

Loss Of \$400,000,000 A Year By Erosion In U. S. Reported

Half Of All Land In United States Has Been Damaged by Erosion

Washington—Half of all the land in the United States has already been damaged by erosion and the process is costing farmers of the nation at least \$400,000,000 a year in the removal of fertile soil alone, H. H. Bennett, Chief of the Soil Conservation Service, declared in his annual report to the Secretary of Agriculture, Henry A. Wallace.

A total of 282,000,000 acres, according to Mr. Bennett, have either been ruined or severely damaged by soil erosion, and an additional 775,000,000 acres is now undergoing active erosion. To fight this wastage of soil resources, farmers are organizing soil conservation districts under state conservation legislation.

By June 15, Mr. Bennett reported 36 states had passed laws permitting farmers to organize these subdivisions of government "for purposes of cooperative attack on local land problems." As of December 15, more than 200 such districts, covering approximately 120,500,000 acres had been organized in 26 of these states.

In his report, Mr. Bennett condemns the oft-expressed generalization that every farmer who adopts soil-conserving farming methods is subject to financial losses. Generalities of this kind, he said, "slow down the adoption of conservation measures and in so doing, cost a great many farmers thousands of dollars each year."

Data collected by the Soil Conservation Service during the past five years, the report states, "indicates that on thousands of farms and ranches the application of soil and water conservation measures and other practices of wise land use may reasonably be expected to result in immediate financial returns, and certainly would cause no losses."

Mr. Bennett also cites a study made by the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station with soil conservation farmers in Southern and Southwestern Iowa. It declares:

"Practically all farmers stated that the program had increased the value of their farms, and the average increase reported was \$5.44 per acre." In this same study, 55 per cent of the farmers reported that the productivity of their farms had already been increased by the Soil Conservation Service program; 92 per cent reported that the productivity would be increased in the next three years; and 95 per cent reported it would be increased in the future.

At the close of the fiscal year, the Soil Conservation Service chief reports, the service had carried on work in approximately 900 research demonstration, land utilization, and watershed projects, Soil Conservation Service nurseries, Civilian Conservation Corps camps, water facilities areas, and soil conservation districts.

These work units were located in 47 states and Puerto Rico and covered more than 200,000,000 acres. Conservation plans had been prepared by service technicians for more than 22,000,000 acres of land in private ownership, or under lease to farmers and ranchers. Approximately 81,500 farmers and ranchers were actively cooperating in the program.

"All the evidence of history supports the conclusion that a nation's

Floyd Speaks To Farm Committee

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to four feet in width," Mr. Floyd said.

He cited the efforts now being advanced in Washington in an effort to relieve the tobacco situation, but regardless of the outcome of those efforts, farmers should try to make their own living, he said.

"I believe this section can grow wheat and produce from fifteen to twenty bushels to the acre. It is possible for a farmer to grow as many as ten acres and participate in the conservation program," Floyd said. Continuing, he pointed out that wheat does not offer the big return that tobacco does, but we might have to think about wheat and other crops such as lespedeza and general soil building practices.

"The soil is our most valuable asset, and it should be the farmer's aim to first improve the soil in the hope of getting a fair return from it. Farmers have failed to take advantage of the conservation program and improve their soil," Floyd said, adding that a farmer can comply with the program, build up his soil and expect a reasonable return.

"In 1938, Martin County farmers participated to the extent of 84 per cent in the conservation program. Had they done as well as that last year, they would receive along about now more than \$200,000. If they comply with the 1940 program in its entirety, they can expect \$260,000 in various types of payments."

Appealing to the community committee members at the meeting in the agricultural building Tuesday afternoon, Floyd urged them to go over the program details with each of the farmers in their respective districts and try to advance those farm practices that offer some lasting benefits. "I believe Martin County farmers can adopt certain farming practices that will prove of untold value to them even in such times as these," Mr. Floyd concluded.

