

Civilian Conservation Corps

Source: Waveland Independent, July 26, 1935

For some time there has been talk of a CCC camp in this county and JW FRISZ has been seeing what could be done about locating it in this vicinity. He is able to report that a lease has been signed for an 8 acre tract on the West side of the road leading into the Shades, just south of the lagoon. The lease is for two years with the privilege of four and Mr.. Frisz is giving the government the use of the land free gratis. The CCC authorities have already put down a well which will furnish ample supply of water. Securing this camp is certainly a fine thing for this part of the county and Mr. Frisz deserves much credit for his effort. Waveland Independent, April 30, 1936 March 31, 1936 marks the 3rd anniv. of the CCC. The Soil Conservation Camp, located at the Shades Park has just completed its 8th month in the community. The camp has worked in the four counties of Montgomery, Putnam, Parke & Fountain. In these counties 52 farms have been worked on, with a total of 7,410 acres. For each of these farms, a plan of farming has been worked out whereby the use of the land will cause the least amount of erosion. Arrangements have been made on 21 farms to make new seedlings of alfalfa, which will supply the farm with a good hay crop. In this area the land has been found to be very acid. To correct this condition, the cooperating farmers are planning to lime 1,053 acres this spring. A total of 600 acres of cultivated land has been retired to permanent pasture and meadow and 380 acres of this will be improved by the addition of lime and fertilizer to improve the quality of the grass. A terrace demonstration was held on Mr. Wallace Epperson's farm west of Hillsboro. Mr. Epperson has been terracing his land for 10 years and the results of this work can easily be seen by observing the crops and the condition of the fields. Mr. Epperson has pioneered in a field in which increasing interest is being shown. On badly eroded land, 9000 soil saving check dams have been built, and about 410,000 black locust trees will be planted. These locust trees will be interplanted with black walnut, oak, hickory and tulip poplar trees.

Source: Waveland Independent, Aug 2, 1935

Dr. NOBLITT had a hot job on Monday afternoon examining 119 candidates for the CCC Camp. Arthur Prather manipulated the typewriter and took down the sad details. As soon as the examination was over the boys were put to work cleaning up the camp ground. Lt. JF FISHER is in charge of the camp with Lt. HW BENHAM as assitatnt. MH SILVERTHORN will be superintendent and will be in charge of the work which will consist mainly of erosion prevention on farms within a distance of 25 miles. A certain amount of this work will be done on request free of charge. A number of these camps are being started at the same time so there is necessarily considerable confusion and delay. Waveland Independent, Aug 9, 1935 Farmers within a 25 mile radius of the new CCC soil conservation camp located at the Shades Park, may get certain improvements added to their farms which will conserve the soil and moisture by the use of CCC labor. The work will be supervised by the soil conservation service of the department of agriculture. Indiana has

9 such CCC Camps located in the state some of which have been doing soil erosion and moisture conservation work for more than two years. Later from the camp will be used for the following purpose gully control on cultivated or pasture land; pasture improvement, planting of windbreaks, tile drain outlet, repair or straighten ditches; woodlots; fence changes for improved crop rotation and a number of other beneficial types of work. Farmers who apply for the work will first have their farms gone over with them individually by the soil conservation service agriculturist of the camp, who will note the work that may be done and arrange with the farmer a plan for doing it. Later the boys of the camp will carry out the changes under the supervision of a soil conservation service foreman who will see that the construction is properly done. Work will not be done where the desire for the work is primarily to increase the value of the land for resale purposes. Anyone who wishes to have work done on his land or is interested in such may call or write to the superintendent, MH Silverthorn, CCC Camp, Waveland.

Source: Waveland Independent, May 25, 1939

Last Sunday the Waveland CCC Camp baseball team went to Waynetown and easily defeated the team from that town. Wyant, pitching for the camp team had Waynetown completely at his mercy. He allowed only 3 scratch hits, struck out 14 men and gave only two base on balls. At the same time the camp team made 15 hits, 3 of them two baggers and one home run. Early season prospects are for the best team the camp has ever had. Mr. Search, the Educational Adviro, is again acting as coach selected a squad of 12 from a list of 35 who tried out for the team. They are: Catchers: Wittenmyer, Figliolo; Pitchers; Wiant; Purcell; Ryback; Daniels; Infields: Earls, Steed; Charters; Ray; Thompson; Purcell; Smith. Outfielders: Vanzo; Reynolds; BAZZANI; Ryback, Collins. Next Sunday the team will play at Alamo and the following Saturday will play the team of the Indiana State Farm at Putnamville. Clarence SWANGAN, one of the 3 enrollees who have been with the camp since its organization in 1935, has just left to accept a position as chief cook in a restaurant in Chicago. The only two now remaining John REYNOLDS mess steward and Ray JONES first cook.

Source: Waveland Independent, August 10, 1939

Tragedy AGAIN touched Waveland when on Saturday night a CCC truck with a load of 19 of the boys went into a ditch on the road north of town at the Fisher corner. The driver is supposed to have been blinded by the lights of a car from the north and in trying to avoid a collision drove into a culvert heading. The truck was turned completely over and all the boys thrown out excepting Mervin BROWN of St. Berniece, who was pinned down and instantly killed. His thigh was broken and his back broken in two places. The local ambulance was called and took several of the boys to the camp dispensary, where, after first aid by the camp physician, 3 of them, Homer BLACK of Jamestown; Allen RIEGEL of Mecca and Hubert FARIS of Terre Haute were

taken to the army hospital at Ft. Harrison. Of these, Black was the most seriously hurt. The funeral director in Camp cases is let by contract. The director in this case, named Beanblossom, was called from Corydon to take the body of Brown, temporarily held at the Machledt rooms for the coroner's inquest. His verdict was accidental death without specifying anyone as responsible. The slightly injured, all of whom were from the Clinton district, were Carel RUSSELL; Alfred W. STATIK; Robert SEARING; Charles WHEELER; Wayne WRIGHT; Billy J. COOPER; Carl R. CLARK. Clark was the driver of the truck. Other members of the party not injured were: Kenneth McCULLOUGH, Universal; Albert VIETANIENNI, Clinton; Ambrose EVANS, Universal; Peter RYBACK, East Chicago; Guy DUZAN, Flora; Albert McMINOWAY, Memphis, Indiana; Henry GUSLER, RFD Laconia, Ind; John LASLEY, RFD 1 Mackport, Ind; Ira LEWIS, RFD 1, Bx 253, Jefferson, Ind; Kenneth ANDERSON, Clinton and Charles McVAY, Universal. Waveland Independent, Thursday, Sept 24, 1942 The buildings formerly used for the CCC Camp at the Shades are being moved in the Army Air Port near Seymour, Indiana. WG Hunter from the US Engineers Office at Padukah, Ky is supervising the job. The buildings are of a portable construction and after they are dismantled they are trucked to Waveland and shipped by rail to their destination. According to Mr. Frisz at the Shades the work was started Monday and considerable headway has been accomplished in abolishing the CCC Camp.

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