Belfry, Montana  
Topic: "Conservation Education -  
What Must Be Done"



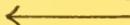
DAVID G. UNGER  
Asst. Executive Secretary, NACD  
Engaged in Watershed Development,  
Soil Conservation and Natural Re-  
source Education Programs for  
over 12 years  
Falls Church, Virginia  
Topic: "The Next 25 Years"



BURL WINCHESTER  
Assistant Director  
Montana Extension Service  
Montana State University  
Bozeman, Montana  
Topic: "How Do We Communicate?"



DR. WILSON F. CLARK  
President  
Conservation Education Association  
Participated in White House Confer-  
ence on Conservation in 1962  
Topic: "Conservation Education -  
How Do We Do It?"



"PROGRAM AND RESEARCH"



RALPH BRIGGS  
Area III Director, MASWCD  
Chairman, Program & Research Comm.

The Triangle Area Meeting was well attended at Havre. Registration was above last year with fifty registered. The Hill County Soil and Water Conservation District Board did a fine job of programming.

As your Vice-President, I gave the Association report in the absence of your President, Bill Kesler.

The program was arranged a little different than previous ones, which helped to create some new interest. Upon registering, your name was written on a name tag of one of three different colors. These colors represented the group you were to attend. Discussions were held in each group and recommendations were made. As usual, time was a premium; and many thought that additional time was needed.

The topic which seemed to have been discussed most was the Conservancy District bill and its various alternatives. Senator Gordon McGowan spoke on the present bill as drafted and said that, due to objections by various agencies, it would be necessary to change the bill and a new one drawn up for consideration.

In my book, Conservancy Districts should be handled by the local Soil and Water Conservation District supervisors when there is necessity for creating a Conservancy District within a Soil and Water Conservation District. Today, there is much duplication in governmental and state responsibilities, which make additional work when certain machinery to accomplish the same goal is already in motion.

Now for a few thoughts I have on Research. It seems that research on the part of our state and federal people moves at a pace which sometimes becomes out of date before it is published. In this day of fast technological advances, it becomes necessary for us to take inventory on the progress of research. We must assume the space age race of acceleration if we are to be prepared for the future demands that the world will make on agriculture.

There has been many instances when private industry has proven that they can solve a problem with less expense and routine paper work. Research Centers over the nation must be in a position to take the initiative on conservation problems. Implement and fertilizer companies, to list only two, are publishing material which, in most cases, is of value to the farmer. Sufficient money is being spent by these companies to do an outstanding job. Why do I mention these examples? It is because unless research appropriations are made more available to the centers, we are going to be behind in making recommendations for solving the future problems of agriculture.

Research is at the cross roads with private companies.

--

Well, Convention time is not far off, November 16, 17, and 18 in Glendive. I hope it will be possible for you to attend.

\*\*\*\*\*

Teacher: "Do you know why we call our language the 'Mother Tongue?'"

Pupil: "Because father never gets a chance to use it."

+

"Well," sighed the weary traveler, "have you ever spent two weeks in a station wagon with those you thought you loved best?"

+

# Conservation Education

## In the Classroom and Afield

By Donald A. Williams

**R**ESPONSIBILITY for soil and water and related resource conservation bears more heavily on every succeeding generation as our population mounts and our land and water problems multiply. Thus it is the sober obligation of the current generation to prepare the next so well that it will discharge its conservation responsibilities more wisely and effectively than any of its predecessors.

That means instilling in today's young people a basic understanding of what these life-supporting resources are, a true appreciation of their real values, and some practical knowledge of conservation principles and actions.

The first step is to teach conservation in the Nation's classrooms, from kindergarten through college. Incorporating conservation subjects in the school curriculum at any level is appropriate; for soil, water, plant, and wildlife conservation is part and parcel of conventional subjects such as elementary science, biology, nature study, geography, health and nutrition, and other sciences and social studies.

