

Longfellow L. Lough



Longfellow L. Lough was a pioneer and leader in the soil and water conservation movement of the early and mid-1930's. He began his career as an elementary school teacher, was employed as a County Agricultural Extension Agent in Marshall County for seven years, and then worked with the Soil Erosion Service and the Soil Conservation Service for 27 years before he retired. Much of his employment with the U.S. Department of Agriculture was as State Soil Conservationist.

Mr. Lough played a key role in securing passage of the West Virginia Soil Conservation District Law. This legislation provided for local leadership and initiative, in partnership with the Federal government, for effective soil and water conservation work. From 1939 until his retirement, he provided counsel and guidance which ensured a firm basis for a successful local-state-federal relationship and great strides were made in the wise use and conservation of the soil and water resources of the state.

Mr. Lough was a charter member of the Soil Conservation Society of America and of the West Virginia Chapter.

He served as President of the West Virginia Chapter in 1957 and that same year was elected a "Fellow" in the Soil Conservation Society of America.

He was made an Honorary State Farmer by the Future Farmers of America and also received a life membership in the West Virginia Association of Soil Conservation Districts. He received a 30-Year Certificate of Service award from the State Soil Conservation Committee. He was presented a plaque "in appreciation for outstanding service to the Future Farmers of America." He also received the U.S. Department of Agriculture Superior Service Award.

Mr. Lough was a dedicated conservationist. He had the foresight, determination, toughness of purpose, and knowledge to organize and promote a viable and successful soil and water conservation movement in West Virginia. The local-state-federal partnership in West Virginia is recognized as a model in the East.