

Soil Erosion Taking Heavy Toll On Cleveland Farms, Says Expert; Recommends Planting Of Trees

Extension Forester Tells Results Of Survey Here

Cleveland Has 6,000 Acres of Idle Land, all Losing Value Through Erosion.

(By R. W. Graeber, Extension Forester, N. C. State College.)

In an interview with The Cleveland Star on May 16, I made the statement "Cleveland county has 6,000 acres of idle farm land, not only are these lands idle, but they are losing their fertility and value through erosion." This statement applies largely to the so-called cropland which the farmer admits is too poor to cultivate. To this we can add another 5,000 to 8,000 acres of gullies which farmers cease to call land, but serve only as a connecting link to hold the world together. But judging from what I saw on my recent visit to Cleveland, I am ready to believe that this figure is breaking.

Visited 57 Farms.

In two days County Agent R. W. Shoffner and I visited fifty-seven farms in eight townships and found idle land and gullies on each, averaging more than 10 acres per farm, varying from 2 to 100 acres, and, on many acres yet in cultivation the top soil gone and farmers doing "bankrupt farming on bankrupt land." We found conditions especially bad in township No. 4 with Nos. 3, 5 and 7 not far behind. In several places we saw gullies so large that all buildings on a farm could be placed in them. One such gully near a home had been fenced to keep the children from falling in. Another will soon endanger a highway. One farmer said, "Just a few years ago I could jump across that gully, but see it now."

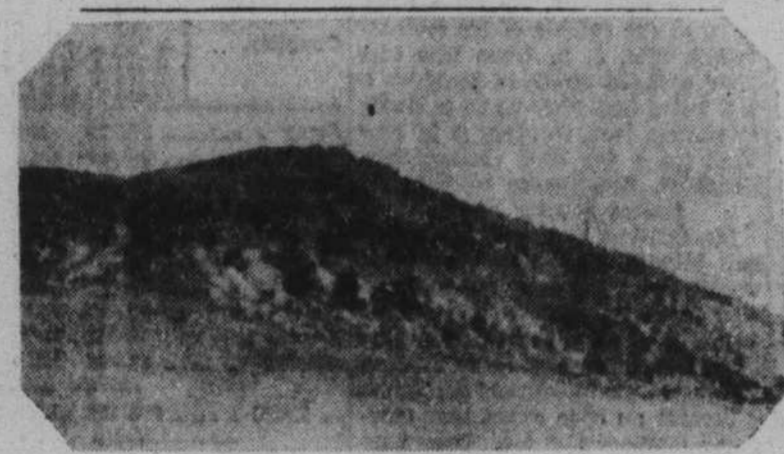
Some land is too steep for practical agriculture. Certain soil types are almost impervious to water and can't absorb heavy rains, and others especially the coarse sand types have no binding material. All of these conditions are found on Cleveland farms, and lend themselves to both sheet washing and gully erosion. Number 1, of the accompanying pictures shows a condition such as found on many Cleveland farms.

EROSION DESTROYS WORTH



Silt deposit in pond at Piedmont Carolina cotton mill. A 20-foot dam, with sediment coming to within 18 inches of the top. This investment was made worthless by erosion on farms on the upper watershed.

WASTEFUL OPEN SPACES



Hill land too steep for cultivation, eroding and abandoned. No seed trees are near. Practical reclamation requires planting trees in all open spaces.

HOW TO STOP EROSION



Shortleaf Pine plantation, four years after planting, on poor red clay soil. A good method for stopping erosion and reclaiming land.

grass. It would be an inspiration and will pay any Cleveland land owner to visit the pine plantings at the Piedmont experiment station near Statesville, and the 20 acre pine planting at R. L. Stowe's farm near Belmont, Gaston county. Here Mr. Stowe is experimenting with four or five different kinds of pines. Outstanding results are being had with loblolly, longleaf and white pines. The last two are not yet ready to recommend generally for Cleveland county, but on certain sites will probably do well. We do advise the planting of the native shortleaf and loblolly.

Grow 'Em While You Wait.

Some folks are going to say, "Oh, I haven't got time to wait, trees are too slow." Better take the advice of one North Carolina farmer who said to his neighbor, "Why not grow some trees while you wait John—you are going to wait anyway." At the Stowe farm mentioned above you will find 7 year old pines 18 to 20 feet high and 5 inches in diameter at breast height. Then too, Jacob Tickle, an Alamance county farmer, started planting pines on a fourteen acre field of gullies in 1888 and today these gullies are supporting a growth of timber worth at least \$75,000 per acre. And even as early as 1918 Mr. Tickle cut lumber from some of these planted trees to build a granary and other farm buildings. I might say in passing that Mr. Tickle was 25 years old when this planting was started, and he is yet actively engaged in farming.

We are planning a special campaign for forest planting in Cleveland county. Several meetings will be held and a motorcade of interested landowners will be conducted to forest plantings in nearby counties. Information in detail on kinds of trees to plant, where they can be secured, when and how to plant will be furnished to all interested landowners. If you have idle land and erosion problems, a request to this office or to County Agent R. W. Shoffner will give you an opportunity of helping you solve such problems.