To confine teaching an "agricultural" subject such as soil and water conservation to rural areas no longer suffices. The conservation and wise use of these and allied natural resources affects every one of our 186 million people—from the farmer and rancher who produces our food and fiber crops to the youngest city consumer of milk from his nursing bottle. It equally concerns the fast-growing ranks of suburban and other land users and city people who must have ample water for household,

industrial, and recreational uses.

Fortunately for the soil and water conservation movement, resource use and conservation has come to be recognized in its proper perspective by thousands of teachers and other educators. For they, more than anyone else, will shape the attitudes of tomorrow's generations toward the renewable natural resources by which we live. Many science and social studies teachers and others have found they can strengthen the subject content of their courses by relating them to local resources, their use, and conservation. Many more should do so if our ever-improving conservation technologies are to be applied to the fullest needed extent.

Conservation education has made great forward strides. There is increasing conservation preparation in teacher training colleges. More than 100 conservation workshops are held each summer for teachers. A growing variety of classroom texts and other materials on natural resources and conservation are becoming available to teachers and students.

About 20 colleges and universities now offer undergraduate degrees with soil and water conservation majors. Thirty-one States have conservation advisory committees or councils, on which State departments of education, colleges, and universities usually are represented.

Formal resource education in schools also is supplemented substantially by educational activities of the Federal-State Extension Services, Forest Service, and by conservation programs in school-

age youth organizations such as the Boy and Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, Junior Audubon Clubs, Future Farmers of America, and 4-H Clubs. These major youth groups alone include more than 11 million boys and girls from farms and cities, plus several million dedicated adult leaders.

The Soil Conservation Service provides information on soil and water conservation to all of these educational interests and youth groups, and to textbook writers and producers of other educational materials. It also similarly serves organizations such as the Conservation Education Association, National Science Teachers Association, American Association of School Administrators, Joint Council on Economic Education, American Nature Study Society, and the National Association of Biology Teachers. It works with specialists of the U. S. Office of Education on conservation teaching materials.

The SCS is not in the teaching business, any more than it is in the farming business; but, just as providing technical help to land users is our responsibility, so is providing aid to conservation education our responsibility. This assistance ranges from supplying teachers with requested basic conservation information to participating in field tours for school and youth groups.

The Soil Conservation Service holds conservation education to be of highest importance, for only a conservation-minded people can safeguard and improve our remaining heritage of renewable natural resources in the future.

"THE BIG DAM ISSUE"

by

Frank H. Dunkle, Director  
Montana Fish and Game Department

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Fish and game interests are not opposed to water storage dams, per se. In fact, the Montana Fish and Game Department has financed or helped finance several small dams which serve as fishing lakes. Other state fish and game departments have impounded water to augment downstream flows to benefit fish. This idea has merit; however, our one trial in Montana has been a failure.

In this instance, the Montana Fish and Game Department, the Western Montana Fish and Game Association (Missoula), and the Ravalli County Fish and Wildlife Association (Hamilton) contributed \$104,900., \$5,000., and \$500. respectively, to purchase water from the Montana Water Conservation Board's Painted Rock Reservoir on the West Fork of the Bitterroot River. The purchase was to provide 5,000 acre-feet of water each year for the life of this water storage project. The water was to be delivered to any specified point down to the mouth of the Bitterroot River. Our purpose in buying it was, of course, to improve the flow in the Bitterroot during periods when irrigators have depleted it in certain areas.

To make a long story short, we have called for water releases, but have never been able to conclusively demonstrate that our water reached its destination. We spent a couple thousand dollars having the U. S. Geological Survey gauge the river, but still are unable to prevent sections of it from going bone dry.

So you ask, "Why don't you do your fishing in lakes and reservoirs?"

Actually, we are proud of Montana's lake and reservoir fishing. We can rank Georgetown and Flathead Lakes among the finest in the country.

