In October, 1966 I received an unexpected phone call from Woody Hamilton, County Extension Agent in Batavia, Clermont County, Ohio. He asked if we had shipped some soil samples from Clermont County to the Bureau of Soils in Washington recently. I assured him that we had not sent samples to the Bureau of Soils for some time. He was concerned because of course he knew that Clermont County, Ohio is now being mapped progressively. I was perplexed. A flurry of questions were asked, and the following story unfolded.

Mr. Hamilton had just been called by his counterpart in Findlay, Hancock County, Ohio, Harry L. Freeman. Before calling Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Freeman had just finished consulting with the police. The police had been called to a home in Findlay by a very concerned lady, who, as she was placing some items in her trash barrel for burning, noticed some canvas bags in the barrel. Thinking they were of some value, she called the police, who identified the bags as soil samples and thus contacted Mr. Freeman.

After I had obtained this information from Mr. Hamilton, who knew no more, I was still perplexed. I called Mr. Freeman, who quickly verified the points relayed to me by Mr. Hamilton. I asked about identification on the samples. On each of the eleven bags were tags identifying them as being from Clermont County, 1 1/2 miles north of Edenton, and giving the depth from which the samples were taken. The tags also were stamped by the Post Office indicating that penalties due to insufficient postage were to be paid. Mr. Freeman stated that there also appeared on some of the tags a name, either A. E. Taylor or C. E. Taylor.