of Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton Counties. These counties border the capital city of Lansing. Glean Bedell is party leader.

Twelve soil scientists from the Soil Conservation Service and nine students from Michigan State University surveyed in these counties during the summer. Cost is shared by HHFA, Planning Commissions, County Governments, Soil Conservation Service, and Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station.

Urban, recreation and engineering interpretations are completed for all counties for use with the soil maps that are completed. Several other counties are presently negotiating for a cost-share survey. These counties also are in the path of the rapidly urbanizing areas bordering the many large cities in southern Michigan.

Bruce G. Watson
East Lansing

SOME EMPIRICALLY DEDUCED NON-PEDOLOGICAL AND NON-BIAS VARIABLES INVOLVED IN THE FIELD TECHNIQUE OF MANUAL MECHANICAL ANALYSIS OF SOIL MATERIAL OR THE "L" FACTOR

By Clay Stephens
Range Conservationist, Bureau of Indian Affairs
Blackfeet Reservation, Cut Bank, Montana

Not being a professional pedologist but having had the opportunity to observe them at work has caused this writer to note what seem to be variables involved in soil texturing. The pedologist should first be thankful that evolution or whatever provided the opposing thumb and forefinger which are the tools and the salivary glands which provide the reagent that make this technique possible. This paper deals primarily with these glands and digits. The other variables affecting the accuracy of