The Bureau of Reclamation's Canyon Ferry Reservoir provides a lot of water-based recreation, but in spite of expenditures up to \$35,000 a year for trout from state and federal fish hatcheries, fishing in Canyon Ferry cannot be called good. Yes, there are periods, particularly in the early spring, when Canyon Ferry fishing is "red hot". The fish are nice - rainbows average a pound and a half - but month to month fishing is slow. A check of over 5,000 fishermen in May and June of 1965 revealed they fish an average of 10 to 12 hours to catch one trout! Fishing is considerably better in unimpounded stretches of the Missouri River above Great Falls.

What we are saying, then, is that simply building a dam does not guarantee good fishing. We will agree that standing water will provide water-based recreation - boating, water-skiing, and swimming - but providing good fishing in reservoirs is often difficult and expensive. In fact, we haven't yet devised a method of keeping fish in some reservoirs, particularly those with extreme water level fluctuations and those referred to as "run of the river" reservoirs.

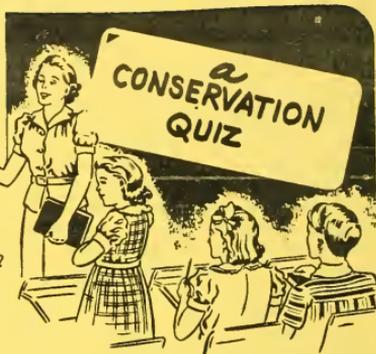
Then, there is the effect of dams on the streams below. Proponents of dams often talk of benefitting fish populations by eliminating spring high water flows. Actually, spring flooding is part of the natural cycle that benefits aquatic life by flushing sediment downstream. Fish, too, have attuned their lives to normal flow fluctuations and many have their spawning migrations triggered by spring freshets. Eliminating spring flows can harm, rather than benefit, aquatic life.

There are other problems, too, in streams below dams. For example, Fort Peck Dam, in common with other dams, acts as a silt trap. The water released is much cleaner than it was prior to impoundment. It is hungry for sediment. As a result, the river bed downstream from the dam is widening to the detriment of fish habitat.

Another example is Clark Canyon Dam. Water releases during the irrigation season are so high that the Beaverhead River is up in the brush along its banks, and hard to fish from the dam to Barratts Diversion. The cold water releases from Hungry Horse Reservoir are still another problem. The fish population in the five miles of the South Fork of Flathead River downstream from the dam has been decimated by violent fluctuation in flow releases accompanied by extreme changes in water temperatures. We have recorded a change of 58 degrees Fahrenheit, from maximum to minimum and back to maximum, in 24 hours. Even the main Flathead River is affected.

What I am saying is that the Montana Fish and Game Department is not flatly against big dams or little dams. Each proposal must be judged on its own merits - on its effects on fish and wildlife. For instance, we would prefer a series of small dams on the headwaters of the Big Hole River to Reichle Dam, which would impound the heart of the "Blue Ribbon" stretch of this river. But, at the same time, we would prefer a large dam on the lower, warm-water portion of the Yellowstone to a series of smaller dams on its upstream trout waters.

How much water do you eat?  
 What is plant food?  
 Will we always have crop surpluses?  
 What causes erosion?  
 What happens to eroded soil?  
 What is soil protection?  
 What will your land look like fifty years from now?  
 How do plants grow?  
 What do plants live on during the winter?  
 Why does a girdled tree die?  
 What happens when a tree is girdled near the top?  
 What is a rain fence?  
 What prevents erosion?  
 What happened to the goose that laid the golden eggs?  
 Why living mulches?  
 What develops good soil structure?  
 What makes good compost?  
 What roles do rainfall and evaporation play?  
 Post hoc, ergo propter hoc?  
 How about food for tomorrow?



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O. M. Ueland, Editor, School of Mines, Butte, Montana

## OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN



NOVEMBER - DECEMBER, 1966



PETER V. JACKSON, PRESIDENT SEZ

Times have certainly changed. This old saying can be heard most every day. And it is so true in the relationship between rural and urban people.

In fact, today, I am at a loss to decide the difference between rural, urban, city, or county people. I have relatives in town who have to drive longer to get from their homes to the stores or businesses than we have to from our rural home. For example, we live 10 minutes from our local stores, and we can drive to Butte or Bozeman in an hour. Compare this to nearly any person living on the outskirts of Chicago or Salt Lake City, and we are farther away from town than they are.