Attendance Shows Gain In Schools

Shown out last Wednesday morning, the Williamston schools yesterday and this morning were fast regaining a normal attendance rating, Principal Hix announcing that nearly a six per cent gain was reflected in the figures today as compared with those of yesterday.

Attendance figures for yesterday and today are, as follows:

Thursday	Present	Absent	P. C.
Grades 1-7	412	161	72
High School	181	24	88
Totals	593	185	76
Friday	Present	Absent	P. C.
Grades 1-7	446	127	78
High School	190	15	92
Totals	636	142	82

Traps Self Before Monopoly Group

Washington, D. C.—All of Washington is chucking over the recent testimony given to the Monopoly Committee by J. P. Morgan's partner, Russell Leffingwell, and speculating as to whether Leffingwell got his usual Christmas bonus. After insisting that taxes on business must be cut and relief costs pared, Leffingwell told the Monopoly Committee that unless government allows more freedom, "I guarantee business will go bankrupt."

The more vociferous Leffingwell grew in his denunciation of business taxes, the more vigorously George Whitney, another Morgan partner, seemed to grind his teeth. But Leffingwell blandly ignored the rising ire of the senators and the teeth-grashing of his partner; he seemed unaware that he was leading with his chin.

The pay-off came, however, when Peter Nehemkis, counsel for the committee, asked whether it was true or not that the Morgan partners paid no taxes on \$4,000,000 of their net returns in 1938. Leffingwell's memory seemed to fail him completely at this point, but he finally admitted that it was probably true.

Further amusement was evident when Leffingwell told the committee, "I think we ought to give the 130,000,000 persons in this country more rope." In a stage whisper one person in the audience asked, "What for, so we can hang ourselves?"

Special Service In Baptist Church Sunday Evening

Sunday school, 9:30 a. m.
Morning worship, 11 a. m.
Young People's meeting, 6:30 p. m.
Evening worship, 7:30 p. m.
For the evening service, there will be a special musical program conducted by the colored double quartet.

Announce Services In The Local Methodist Church

Regular services at the Methodist church Sunday morning and night.
Sunday school, 9:45 a. m.
Morning worship, 11 a. m.
Evening worship, 7:30 p. m.
Preaching by the pastor at each service.
You are invited to be present.
Young people meet at 6:45.

soil is its most valuable and basic natural resource," Mr. Bennett asserted. "In the final analysis," he continued, "this resource must be maintained almost regardless of cost because it is the source of our food, clothing, shelter, fuel, and other basic requirements."

MODERN EQUIPMENT



The Courtney Undertakers recently added the new Packard ambulance-hearse to its equipment here, the purchase of the new modern machine enlarging the scope of service offered by the firm.

THE POCKETBOOK OF KNOWLEDGE

AMERICANS—130,000,000 IN NUMBER—HAVE A COMBINED PURCHASING POWER HIGHER THAN THE HALF BILLION PEOPLE OF EUROPE OR THE BILLION LIVING IN ASIA.

THE BED OF WARE, MADE IN THE U. S. A. IN ENGLAND, BIGGEST PIECE OF FURNITURE OF ITS KIND EVER MADE, COULD ACCOMMODATE 12 CLEANERS AT ONE TIME—IT WAS 11 FEET LONG AND 7 1/2 FEET WIDE!

WHEN WATCHES WERE FIRST USED THEY WERE MADE OF IRON AND WERE AS BIG AS SAUCERS!

THE YEARLY COST OF GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NOW EQUALS ABOUT \$50 FOR EACH FAMILY.

EACH YEAR IT TAKES 1500 GALLONS OF OIL TO POWER THE VARIOUS SERVICES—TRANSPORTATION, HEATING, LIGHT, CLEANING, ETC.—FOR THE AVERAGE AMERICAN FAMILY—

60 Million Is Spent In State By CCC Since April, 1933

Conservation Corps' Work in North Carolina Rates High Merit

What the Civilian Conservation Corps has meant to North Carolina since its establishment in April, 1933, was made known this week when T. L. Grier, State CCC selection supervisor for the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare, reported an estimate of \$60,114,000 in Federal obligations spent or contracted in the state through October 31, 1939.

