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## SOIL EROSION LOSS IS HEAVY

### Terracing Demonstrations To Be Given Friday And Saturday

BY F. S. SLOAN

Macon County Farm Demonstration  
Agent

Soil erosion is costing the farmers of Macon county more each year than any other one thing. It has been found at soil erosion experiment stations that on slopes of 7 to 8 per cent there is a loss of 108 tons of top soil per acre per year on bare land, 85 tons per acre on the same land when producing row crops such as corn, and approximately one-half ton when sowed to lespedeza or red clover. Such figures as these do not show the actual loss until an analysis is made of the soil that is washed off to show the amount of plant food it contained. This has been done by some states and it was found that in the 108 tons there was a loss equivalent to 3,400 pounds of 3-8-4 fertilizer per acre per year. Most farmers have not realized just what loss they were bearing because it has been generally figured that the land was here and even if some of it did wash away there was plenty more and that the worst thing that happened was the gullies that resulted from the heavy rains, but now they are finding that because of this loss the crop yields have continued to go lower and lower.

#### Control Methods

In controlling erosion several things are very effective but none of them is a complete cure-all. We know that broadcast crops such as lespedeza, red clover, grass, and other drilled crops such as wheat, rye, and oats are very effective in helping to hold the top soil on the hillsides but they will not complete the job. We also know that woodland or forest that is in pasture will not hold the water near as well as they would if they were not pastured and that when the leaves are burned off each year washes will occur and that this has been one big factor in preventing the control of water on cultivated fields just below the woods. Since none of the above practices will control erosion, it is necessary that we do other things in addition to these and terracing is the recommended practice.

#### Demonstrations

In order that the farmers of Macon county might have the opportunity of seeing how a broad terrace is constructed, two terracing demonstrations have been scheduled. One will be on the farm of A. B. Slagle on Cartoogechaye on Friday, April 26, and the other on the Lee Crawford farm just out of Franklin on Saturday, April 27. Coleman H. Dykes, agricultural engineer for T. V. A., will be here to help lay out the terraces and to explain and point out the important factors, and it will be very educational and interesting to farmers from all parts of the county. These terraces will be the broad terrace type and are to be cultivated just the same as other parts of the field and will not be just a water ditch across the field, as is often seen in the county.

These demonstrations are being made possible by the U. S. Forest service loaning the equipment for the two days, through the courtesy of J. H. Stone, supervisor, and Mr. Dunbar, who is in charge of construction work for the Nantahala forest.

These two demonstrations, in all probability, will be the only two that we will have in the county, so all farmers are urged to attend one of these demonstrations some time Friday or Saturday so that they might become acquainted and understand how these broad terraces are constructed and the results that can be expected from them.

## Vance Browning

### Career of 33rd District Senator Reviewed by Raleigh Paper

(Taken from The Raleigh News  
and Observer)

VANCE—Up in Cherokee, Clay, Graham and Swain counties it takes a fighter to win a political race and when a man comes down to Raleigh to represent the 33rd Senatorial district, it's a reasonably safe bet that in addition to his other qualifications, he's gone through a fight and won it.

The current 33rd district fighter is a 42-year-old Sunday school superintendent who has been in Swain county politics since back in the early twenties. Senator Vance A. Browning has a first name that is the second name of many North Carolinians and is one of the few men in the state with the name Vance not preceded by Zeb. He wasn't named after one of the state's idols, but its a good name all the same.

Down here he does his job as best he can, but if the folks back home disagree with him, he sticks to his guns anyway. That comes of being a fighter. Take his votes on the sales tax, for instance. That's a form of revenue raising that's not exactly popular up his way, but he believes it's necessary in its most virulent form, and he votes for it every time.

On another form of revenue raising that has been suggested, Vance Browning is going to please the folks back home. No believer in the quaffing of alcohol and coming from a district that is about five to one dry, he is going to vote against any suggestion of liquor legalization.

Senator Browning's first political office was attained in 1922, when he was elected register of deeds of his home county of Swain. He held the office until 1924 and two years later became clerk of the Superior Court of Swain county, an office held for eight years, until his election as Senator.

Born May 9, 1892, it is beginning to look like Senator Browning may get in the list of those members of the General Assembly who spent their birthdays in Raleigh. He is the son of C. R. and Kansas Calor Browning. He attended Oak Grove elementary school and Iotla and Cowee High Schools. No lawyer, he is an honorary member of the Twentieth District Bar Association. A Baptist deacon, he is active in church and Sunday school affairs and served two years as County Red Cross chairman. He married Miss Nannie Belle West in July, 1915.

