

Surprise Party At Vequist Home

ROCK FALLS.—Another surprise party was held on Sunday evening, March 8, this one at Lyle Vequist's. The self-invited guests included Mr. and Mrs. Francis Curran and girls, Mr. and Mrs. James Curran and Ardel, Mr. and Mrs. Jim McNulty, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Vequist, Miss Leah Serck, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Taylor and family, Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Felver, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sterns, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Margritz, Brenda, Bonnie and Susan, and John Richardson.

In the card games that followed, Mrs. Albert Sterns and James Curran had high score. Low was by Mrs. Roy Margritz and Francis Curran. A lunch was served by the guests.

Other Rock Falls News

Mr. and Mrs. Blake Benson and Stanley and Orville Thorsen were supper guests Friday evening, March 6, at Francis Curran's.

Mrs. Francis Curran, Betty and Mary Jo visited Sunday afternoon at Bert Ott's.

Fritz Yantzie and Joe were guests Friday, March 1, at Levi Yantzie's.

Mr. and Mrs. Blake Benson, Stanley Benson, John Richardson were supper guests Wednesday, March 4, of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Neges of Spencer.

Guests on Thursday evening, March 5, at John Grutch's for supper included Mr. and Mrs. Blake Benson, Stanley Benson, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Benson and family, Linda Johnson, Maurice and Elwin Grutch.

Mrs. Mamie D. O'Neill, Carroll O'Neill, Linda Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Benson and family were dinner and supper guests at Blake Benson's Sunday, March 8.

Mrs. Mamie D. O'Neill and Eddie Benson visited at Blake Benson's for a few days recently.

Lois Ann Petersen visited at Jim Karel's Sunday afternoon March 8.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Oberle were supper guests Friday evening, March 6, at Jim Karel's.

Friday afternoon, March 6, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Karel visited Mrs. Woldneck in the Lynch hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Orville Miller and family were guests on Sunday, March 8, at Cecil Miller's.

Francis Curran and Bar Larsen were dinner guests on Sunday, March 8, of Ray Kurtz. The main course was beans and for dessert more beans.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Smith and sons were Tuesday evening, March 3, guests of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Taylor.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Smith and sons were Sunday, March 8, dinner guests of Mrs. Anna Thompson at Page. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Pellitier and children of Orchard.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Smith and sons were Sunday night, March 8, supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kelly at Page.

Mrs. Henry Vequist was a dinner guest at the Orville Morrow home Sunday, March 8.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Margritz and girls were guests at Lyle Vequist's on Wednesday evening, March 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Vequist and family were dinner guests Sunday, March 8, of Mrs. Celia Grutch.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Claussen were dinner guests on Sunday, March 8, at Claussen brothers.

Mr. and Mrs. Orville Miller and children were guests at Albert Stern's Thursday evening, March 5.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Vequist and family were supper guests on Sunday evening, March 8, at James McNulty's.

Guests at Albert Stern's Friday evening, March 6, were John Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Margritz, Brenda, Bonnie and Susan.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Sterns and family were guests all day Sunday, March 8, at Albert Stern's.

John Richardson was a guest

Narrative Report of the Supervisors of The Holt Soil Conservation District for 1952

In presenting this annual report the board of supervisors and the local staff of the Holt Soil Conservation District hope to do these things:

First, we wish to acquaint the public again with the district's services and usefulness to better agriculture.

Second, we hope to make our experiences a benefit to other agricultural organizations.

Finally, we want to make a real examination of our successes and failures in order to more effectively promote conservation agriculture in the Holt district.

| Practice | 1952 | Todate |
|--------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Tree planting | 208 acres | 1317 acres |
| Seeding of range | 498 acres | 4800 acres |
| Farm and ranch ponds | 53 acres | 116 acres |
| Farm drains | 522 acres | 1088 acres |
| Rotation hay and pasture | 2928 acres | 11457 acres |
| Range properly stocked | 8779 acres | 76356 acres |
| Strip cropping | 396 acres | 11414 acres |
| Seeding of permanent hay | 430 acres | 2100 acres |
| Terraces | 10.5 miles | 35.5 miles |
| Outlets and waterways | 63 | 136 |

| | No. | Acres | No. | Acres |
|-----------------------------|-----|---------|-----|---------|
| Initial agreements | 125 | 121,428 | 144 | 173,186 |
| Advanced agreements | 63 | 36,425 | 63 | 36,425 |
| Basic agreement | 6 | 2,445 | 31 | 203,059 |
| Active applications on file | 141 | 124,490 | | |

Cooperation With Other Agencies

Team work with other agencies has on the whole been splendid. The closest kind of cooperation with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service was an ever-present factor. We sincerely hope the new secretary of agriculture does not contemplate divorcing the direct relationship between the national service and the local districts.

