

Soil Conservation Work

(Continued from Page 1)
programs and regulations for the discontinuance of land use practices contributing to soil wastage and soil erosion, and the adoption and carrying out of soil-conserving land-use practices . . .

Farmers and farm leaders recognized the Soil Conservation District Law as an implement for the job needing to be done. Under the leadership in Orange County of Henry Hogan, A. E. Wilson, Clyde Roberts, Don Matheson, J. N. Howard, Elmer Dowdy, and others, farmers and leaders of Orange, Wake, and Durham counties got together.

Petitions for a referendum to learn whether the farmers in the three counties wanted to organize a soil conservation district were submitted to the Secretary of State. After that followed hearings throughout the various communities of the three counties.

On February 18, 1939, a referendum was held. The ratio in Orange

County was 25 to 1 in favor of organizing a district, and the vote in the other two counties was similar in proportion.

First Organization

Organization was begun, and committees got busy preparing a program of work. A charter was granted by the Secretary of State, and on August 9, 1939, the Neuse River Soil Conservation District began operation. Henry Hogan, and A. E. Wilson were elected District Supervisors from Orange County.

W. C. George of White Cross, Clyde Hogan of Calvander, and J. E. Latta of the Schley community led off in working out complete soil and water conservation systems for their farms.

Later, in June of 1940, farmers of Wilson and Johnson counties petitioned to join the District, and the District was expanded to include them, making five counties in all.

In its purpose of carrying out complete soil conservation on the

land within its boundaries, the Neuse River Soil Conservation District has had much help. The Extension Service, the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, the Farmers Home Administration, the Forest Service, the Wildlife Resources Commission, and other county, state, and federal agencies have helped the district go far toward the preservation and more profitable use of its land resources. The U. S. Soil Conservation Service established a work unit in each of the counties in the district, and assigned members to help with the technical work of safeguarding and using to the best long-term advantage the land of the district.

Contractors, banks, newspapers, churches, civic clubs, schools, farm machinery dealers, and other business and professional men give their time and effort to promote the district's goal of better living by a better use of the land resources.

Banks and other business organizations contribute to the district by affiliate memberships.

1,504 Farms

But the measure of the district is on the land of which it is comprised. That measure can be taken in Orange County on the 1,504 farms which have signed agreements with their district to use their land within its capabilities and to apply the conservation practices needed and planned on their farms.

The measure can be taken by the patterns of contour farming fitting around slopes; by crop rotations that provide the cover needed by the various capability classes of the land; and by the better crops produced when long slopes are insured by lands of close-growing crops alternated with row crops.

It can be measured by tobacco rows laid on the contour by the string row method for better use of rainfall as well as better drainage . . . where available topsoil is held over the sterile subsoil underneath, and by rotations with fescue that combine increased organic matter with nematode and disease control.

The measure of the district can be taken by the sloping land now in pasture or permanent hay sod, now safe from the erosion scars that used to follow plowing.

Terraces curve around the slopes of most of the cropland in the county, helping hold, until it can soak in, water that would otherwise be lost. On many farms the excess is released into a natural drainage way made safe by a carpet of clover and grass.

New methods of doing old jobs add to the productiveness of many district farms—such as land preparation with disks so that more crop residue is left on the surface to form a water-absorbing and soil-protecting mulch.

Timber Crops

Woodland, composing nearly 60 percent of the farm land in Orange County, yields timber crops regularly on a sustained yield basis on many Orange farms. Many other acres of woods have been improved by thinning and protection

County Court Record

The following cases were heard in Hillsboro Recorder's Court Monday:

James Guy Huskins, driving under influence, \$100 and costs, four months, suspended for 12 months; Ruddy Medlin, public drunk and illegal possession, \$15 and costs; William Theodore Talbert, reckless driving, \$25 and costs; Thie Fuller, assault on female, prayer for judgment continued for 12 months, \$15 and costs;

James Stewart, illegal possession for sale, \$25 and costs, three months, suspended for two years; Tommy Merritt, larceny, prayer for judgment continued for three years, \$25 and costs; Ronald Jerome Hornbuckle, speeding, \$25 and costs, two months, suspended for nine months; Otto Newbery, drunk and disorderly conduct, \$5 and costs; Billy Collins, public drunk, 30 days to the reeds;

Willie Dempsey Wynn, driving under influence, second offense, \$100 and costs, three months, suspended for 12 months, notice of appeal given, bond set at \$200; Swain Tyson Allen, assault with deadly weapon, continued to August 17; Charles Milton Cook, speeding, called and failed;

Kelly Juniors Akins, no insurance, \$10 and costs; David Brooks, engaging in affray, \$15 and costs; John Henry Thompson, engaging in affray, \$5 and costs; Thomas Nelson Yancey, continued to August 17; Girt Wright, assault, called and failed, capias to Orange; Brodie Patterson, speeding, called and failed, capias to Durham County;

from fire and grazing.

