

Kansan is Watershed-Man of-the-Year

Robert V. Smrha, a Kansas engineer who has spent much of his career urging and guiding the conservation and development of water resources, is the 1969 National Watershed-Man-of-the-Year.

Smrha, a resident of Topeka, received his title at the 16th annual National Watershed Congress held recently in Louisville, Ky. He is



Robert V. Smrha
MICROFILMED

chief engineer of the Division of Water Resources of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture.

In 1953, Smrha worked with other Kansas leaders in drafting a Watershed District Act for consideration by the Kansas legislature. Enactment of the law that year enabled Kansas to move ahead in watershed conservation.

Kansas now has 69 watershed districts covering 9,200,00 acres. Twenty other watershed districts are being organized.

Smrha has always emphasized the value of soil and water conservation on the land. He considers this phase of conservation work especially important in watershed protection.