This peculiar situation of the times applies to conservation as well as travel. We are one large community who have to face the same big problems. We can no longer be expected to carry all the load of conservation alone. The time has come when the so-called city people have just got to shoulder their share of the burden of soil and water conservation.

### TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING A SUCCESS

A good turnout of approximately 250 supervisors and their guests attended the 25th annual convention at Glendive, November 16-18. Glendive was the site of the first meeting of district supervisors when 18 supervisors met and organized.

"Conservation Education" was the theme of the 1966 meeting and good presentations were made by a good cross-section of persons concerned and working in this area. Supervisors are grateful for the efforts of districts, many educators, agency people, and other organizations that contribute to Conservation Education.

Quoting from "Terrain", Extension Service Newsletter, modern concepts of resource conservation have changed: "Programs in resource development, conservation and use have taken on new and wider concepts and intensity during the past decade. Today, we find ourselves no longer dwelling solely on the conservation problems of soil and water, but also, on the associated interrelated problems of other renewable natural resource areas - fish and wildlife, the forests, and our grasslands areas. Furthermore, the circle of our clientele has widened considerably. No longer can we work solely with the landowners and operators; our attentive efforts must be directed more and more to the general public as well. For if our affluent society wishes to maintain the standard of living that almost all enjoy today, the nation's renewable natural resource base must be effectively managed for an enduring productivity for all uses - whether for food, fiber, or shelter or for scenic and recreational enjoyment."

No longer can they stay off our Boards of Supervisors and acting committees. We should be patient, though, for this may be new to them. Our experienced supervisors will still have to make the heavy decision and vote on the crucial issues, but the urban members will have to do their share until they become experienced enough to want to guide and decide as we have had to do for so many years.

This is not a one-way street; we can't complacently sit by and say we're not interested in matters of the town. It is our responsibility to join the urban civic organizations, such as the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, Kiwanis, and Toastmaster and thus learn the problems besetting the people of cities so that we may be more able to work more closely and intelligently as we work on our joint problems of conservation.

With these thoughts in mind, I am asking all our Boards of Supervisors to turn to the task of getting your urban members appointed to your Boards and, in a like manner, join the civic organizations. For to put it bluntly, fellows, times a-wastin, and the job is big.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a VERY HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON.

Pete

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GOODYEAR AWARD DEADLINE FEBRUARY 15, 1967

Score sheets for the Goodyear 1966 Soil Conservation Awards Program, which ends December 31, 1966, must be in the hands of the judging committee by February 15, 1966. Montana districts should mail their score sheets to O. M. Ueland, Montana Tech, Butte, Montana 59701.

Roosevelt County SWCD won in 1965 with Stillwater SWCD as the runnerup. Participation in the contest gives districts a wonderful opportunity to review their activities in Planning, Organizing, Measuring, and Giving Service. Also, the contest provides for the board to name an Outstanding Farmer-Rancher Conservationist in the district to receive a special certificate of merit. A supervisor and the outstanding farmer-rancher of the winning district receives an all expense paid trip to Goodyear Farms in Arizona.

Much valuable information presented by the speakers and panelists will be reproduced in the minutes, which will be mailed to each supervisor.

One would get the impression from the meeting that there is much good conservation being taught and good plans or guidelines established. However, it also was brought out that considerable more needs to be done. Perhaps of first concern of district supervisors is the need for a full time Conservation Education Coordinator in the Department of Public Instruction to follow through on guidelines which have been set up, and to integrate conservation in the curriculums of the schools.

Principle speakers talking on Conservation Education were Mrs. Elnora Wright, Wilson F. Clark, Louis Hagener, Clark Fowler, Hugh-Murphy, Jr., Gene Hoff, Hayden Ferguson, and Mrs. Gladys Hippe.