Wildlife had a better chance with wildlife areas producing food available during late winter when other food is scarce. Farm ponds make use of many a former swampy, idle bit of land by producing fish, and by providing water for irrigation and livestock as well as swimming, boating, and picnic facilities that make the farms a better place to live.

Frequently, groups of farmers have seen erosion, or flooding, affects them jointly, and have worked together on their land problems. As water recognizes no farm boundaries, water disposal systems of terraces and meadow waterways often serve two or more farms.

There is much yet to be done. On many farms more adjustment is needed to make the best of the natural capabilities of the land, and further treatment is needed on other land to make it more productive.

The district makes available to all cooperators a land capability map, showing depths of soil, texture, permeabilities, slope, erosion, and other applicable conditions, on each part of their farms. Application for district assistance may be made at the local work unit office of the Soil Conservation Service in the Agriculture Building in Hillsboro, or to one of the local Supervisors, Henry Hogan, Charles Stanford, or Reid Roberts.

Claude Harton, improper equipment and improper registration, nol pros; Blandella Bailey, public drunk, capias to Orange County; Archie King Fuller, improper equipment, capias to Alamance County; Leck Coleman Jr., speeding, called and failed, capias to Onslow County; John (like) Pugh, assault, nol pros; George Andrew Jones, speeding, called and failed, capias to Durham County; Lynn Hayes Woods, improper equipment and no operator's license, capias to Person County;

William Harold Davis, speeding, \$15 and costs; Albert Fuller Holliday, speeding, \$14 and costs; Clarence Blaine, fail to display license plates, costs; William Edward Beck, speeding, \$5 and costs; McGee Wilson, improper equipment, costs; Albert Luther, worthless check, amount of check and costs; Karr Winslow Farrell, speeding, \$15 and costs; James Marvin Woods, reckless driving, \$50 and costs;

Jack Bailey Ross, no operator's license, \$25 and costs; Melba McHone Boyd, speeding, \$13 and costs; Grace Ward Gay, speeding, \$11 and costs; Harold John Norris, speeding, \$10 and costs; Roy Richmond Weaver Jr., speeding, \$15 and costs; Elbert Gildwell Cain, speeding, \$10 and costs; Roy Richmond Weaver Jr., speeding, \$15 and costs; John D. Linkhouse, speeding, \$15 and costs; John D. Lyman, speeding, \$10 and costs; Lonnie McAduo, pub-

lic drunk, \$5 and costs; J. W. Edkins, public drunk, \$5 and costs; Thomas McAdams Holmes, stop sign, \$10 and costs; Grady Lee Sesson, speeding, \$10 and costs; Jesse Gray Key, speeding, \$15 and costs; William George Phillipot, speeding, \$15 and costs; Arthur William Davis, speeding, \$10 and costs; Marvin Matthew Hunter, speeding, \$30 and costs; James Lawrence Trank, stop sign, \$10 and costs; Thomas W. Watkins, worth less check, amount of check and costs; Thomas W. Watkins, worthless check, amount of check and costs; Sara Brown Ward, speeding, \$9 and costs;

Eclon Patterson Hayes Sr., speeding, \$10 and costs; Otis Ceasar Banner, speeding, \$10 and costs; Oliver Fletcher Folds, speeding, \$10 and costs; Benjamin Franklin Wardlow, speeding, \$15 and costs; James Harvey Graham Jr., speeding, \$10 and costs; Sol Eisenband, speeding, \$15 and costs; William Henry Wright, speeding, \$15 and costs;

Vernon Avery Hodges, speeding, \$14 and costs; Calvin Curtis Terrell, speeding, \$10 and costs; James Lawrence Brother, speeding, \$15 and costs; Stephen Carwell Forrest III, speeding, \$15 and costs; Hansel Eugene Hauser, speeding, \$9 and costs; Lester Franklin Stevens, speeding, \$10 and costs; Rufus Alin Poteat, improper equipment, costs;

Carlton Lee Eccles, speeding, \$15 and costs; Robert Lee Younger, speeding, \$10 and costs; William Alonza Wright, improper equipment,

costs; Fletcher Matthew Dixon, failing to grant right of way, \$10 and costs; Everett Brack Powell, speeding, \$12 and costs; Huskins, public drunk, costs.

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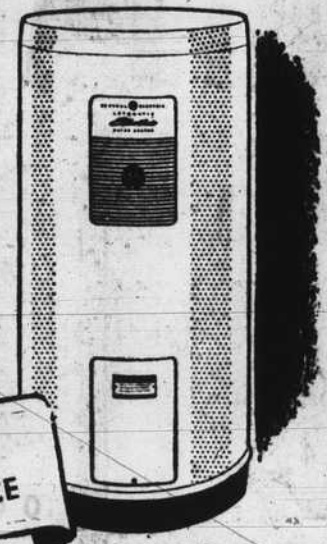
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