Number of enrollees employed in 39 CCC camps in October was 7,723 and accomplishments through the preceding month were listed as 2,720 miles of minor roads, 170,000 acres of forest stand improvement, 173,000 man-days of forest fire fighting and prevention, 92,600 erosion check dams, 123 lookout houses and towers, and 22,600,000 square yards of seeding, sodding, tree planting and gully control.

Estimated allotments sent by enrollees to their dependents at home came to \$12,840,000 which resulted from the labors of 58,070 North Carolina youths given employment in the corps since its organization.

"In the healthful atmosphere of outdoor CCC camps, enrollees are taught how to work and how to make a living," Grier said.

"Millions of acres of forests, parks and farm lands furnish the laboratory in which young men and war veterans gain practical experience and training.

"All camp facilities are utilized to instill in each youth sound habits of work, pride in accomplishment and the importance of regular habits, orderliness, neatness and clean living. About 91 per cent of all enrollees attend camp education and training programs," Grier stated.

Secretary Arnold Addresses Farmers Here Wednesday

(Continued from page two)

receipts of his first tobacco sales, the group virtually agreed. If a farmer plants an acre in excess of his allotment, he should be required to pay the approximately \$100 tax when he sells his first tobacco. In those cases where farmers connive to defeat the program by selling in the names of other farmers, the Farm Bureau called for detective work among individuals, the farm leaders pointing out that the farmer who complies with the program and sells tobacco for a non-participating grower should be made subject to the penalty as well as being made subject to prosecution in the federal courts.

Discussing briefly the peanut situation, Arnold went on to say that aid could be expected only if farmers adhere to their production allotments.

R. G. Arnold, national representative of the farm organization, and John Ford, county agent in Alabama, addressed the group, their talks touching on many subjects of interest to the group.

Services To Be Held At Everetts Church

Rev. J. M. Perry will preach at the Everetts Christian Church next Sunday morning at 11 o'clock and at 7:30 p. m. All members are urged to attend. The Sunday school is expected to reach a high mark, rain or shine. If the Finns can fight deep in snow, and the weather below zero, we can sit in church, listen to a Sunday school class lecture and a good fresh, new year spiritual, uplifting, inspirational, educational informational sermon.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

No Wrecks Reported In County During Last Snow

Motorists in this section drove with care and caution this week when snow and ice covered the roads. Not a single highway or street accident of any consequence was reported. A week ago at least five highway accidents were reported as a result of ice-covered highways in this county.

Discusses Situation Facing the Farmers

(Continued from page one)

and necessary to its chances of winning the war. I do not believe that the recent embargo act of Great Britain was intended as a blow at American tobacco farmers, but a war measure impelled by the necessity of conserving their financial resources necessary to buy war supplies under the cash and carry plan. It is a diplomatic affair and can be best handled through diplomatic channels. Secretary of State Hull, and the North Carolina delegation in Congress are doing everything possible in this connection.

"The British people have a strong preference for our tobacco, and when the war is over, and if England wins, I do not doubt that we will again sell our product to the English. If England should lose the war, it can be assumed that this market is forever lost.

"It is my belief that the Commodity Credit Corporation will again buy through this year's crop at a price level in line with last year's prices.

"The permanent remedy for our present over production of tobacco lies in the extension of foreign and domestic markets, in other words, a greater increase in consumption throughout the world. A reduction in the exorbitant tax now levied on tobacco would doubtless cause a tremendous jump in the domestic consumption of cigarettes. However, in view of the present federal financial structure, this can hardly be hoped for at this time. The other opportunity is to exploit other foreign markets, particularly South America, and to this end I have urged members of Congress to take the necessary steps to try to increase flue-cured tobacco sales in these other countries.

