

## State College Specialist Urges More Planning in Diverting Farmland to Non-Agricultural Uses

Within a few decades will North Carolina's best farmland be covered with cotton or concrete, houses or Herefords?

These are questions that Frank Doggett, extension soil conservation specialist at N. C. State College, would like to see more North Carolinians thinking about.

By considering the problems of what he calls the "urbanization of productive farmland" now, Doggett believes that North Carolina can avoid some of the mistakes in land use made by other states.

"We'll still be a basically agricultural state," Doggett says. "But our time for planning is running out."

Doggett, as most North Carolinians, likes to see new factories, highways, golf courses, airports, and housing developments going up. And he is convinced that North Carolina has plenty room for them, as well as for agriculture.

But he is concerned about urban developments on choice agricultural land while less valuable land around them remains undeveloped.

Superhighways require 60 to 70 acres of land per mile. This is equal to the acreage found in an average North Carolina farm.

Nationally, about 1,000,000 acres of productive farmland are being diverted each year to nonagricultural uses. In the past 15 years, the Atlantic Seaboard states from Virginia to Maine have lost from 10 to 25 per cent of their cultivable land to city developments.

Usually, it is the good, durable farmland that makes the best building sites. Level farmland involves lower construction costs, less troublesome drainage and water disposal problems, easier highway grades, or room for long airport runways.

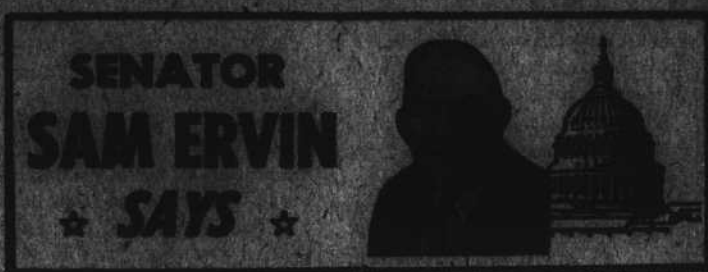
While productive farmland is being put to other uses, the population of North Carolina and the United States continues to climb rapidly.

"Each 30 days enough people are added to the United States to populate a city the size of Raleigh, Asheville, Greenville, Lumberton, and Rocky Mount combined," Doggett said.

"By 1966 or 1967, the population of North Carolina is expected to reach 5,000,000. In 1800, the population of the entire United States was only 5,300,000.

In order to help assure that this growing population can be adequately fed, along with having their other land use requirements met, Doggett pointed out that the Soil Conservation Service is preparing soil-use maps.

Some cities and counties are employing a soil scientist to assist their planning boards and commissions. In many places the problem



I have given much study to the proposal incorporated in H. R. 10650 that withholding taxes be imposed upon dividends and interest. I have reached the deliberate conclusion that such taxes would impose intolerable record-keeping burdens upon both the government and private financial institutions, and grave hardships upon taxpayers dependent for their livelihood upon income from these sources. Consequently, I shall vote to eliminate this proposal from the pending amendments to the Internal Revenue Code.

### Legislation

Considering the number of major legislative proposals that have confronted the 87th Congress, in my judgment this has been the hardest working Congress in which I have served since I came to the Senate.

The Congressional Record on May 1 gave a review of Congress-

of non-farm use of farmland is being attacked by a committee composed of representatives of agriculture, industry, city and county government.

sional activity for this session. It reported as of that date that 3,900 Congressional measures had been introduced, that 313 measures had been reported to the Senate, that 248 measures had passed the Senate, and that 79 private bills and 45 public bills had been enacted into law.

This hardly tells the story of Congress in action, however. For months now Congressional committees have been working long hours on the Farm Bill, the Tax Revision Bill, the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, and the proposed Foreign Assistance Act of 1962. As these are "marked up" for consideration by the two houses, Congressional activity will begin to move at a fast and furious pace.

### N. C. Social Security

Secretary Ribicoff of the Health, Education, and Welfare Department informed me on April 28th that North Carolina had 366,961 people who received old-age, survivors, and disability insurance monthly benefits as of the end of December 1961.

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TRANCE—Dorothy Mead contemplates the work of a fellow artist in a London, England, gallery. Work is titled "Reclining Figure" and is done in painted plaster.

For the calendar year 1961 North Carolinians received more than \$229 million as a result of these benefits. December 1961 payments alone totaled more than \$19 million.

N. C. Reserve Units  
Eleven North Carolina Reserve Army units which were called into

active service during the Berlin Crisis will be released during the month of August, according to information from the Department of Defense. These units have home stations in Wilmington, Morehead City, Fayetteville, Durham, High Point, Winston-Salem, Salisbury, Albemarle, and Charlotte.

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