

SOIL CONSERVATION NOTES

H. F. KIZER
Soil Conservation Service
Farmers in the Lower Cape Fear Soil Conservation District are working together to save and improve their soil, District Supervisor James Bellamy said today.

"During the last 12 months 29 more farmers in Brunswick county began carrying out complete soil and water conservation programs," he explained.

Each of these men received help through the District in making a plan for the best use and treatment of each acre. Many of the practices have already been put on the land.

Since the organization of the District in 1944, complete farm plans have been prepared for 155 farms in Brunswick county. Since that time, according to the last progress report recently compiled, approximately one mile of terraces have been constructed on these farms, 62 thousand feet of drainage tile laid, and approximately 45 miles of canals and farm drainage ditches constructed. Cover crops have been planted on about 1,200 acres. Over 400 acres of improved permanent pastures have

been established mainly on land not suited to cultivated crops. Approximately 200 acres of the above was seeded during the year 1949. In carrying out these and other soil conservation practices, farmers have received technical assistance from the personnel of the Soil Conservation Service and other agricultural agencies.

More than 75 Brunswick county farmers now have their applications in for assistance. Farm plans will be made for them as fast as it is possible to do so.

Clyde Galloway, a young farmer of the Bolivia section, is starting the new year off right by making preparations for his 1950 pasture to be seeded this fall. A heavy growth of broom straw was cut in the land last fall and has laid over the winter. Ground limestone is now being spread at the rate of two tons or more per acre, and the land will be cut again to work the limestone into the land and to prepare a seed bed for a crop of annual lespedeza to be sown in February. The land will stand in lespedeza during the summer. Next fall the fertilizer will be applied, the land cut again, and

Strange Drain Makes Island

Water From Stanberry Bay Flows Into Two Separate Rivers, Qualifying The Surrounded Area As An Island

Few folks, if anybody, have ever come to recognize the fact that Lockwoods Folly township may have the largest island in the State of North Carolina. The dictionary defines an island as a tract of land entirely surrounded or isolated by water.

At a point in the fertile Stanberry Bay in Lockwoods Folly the elevation of the surface of the land is only six inches higher than it is at either end of the bay. Some years ago to drain the Stanberry Bay J. M. Roach and other enterprising farmers who owned the land decided to cut drainage canals completely.

Instead of sloping to any extent, the bottom of the canals were run almost on a level. After the canals were dug it was found that near the center of the bay water began to run westward through Ox Pen Swamp branch and thence into the Shallotte River.

At the same starting point water goes east and down through Stanberry Branch into Lockwoods Folly River.

Mr. Roach stated this week that if a person stood holding an umbrella over the center of things while it was raining, water that ran down one side of the umbrella would flow into the Shallotte River and that which ran down the other would go into Lockwoods Folly River. A still more interesting fact is that there is always water at the center of the bay, flowing both ways. This occurs even during dry weather.

Such things as water flowing towards two different rivers may occur elsewhere, usually on some mountain. But for this to happen in the middle of a day is distinctly unusual. The water flowing from Stanberry Bay into the Shallotte and Lockwoods Folly Rivers virtually makes an island out of several thousand acres of a thickly populated township. The two rivers in which the streams empty both flow into the intra-coastal waterway.

Mendel Norris; secretary of supply work; Mrs. Louis Murden; secretary of status of women; Mrs. Fredrick Hickman.

The society will meet each month on the second Tuesday evening at 7 o'clock. The first regular meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Lowell Bennett on February 14th.

County Credit Union Meeting

Negro Citizens Have Organized In Effort To Promote Business Practices Among Membership

The Brunswick County Union entertained more than three hundred farmers and friends at its first annual membership meeting at the Piney Grove School at Bolivia Friday night. Although the organization is only three months old, tremendous progress is being made and enthusiasm shown in its social, as well as financial activities.

Highlights of the evening included a barbecue dinner sponsored by the social committee, community group singing, choral group singing, readings, speeches by two leading community businessmen, a movie and demonstrations. The group was served free assorted drinks.