"The flue-cured tobacco situation for this year is not bright, but I believe that it is a temporary situation and not a permanent one. The live at home doctrine is an excellent one as an accessory to the production of cash crops, but after all the production of flue-cured tobacco in this section is an industry upon which our whole economic life is based, and the live at home idea is no answer to the problem facing us. We must have markets for tobacco in order to sustain our present level of life in this area."

Wildcat Veterans To Meet In Washington Next Week

Veterans of the historic 81st or Wildcat Division will meet in Washington next Thursday evening at 8 o'clock, it was announced today by James E. Cahall, National Adjutant of the Divisional Association.

North Carolina had 7,200 men in the combat division during the World's War, and every veteran is cordially invited to attend the meeting in the neighboring town.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

North Carolina, Martin County. In The Superior Court.
Cape Charles Brown vs. Ethel Blanch Slade Brown.

The defendant above named will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Martin County, North Carolina, to secure an absolute divorce, based upon over two years' separation, and for the custody of plaintiff's child, Charles Irving Brown; and the defendant will further take notice that she is required to appear before the Clerk of the Superior Court of Martin County within thirty (30) days and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This the 23rd day of January, 1940
L. BRUCE WYNNE,
Clerk Superior Court.
j26-4t

NOTICE OF SALE

Under and by virtue of the power and authority contained in that certain deed of trust executed by W. R. Hampton and wife to H. D. Bateman, trustee, dated August 7th, 1928, and recorded in the Register's Office of Martin County in Book B-3, page 1, to which reference is made, default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness thereby secured, upon demand of the holder of the same, the undersigned trustee will offer for sale, to the highest bidder for cash, at the Court House door in Martin County, at 1:15 o'clock P. M., on Monday, the 26th day of February, 1940, that part of the property described in said instrument lying in Martin County as follows:

That tract of land containing 25 acres adjoining the first tract aforesaid and described as follows: Beginning at a cypress at W. H. Hampton's corner, running south 31 degrees west 42 poles to a marked pine; thence, north 77 degrees west 100 poles to Warren Neck Creek; thence down said creek to Roanoke River; thence, down said river to the beginning, containing 25 acres and is

LEDGER SHEETS AND RECEIPT

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LET US REPLACE YOUR WORN zippers in leather coats, etc. Prices reasonable. Willard Shoe Shop. j26-4t

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WANTED — USED OFFICE DESK and chair. Must be reasonable. Billy Clark, care Clark's Drug Store, Williamston. d12-tf

FOR SALE: LONG SLAB WOOD IN small or large lots delivered or on mill yard at Jamesville Prices strikingly reasonable. Hardison and Carstarphen. d12-tf

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65% grain neutral spirits
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Reita Theatre—Washington

Sunday-Monday January 28-29
"INSPECTOR HORNLEIGH ON A HOLIDAY"
with Gordon Harker and Alastair Sim

Tuesday DOUBLE FEATURE January 30
Five Little Peppers and How They Grew; E. Fellows
"Legion of the Lawless," with George O'Brien

Wednesday-Thursday January 31-February 1
"BEWARE OF SPOOKS"
with Joe E. Brown and Mary Carlisle

Friday-Saturday February 2-3
"LEGION OF LOST FLYERS"
with Richard Arlen and Andy Devine

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Auction SALE OF LAND

I will sell at public auction on **January 31st**

At 11 A. M. at L. C. Nurney's Store, in Williams Township, 51 acres of land—44 acres good timberland and 7 acres cleared. This land is a part of the Buck L. Gardner estate in Williams Township, and must be sold for settlement. Terms of sale: Cash.

Walter Gardner
Executor.

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Octagon Soap—sm 10 for 23c
Octagon Powder—lg 6 for 25c
Octagon Powder—sm 10 for 23c
Octagon Toilet 6 for 25c
Octagon Cleanser 2 for 9c
Octagon Flakes 2 for 18c
Octagon Granulated 2 for 18c
Crystal White Soap 3 for 14c
Hollywood Beauty 3 for 14c

Lindsley Ice Co.