Cooperation with the local PMA has helped to account for a steady increase in applications for technical assistance. The consolidation of PMA and SCS early in 1951 afforded the district a direct contact with non-cooperators and gave them an opportunity to become better acquainted with the Soil Conservation Service. Also 181 man days (in the form of three parttime employees) were made available by the PMA office for technical assistance through the district office.

The State Fish and Game Commission works through the Soil Conservation District in a program to plant each year six wild life areas of one to three acres. The requirements of such an area are, briefly, that it be less than one-half mile from any crop land and more than one-half mile from any wooded area. Five such areas were planted in the Holt district in 1952. Fish are also available on application through the Federal Fish and Wildlife Service.

Again this year cooperation with the Extension Service has been good. A joint annual meeting was held in March. The two agencies also joined in tours, special meetings, and made joint news releases. If there was any weak point in these joint functions it was the failure to coordinate and follow a definite time schedule.

The Highway Department has agreed to accept any water from proposed drainage projects and will install culverts of proper size where needed.

The County Board of Commissioners has obligingly agreed to do the same on all drainage projects involving country roads.

District Equipment

A full time employee in charge of district equipment was hired for the year. The arrangement, it was hoped, would afford the local staff more time on farm planning and field work as well as improve the financial status of the district. The former goal was realized, but in October it became apparent that the district's operations were not extensive enough to support a full time employee. Consequently this employee, Fay Brittell, resigned. Since that time a part time man has kept up with the equipment work.

An indication of the extent of use of district equipment is this list of the district's bills.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Equipment manager | 2,080.60 |
| Labor for tree planting | 1,007.50 |
| Labor for grass (combining, cleaning and planting) | 1,498.10 |
| Clerical help | 91.00 |
| Hired truck | 582.32 |
| Hired tractor | 424.25 |
| Car mileage | 288.44 |

During the year 14 people were employed, some of course were for only short periods of time.

The piece of equipment operated most during the year was the 167 D. Clipper Cleaner. Its volume of custom work is steadily increasing. Cooperators are becoming more and more aware of the importance of clean, viable seed. The cleaner was employed in custom work 222 1/2 hours with a gross return of \$889.00. Here is a list of the amounts and kinds of seed cleaned during the year.

| Hours | Type of Seed | Approx. lbs. of seed |
|---------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 13 1/4 | Cool season grasses | Over 3,000 |
| 50 3/4 | Sandlove, switch, red top | 4,730 |
| 103 1/4 | Alfalfa | Over 20,000 |
| 21 1/4 | Clover, red, alsike, Ladino & sweet | 6,800 |
| 8 | Vetch | |
| 5 | Oats | |
| 1 1/2 | Barley | |

at Roy Margritz's on Thursday evening, March 5.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Margritz and family were Sunday, March 8, dinner guests at Walter Sires'.

The Pleasant Day club held a card party on Saturday evening, March 7, at Floyd Johnson's. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Arthur O'Neill and Gene. High score was won by Mrs. Blake Benson

and Ardel Curran. Mrs. Albert Sterns and Lyle Vequist held low.

Linda Johnson was a guest at Louis Brown's Friday, March 6. Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Johnson were there for the evening.

Guests at Alden Breiner's on Sunday, March 8 were Mr. and Mrs. John Schultz and girls, Don and Lois Breiner and Louis Brown.

Don Breiner and Linda Johnson were breaking horses Mon-

day, March 9.

Mr. and Mrs. John Schultz and Mr. and Mrs. Louis Brown attended the square dance in O'Neill Monday evening, March 9. Gwenda and Trudy Schultz stayed at Floyd Johnson's.

Alden Breiner called at Louis Brown's Monday, March 9.

The roads are pretty muddy. Most successful travelers keep a tractor nearby, or better yet, out in front. One thing, the surprise parties can't sneak in so easily. One lady has been to every surprise party but never in time to see the first scramble to straighten up. Maybe with not too good roads she can catch up next time.

Sergeant Green Joins Second Armored—

Sgt. Marvin B. Green, whose wife, Betty, lives in O'Neill, recently arrived in Germany and is now serving with the Second armored division.

Part of western Europe's NATO army, the Second is undergoing constant field training in Germany.

A veteran of duty in Korea, he holds the UN and Korean service ribbons.

Green entered the army in November, 1948, and was stationed at Camp Luis Obispo, Calif., prior to transferring to Europe.

Move to Greeley—

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Connors and sons, Edward and Michael, moved last week from Sidney to Greeley. Mr. Connors, son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Wallace, is a Creighton university law school graduate. He served as an agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation for several years before entering private law practice at Sidney.

At Thorin Home—

Mrs. Delbert Edwards of Amelia is spending the week in the Ed Thorin home following her dismissal from the Atkinson Memorial hospital. Mrs. Edwards is a sister-in-law of Mrs. Thorin.

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