The organization is an outgrowth of the community work of J. A. Francis, local teacher of vocational agriculture, who has supervised the consolidation of all Negro farm organizations in the county into a single cooperative undertaking.

The objectives of the organization are: (1) To promote thrift among its members by providing a safe and convenient medium for the investment of the saving of its members; (2) To promote industry, eliminate usury and increase the purchasing power of the members by enabling them to borrow for productive or provident purpose at a reasonable cost; (3) To train members in the management of their economic resources, thus building up in the minds of farmers a profit con-

Practices Open To All Farmers

PMA Chairman S. L. Purvis Points Out Ways In Which Brunswick County Farmers Can Profit By Cooperation With Program

Farmers of Brunswick county have an opportunity in 1950 of making better use of the Agricultural Conservation Program than ever before, says S. L. Purvis, chairman of the county PMA committee.

With allotments on tobacco, cotton and peanuts and the need to shift production on some of the acreage in these crops, farmers have an opportunity to use the Agricultural Conservation Program in the seeding of grasses and Legumes. In this, cooperating farmers will not only be helping to bring production into balance, but they will be building reserves in the soil for future needs.

The seeding of grass and legumes is only a part of the job of most effective conservation. To obtain the maximum in stands and growth, the chairman points out, most soils require lime, phosphate and potash, and the agricultural conservation practices for the application of these materials are an important part of the current conservation effort.

A copy of the 1950 County Handbook has recently been mailed to every farm operator. ACP assistance for these practices is available to all farmers in Brunswick county.

All officers, members of the board of directors, committees and advisers are resident farmers of the community. The organization holds a legal certificate of cooperation and ample bond coverage on its secretary-treasurer. Membership at present is confined to citizens of Brunswick county. Application for membership may be filed with any member of the board of directors or member of the supervisory committee.

wick county, says the chairman. With these practices as tools in the effort to control erosion and build soil fertility, farmers of Brunswick county are in a position to make greater and more effective use of the program than ever before.

To help farmers use the program to best advantage, elected farmer committeemen are available in every farming community. The chairman urges all farmers to use these men in analyzing conservation problems and in helping to select practices to meet them.

Urging full use of the program to take advantage of the current conservation opportunity, the chairman says: "Because the conservation of our soil and water resources is of such vital importance to all the people of the country, the ACP has been provided as a means of getting the

job done through cooperation of the farmers and the people who depend on his land for a living. Farmers cooperating in the ACP must realize that 15 to 20 city people are helping them and are depending on the farmers to protect their heritage in the soil. The present period of adjustment offers a real opportunity for far-

mers to assure the Nation of their wholehearted effort to assure continued abundant production."

VISITING DAUGHTER

Mrs. S. F. Watts, is spending several weeks with her daughter, Mrs. Benjamin Hineman, in Staten Island, N. Y.

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STOCKHOLDERS MEETING

The annual meeting of the Shareholders of the Southport Building & Loan Association, will be held in the offices of the Association, Southport, N. C. on January 27th, 1950, at 7:30 P. M., for the election of a Board of nine Directors, to hear the reports of its Officers, and for such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Southport Building & Loan Association

J. E. Carr, Secretary - Treasurer
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Andrews Chapel W.S.C.S. Formed

Church Group Organized By Pastor And Officers Elected; First Meeting Scheduled For February

A Woman's Society of Christian Service has been organized at Andrews Chapel Methodist church of the Hickman's Crossroads community, Shallotte, by the pastor, Rev. James Carroll.

The election of officers was completed on January 17th. Officers of the newly organized society are as follows: President: Mrs. Leob Hickman; vice-president: Mrs. Lowell Bennett; secretary: Mrs. Amos Walton, secretary Christian social relations and local church activities: Mrs. Harold Hickman; secretary missionary education and service: Mrs. Mike Spivey; secretary of youth work: Mrs. Johnnie Bell Smith; secretary of spiritual life: Mrs. Leamon Hickman; secretary of literature and publication: Mrs.

the pasture seeded. A complete water and soil conservation plan for this farm was recently prepared by Soil Conservation Service technicians working with the Lower Cape Fear Soil Conservation District.

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