Ave Linford, SCS State Conservationist, substituting for Dave Unger of NACD, told of accomplishments of the past 25 years and of the broader opportunities and importance of district for the next 25 years.

Very good attendance and interest was shown at all committee sessions, which included Education, Program & Research, Water Resources, Public Lands, Public Relations, Legislative, Budget & Finance, and Great Plains.

Increased state appropriations for water developments, soil fertility promotion, conservation education, were urged. A Farm Forestry Committee was established. Re-affirmation of many past policies and resolutions were voted.

Holdover and newly elected directors of the Association are: Gordon Holte, Plentywood; Oscar Hippe, Froid; Milo Hilstad, Circle; Harold Jensen, Baker; Ralph Briggs, Great Falls; Robert Anderson, Fort Benton; Carl Zinne, Ryegate; Ken Coulter, Brusett; Carl Johnson, Livingston; Clint McFarland, Molt; Charles Lane, Maxville; William J. Kesler, Kalispell; Pete Jackson, Harrison; and Frank Thompson, Wolf Creek.

The directors elected Pete Jackson, Harrison, and Carl Johnson, Livingston, as the new President and Vice-President of the Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Dick Setterstrom and Wendell Martinell of Butte were retained as secretary and treasurer.

1966 MASWCD RECOGNITIONS



Outstanding Work Unit Conservationists for 1966  
Left to right: Joe Wirak, Arnold Quale, Bill Cardon, Leo Pipal, Orval Erwin, and Ken Harman.



Outstanding Supervisors for 1966 - Left to right:  
Les Criswell, Clarence Popham, Lawrence Jeffers,  
Knud Kaae, and Milo Hilstad. Missing was Vade  
Hamma.



Outstanding County Agents for 1966 - Left to  
right: Eldon E. Rice, Lee Rovig, and Dale  
Bergland. Missing were Thad Wojcieszowski,  
Dana Schrupp, and Tony Sundsted.



Past Presidents of the MASWCD - Front Row:  
Alfred Anderson, Frank Thompson, and Gordon  
McGowan. - Back Row: Les Criswell, Bill Kesler,  
Oscar Hippe, and Clarence Popham.



Ten Year Supervisors: Left to Right -  
Lawrence Jeffers and Harold Jensen.



Fifteen Year Supervisors - Left to Right:  
Jack Greenwood, A. G. Slattey, and Bill Kesler.

Twenty Year Supervisor's not pictured are:  
Charles Stahl, Allen Marcure, Ernest Wills,  
John M. Schroeder, and Leslie Criswell.

One 25 Year Award was given to Stanley Nelson  
of Wibaux.



OSCAR B. HIPPE  
Director, MASWCD

The Annual Convention held at Glendive can be termed - A High Success. A great deal of credit is due the Supervisors and those who planned the program to include speakers that gave us guidance and food for thought and the excellent entertainment. Also, credit is due to the Companies serving the Community for the many courtesies extended to us.

I would like to stress the Watershed Program. This program has been carried out as fast as the limited state funds would allow, so only a small part of the P. L. 566 funds have been used because of the limited money available for the planning of such programs. Thus, the federal money is lost, and we are not preserving our water fast enough.

The projects that have been built are serving a very useful purpose in flood control, recreation, and irrigation. These projects have been built on tributaries to the major rivers, which, if one hundred could be built in Montana, it would cut down floods on the major rivers to a minimum with less land used or land taken off the tax roll.

Kansas and North Dakota, in cooperation with the highway departments, have several projects completed that are proving quite successful. These projects are dams built where a highway crosses a creek with a high enough fill. The only additional expense here would be a little more blackslope and a draw down tube attached to the culvert. Nebraska plans to start a similar program in 1967.

The State Soil Conservation Committee is requesting more money at the next legislative session for planning these watershed projects. Approximately forty applications have been made for watershed projects. You could help by talking with your legislators to inform them of the importance of these projects and the urgent need for more money to complete these and future projects to help keep our water in Montana, as well as the beneficial use to the people involved.