## Juniors To Hold District Meeting Here

On Thursday, May 2, the spring meeting of District No. 1, Junior Order United American Mechanics, will be held at Franklin, with Cullasaja Council No. 158 as host.

There will be a business session at 3 p. m., at which time the district degree will be conferred on new members, and district officers will be elected for the ensuing year. At 7:30 p. m., a public meeting will be held, at which a class of children from the Lexington Home will render a program, under the direction of W. M. Shuford, superintendent.

Charles F. Tankersley, state counselor; Gurney P. Hood, state treasurer; Monroe Adams, state vice counselor, and other state officers are expected to attend.

## Plan Entertainment

The young people of the Cowee community are planning to put on a big entertainment the night of Friday, May 3, for the benefit of the Cowee baseball team. Beginning at 8 o'clock in the evening, a one-act play, "Taking the Census," musical program and box supper will be held in the Cowee school. The music will be furnished by a string band and a negro quartet. The public is invited.

## Work Started on Erection Of New Conservation Camp

Work was started this week on a new Civilian Conservation camp in Macon county, and almost simultaneously word was received from Washington that the number of CCC camps in North Carolina would be increased from 39 to 85 with the likelihood that most of the new camps will be in the western section.

The site of the New Macon county camp is at West's Mill. An advance squad from Camp F-19 in Horse Cove, near Highlands, began clearing the site this week preparatory to the erection of quarters. The group consisted of a leader, two cooks, a first aid man and 11 other enrollees.

Brigadier General George Van-Horn, army supervisor of CCC camps in district B, and Captain R. H. Haag, sub-district inspector, inspected the site Tuesday. The new camp will be known as Camp NC F-20.

Other camps in this county are NC F-9, Franklin; NC F-19, Highlands; and NC F-10, Aquone. These camps are now receiving new recruits to bring their enrollment to present capacity.

According to dispatches from Washington, the national CCC enrollment will be increased from 353,000 to 600,000, and the number of men on conservation work in North Carolina will be increased from 7,800 to 21,250. Enrollment of new men for the increased capacity is to begin June 15 and continue through August.

The enrollment age for junior CCC men has been changed from 18 to 25 years to 18 to 28 years and the time which they may remain in camp extended from 12 to 18 months.

Announcement is expected soon of the selection of other sites for new conservation camps in the Nantahala National Forest area.

## Farm Debt Adjustments

### Some Questions and Answers Prepared by The Farm Credit Administration

(EDITOR'S NOTE—Members of the Macon County Farm Debt Adjustment committee are Carl Slagle, chairman; C. F. Moody, Walter Gibson, H. W. Cobe and J. E. Lancaster. The committee has announced that it will meet on the first and third Fridays of each month in the offices of the Macon County Emergency Relief Administration. Debt-ridden farmers desiring to prevent loss of their property through foreclosure may obtain further information concerning means for adjusting their debts from this committee, which also can supply the necessary blanks for filing applications for adjustments.)

Many distressed farmers have asked the Farm Credit Administration to explain the Frazier-Lemke Act and the work of the farm-debt adjustment committees. The Farm Credit Administration is the agency of the government primarily concerned with refinancing farm debts and has prepared this circular with the intention of giving as much help as possible at this time. Although the answers to the questions have been prepared after careful consideration and study, the accuracy of the interpretations will depend upon future decisions by the Federal courts.

#### Questions and Answers

**Q. What is the Frazier-Lemke amendment?**

A. It is an amendment to the Federal Bankruptcy Act, providing relief for farmers who are insolvent or unable to meet their debts as they fall due.

**Q. Could a farmer go through bankruptcy and still keep his property under the Frazier-Lemke amendment?**

A. He could retain possession under the control of the bankruptcy court for as long as either 5 or 6 years, during which time he would have an opportunity to buy his farm back, provided he makes certain payments and meets the other requirements of the amendment.

**Q. Does a farmer actually have to go through bankruptcy in order to make use of the provisions of the amendment?**

A. Yes.

**Q. Then how does it differ from ordinary bankruptcy?**

A. Mainly in that the farmer is given an opportunity to buy his property back and may be left in possession of the property under control of the court for a certain length of time.