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STUDENT WORK-STUDY PROGRAM

Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Montana will have an opportunity to employ students who are enrolled in Montana Colleges or have graduated from high school and have been accepted at one of the nine colleges.

Field work assistants, county agricultural aids, clerical, and others may be available.

The state or district pays a small part of their salary and the balance is paid out of federally allocated funds.

Questionnaires have been sent to secretaries of all Soil and Water Conservation Districts by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry. They will handle the administra-

tion of this program, together with the University of Montana.

PETE JACKSON NAMED SOIL CONSERVATIONIST OF YEAR

Peter V. Jackson III of Harrison was named Soil Conservationist of the year and was presented a prairie chicken statuette by Governor Tim Babcock at the second annual Governor's Recognition Dinner. The event is sponsored by the Montana Wildlife Federation and the Sears Roebuck Foundation.

Our congratulations go to Pete. He is also the newly elected President of the Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

\* \* \*

At the suggestion box, the boss said: "I wish employes would be specific. What kind of kite? What lake?"

Earl Warren, Governor of California, looked out over his great and sovereign State one sunshiny day several years ago. The face of the land bore scars left by the ravages of erosion. He multiplied what he saw that day by forty-seven other great and sovereign states and remarked:

"For more than a century of our national existence, the woodman's axe, the hunter's rifle, the farmer's straight furrow, the overgrazing of our rangelands and the dissipation of our minerals, started us on the road to the same decadence that has destroyed many nations and even civilizations of the past.

"The thing that has destroyed these nations more than any other thing is that in each instance their soil was abused and neglected. In their cases it was not due merely to indolence and ruthlessness. It was due to ignorance and to a decadence that spread over the land slowly through many centuries -- so imperceptibly that the people of any one generation could scarcely see what was happening.

"But with us, fortunately, the situation is different. Most of the spoilation has occurred within the lives of some people who are still in being. We can see the results of bad practices and, fortunately, we now know how to preserve land for the unmeasured future. We cannot claim ignorance, because the findings of good conservation practices have been made. They are available to farm and city folks alike. We can see in many places, side by side, distinct evidence both of neglect and good husbandry.

"What right have we in America to assume that if we do not heed the warning of history, if we do not correct the erosion here at home, that we can escape what has been the inevitable end of other improvident nations?"



STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE BIENNIAL  
REPORT SHOWS SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION WORK  
IN MONTANA - A BIG BUSINESS

The biennial report of the Montana State Soil Conservation Committee to the Governor has been published and copies distributed to legislators, conservation agencies, and Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Because of the increased scope of activities of Soil and Water Conservation Districts and additional responsibilities of the State Soil Conservation Committee in Watershed Projects and Resource Conservation and Development Projects, this report shows significant progress that has been made, together with and certain data as to the basic resource development needs of Montana's future.

All Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors and cooperating agency people are encouraged to read this report.

\$8,321,915 were paid out for materials and work for soil and water conservation practices in fiscal 1965. Some accomplishments were 808 farm ponds, cost \$1,600,000; 29 irrigation storage dams, cost \$366,000; 123 sprinkler systems, cost \$423,500; 349 wells, cost \$592,000; 118,914 feet of streambank protection, cost \$474,000; 13,427 acres of land leveling, cost \$1,006,725, plus many others.

\$39,487,900 is shown in total increase in net return as a result of proper range use, conservation cropping systems, drainage, water management, and others. These figures indicate the magnitude and the impact of soil and water conservation and development upon the economy of Montana. Cooperating Conservation farmers and ranchers of Montana are to be complimented for these achievements, together with fine assistance of conservation agencies and organizations.

This increased production means jobs and a higher standard of living for us all.





George Rice, Chairman, Dawson SWCD  
introducing Dr. Elnora Wright  
at MASWCD Convention of 1966



Mrs. Bill Peace  
giving Indian Religious Interpretations  
Glendive, November 16, 1966



Bill Peace addressing 1966 MASWCD  
Convention, Glendive  
on Indian Lore and Conservation



Dr. Elnora Wright, Montana State University  
Professor  
speaking on "Conservation Education In A  
Changing World"  
Glendive, November 17, 1966

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FLYING CLASSROOM WILL TAKE HAVRE STUDENTS

The first "Flying Classroom" of the Havre Public Schools took place on Monday, November 21, 1966.

Robert Brigham, of 316 7th Street, is the school districts World Geography Instructor. One of the units studied in World Geography has to do with conservation of natural resources, which includes population distribution, areas affected by glaciers, erosion, the per cent in pastures, wheat farming and so forth that our land is composed of.

A month ago Mr. Brigham heard through the Department of Education News Release that such a "Flying Classroom" is offered in Montana. He submitted an application and recently heard that our school had been selected as a participant.

So Monday morning with parental consent, thirty students from the geography class boarded four planes at the Havre Airport for a one and a half hour trip in the air. Mr. Van K. Haderlie, of the soil conservation office, has already devoted many hours of instruction to the pupils on items that they are to be aware of. He also has been meeting evenings with the class to familiarize them with air photos.

Mr. Charles Adams, Supervisor of Aviation Education of the Montana Aeronautics Commission with the cooperation of the State Department of Public Instruction, was in charge of the tour.

1966 CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



Don Fraker, NACD Director  
Northern Great Plains  
Speaking on "Conservation Education - -  
What Must Be Done"  
Glendive - November 17, 1966



Ladies Auxiliary Officers for 1967  
Montana Association of SWCDs  
Mrs. Eugene Larsen, Culbertson, President  
Mrs. Dean Hanson, Gildford, Vice-President  
Mrs. Edward Morgan, Stanford, Sec.-Treasurer



Dr. Wilson Clark  
Conservation Education Association President  
Addressing MANSWCD-Convention, Glendive  
"How Do We Do It"  
Also shown are: Auxiliary President Lila Larsen  
President Bill Kesler  
Councilman Oscar Hippe  
President-Elect Pete Jackson  
V-President-Elect Carl Johnson



Conservation Education Panel  
"What Is Being Done" - Glendive, 1966  
Left to Right Standing:  
Carl Johnson, Moderator  
Hugh Murphy, SWCD Supervisor  
Gene Hoff, County Agent  
Dr. Hayden Ferguson, Plant & Soil Science, MSU  
Seated: Gladys Hippe, NACD Auxiliary President  
Clark Fowler, Dept. of Public Instruction  
Dr. Louis Hagener, Northern Montana College

SOIL AND RANGE JUDGING CONTEST WINNERS

Winners of the state soil judging contest for 1966 in the 4-H division was the Liberty County team comprised of Janet Good, Emma Jean Brown, Mary Cole, and Gary Thielges. Their coach was Roger Wilson.

The Fairfield FFA chapter soil judging team won first place in their division. They were Dale Hensley, David Andre, Steve Anderson, and Henry Huntsinger. This same team won first honors in the FFA Range judging. The Fairfield FFA is coached by William Armstrong.

The Cascade County 4-H Range judging team were first in their division in the state. This team consisted of Rodney Tribble, Mike Stevenson, and Terry Reardon. Their coach was Bill Chiesa.

Each of the above teams received \$50.00 from the Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Sincere congratulations are extended to these fine competitors.

DISTRICT DOINGS

Planning

Highlighting district doings this time of year is the making of annual reports and annual work plans. People never plan to fail, but people often fail to plan. So it is with some Soil and Water Conservation Districts. New guidelines have been recommended, for comprehensive, integrated, conservation planning.

Legislation

Also receiving much action by Soil and Water Conservation Districts recently are meetings with legislators and county commissioners to acquaint them with legislative proposals and needs. Many fine meetings have been reported.

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JOHN SCHROEDER REAPPOINTED

As we go to press, it has been learned that Governor Tim Babcock has reappointed John M. Schroeder of LoLo to a new four year term on the State Soil Conservation Committee.

Congratulations, John.

Montana Association of Soil and  
Water Conservation Districts

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