**Q. Since nobody wants to go through bankruptcy if it can be avoided, is there not some other way through which a hard-pressed farmer can get help?**

A. Yes. Forty-two states have farm-debt adjustment committees formed for the purpose of helping farmers readjust their debts.

**Q. What are these debt-adjustment committees?**

A. The governors of these states

have appointed state-wide voluntary committees which, in turn, have recommended to the governors, for appointment, the members of county farm-debt adjustment committees composed of public-spirited citizens who donate their time to advising farm debtors and creditors how to proceed in working out their debt difficulties, and helping them secure equitable adjustments of overburdening debts.

#### Q. Why should they do this?

A. Hundreds of thousands of farmers became involved in debt at times when prices of farm commodities were much higher than at present and they now find themselves unable to pay these debts. They are willing to pay as much as the land will support, but cannot pay more. A farmer overburdened by debt cannot conduct his farming operations successfully and cannot be a normal purchaser in the community. There are thousands of cases in which the farmer must either quit and try a new start or else readjust his debts. Otherwise he will struggle along hopelessly on a losing basis only to lose his farm eventually.

**Q. What legal status do these committees have?**

A. They have no legal power to enforce their recommendations. They only suggest equitable adjustments and endeavor to secure the cooperation of both debtors and creditors.

**Q. Are these debt adjustment committees serving without pay?**

A. Yes, for the most part, although in some instances a part of their expense is paid from State or Federal emergency relief funds. They are rendering a public service in helping to meet this emergency.

(To Be Continued)

## Dr. McCracken Postpones Visit to Franklin

On account of the date conflicting with the annual meeting of the North Carolina Medical society, Dr. J. R. McCracken, eye specialist of Waynesville, has announced that he will not make his regular visit to Franklin on the first Monday in May, but will be here on the first Monday in June.

## TAX REFUNDING BILL ENACTED

### Authorizes 5-Year Notes For Delinquent Taxes For 1927-31

Representative J. Frank Ray's bill to authorize the refunding of Macon county tax sales certificates and to postpone foreclosure proceedings for delinquent 1927-31 taxes was passed on final reading by the state senate last Friday. It previously had been passed by the house.

Under terms of the bill, the county is authorized to accept anytime before April 1, 1936, five-year notes for the face amount of unpaid taxes for the years 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930 and 1931. The county commissioners are authorized to institute foreclosure proceedings for delinquent taxes for these years anytime before October 1, 1936.

#### Discount Provided

For those who wish to pay their taxes in cash for the years 1927-31, or who redeem tax notes before maturity, the bill provides a 10 per cent discount.

Representative Ray has introduced two other bills relating to Macon county taxes, both of which, according to last reports from Raleigh, were in the hands of a senate committee. One of these measures would authorize postponement of foreclosure actions for the collection of delinquent 1932 taxes to October 1, 1935. The other would direct the county commissioners in 1935 and 1936 to levy only such taxes for debt service and other purposes as the taxpayers can pay and retain their homes, not exceeding \$1 on the \$100 valuation. The commissioners, under this measure, would also be authorized to adjust the bonded debt of the county with bondholders and negotiate refinancing of the county debt. After 1936 the commissioners would decide annually whether an emergency still existed and would have authority to levy taxes accordingly, their findings being subject to a review by the courts. This measure, according to information received here, is opposed by the state local government commission on the ground that it might hamper efforts of the commission to assist the county in negotiating debt settlements.

#### Other Bills Pending

On April 10 Representative Ray obtained passage by the house of a bill he had introduced providing for an increase in jurors fees in Macon county to \$2.50 a day and five cents per mile for one round trip between residence and courthouse. The measure was sent to the senate, where it was referred to a committee.

A bill to except Macon county from the absentee voter's law was introduced in the house by Mr. Ray on April 16 and referred to the committee on elections and election laws.

## 5 Franklin Scouts Leave for Chapel Hill

Five Franklin Scouts, accompanied by Jim Hauser, assistant scoutmaster, left early Thursday morning for Chapel Hill to take part in the Dogwood Festival. About 1,500 boys from all parts of North Carolina are expected to attend and participate in the festival activities. The Franklin boys will have an active part in demonstrations of signalling, first aid work, compass work, tracking, fire-fighting, axmanship, fire building and also will be in a gigantic pageant to be held Saturday night.

Members of the Franklin troop going to Chapel Hill were Bobby Brown, Bobby Porter, Verco Watkins and Harry Higgins. The boys will camp on the university campus. They plan to return to Franklin after attending divine services Sunday morning.