Approximately \$50,000 in tobacco rental and parity payments are scheduled for Bertie county growers. More than \$35,000 of the amount has been paid already.

Rehobeth, Sandy Plains News Items

Juanita Jones Ill; Suffers Attack Of Appendicitis; Announce Birth Of Daughter.

(Special to The Star)
REHOBETH - SANDY PLAINS June 2.—Little Miss Juanita Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Theron Jones has been ill for the past few days but is improving.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Clark moved from this community to Asheville Monday.

The small child of Mr. and Mrs. Odus Pearcey has been very sick for the past several days.

Mr. and Mrs. Nestor McBrayer and Mr. and Mrs. James McBrayer and son, Jimmie, of Boiling Springs visited Mr. and Mrs. Miriam Walker Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. R. C. Covington and Mr. and Mrs. Grover McSwain of Double Springs spent Sunday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. D. P. Grigg.

Herman Petty has been suffering very badly with a fever on his finger but is much improved.

Mr. and Mrs. Loren Jones of Lattimore spent Monday night with Mr. and Mrs. Theron Jones.

Mr. and Mrs. Boyce Holland attended the funeral of the latter's grandmother, Mrs. Nancy Mode of Shelby Monday afternoon at the Oak Grove church.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Wright and Mr. and Mrs. Osborne Lee of Double Springs visited Mr. and Mrs. Fred Grigg Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Greene announce the birth of a daughter, May 28.

Clude Biggerstaff of Oak Grove spent Wednesday night and Thursday with Mrs. Lizale Doty and daughter, Zephyr.

Mrs. John D. Grayson is very sick at her home with an attack of appendicitis.

W. L. McGahey, Beaufort county agent, reports that tobacco farmers in his territory are not very enthusiastic about increasing their production the 10 per cent allowed on their contracts. They had much rather have the full amount of the benefit payments, he explained.

Bride-Elect Is Honored At Party In Kings Mountain

Miss Isabel McGill Inspiration Of Two Parties; Other Events Of Interest.

(Special to The Star)

KINGS MOUNTAIN, June 3.—Miss Isabel McGill, bride-elect of June, was the inspiration of two lovely affairs during the past week.

On Friday afternoon Miss McGill was honored at a lovely tea given at the Woman's club by Mesdames W. T. Weir, E. W. Neal and Carl Davidson. Sharing honors with Miss McGill was Miss Louise Long of Gastonia whose marriage to Leroy McGill of Kings Mountain and Gastonia is of cordial interest in this section.

Those assisting in receiving and entertaining were: Mrs. Hunter Neisler, Mrs. John McGill, Mrs. Ruby Kennedy of Gastonia, Miss Elizabeth McGill, Mrs. Frank Thompson, Mrs. A. H. Patterson, Mrs. George Houser, Mrs. J. L. Suttle, Jr., Mrs. A. J. Secrest, Mrs. Robert Osborne, Mrs. Chas. Proctor, Mrs. Ladd Hamrick, Mrs. Bryon Keeter, Mrs. W. K. Crook, Miss Fannie Carpenter, Mrs. F. E. Finger, Mrs. Claud Grigg, Mrs. Clarence Carpenter, Mrs. P. D. Herndon, Mrs. Douglas Bryant, Miss Margaret Neisler, Mrs. Joe Rutledge, of Dallas, Misses Eva Plonk, Delores McDaniel, Grace Fortune, Julia Catherine Mauney, Mrs. J. M. McGinnis, Mrs. Hayne Blackmer, Mrs. E. A. Smith, Mrs. J. E. Herndon, Mrs. Percy Dilling and Miss Ruth McGinnis.

Mrs. John McGill entertained Miss Isabel McGill and her bridal party at a lovely bridge party and kitchen shower at her home on Gold street past week. Each guest was presented with a dainty nosegay to which was attached a tally. Contract was enjoyed during the afternoon after which Miss McGill was presented a shower of lovely gifts for the kitchen. The hostess assisted by Misses Dorothy Kiser, Delores McDaniel and Ava Ware served a delicious ice course. Sharing honors with Miss McGill was Miss Louise Long bride-elect of May who was presented a lovely Madeira bridge cloth.

W. M. S. Meets.

The members of the Woman's Missionary Society of the First Presbyterian church celebrated their annual May Auxiliary birthday with a party at the Woman's club on Wednesday evening.

Two playlets were given showing a closeup of a Home Mission Home and the pressing needs of the Home Mission field. Those taking part were Mesdames Paul Mauney, O. W. Myers, Carl Davidson, E. A. Harrill, Misses Carlyle Ware, Jane Wilson, Francis Goforth, Elizabeth Plonk, Sara Harrill and Messrs. Jack Ormand, Hank Wilson and Bill Wilson. Mrs. Paul Neisler concluded the program with a lovely vocal solo accompanied by Miss Margaret Neisler at the piano and Messrs. Nick and Ned Moss, violinists.

On last Friday afternoon the United Daughters of the Confederacy were delightfully entertained at the home of Mrs. Andrew McGill with Mrs. L. F. Neal and Miss Jennie Jackson as co-hostesses. Mrs. Pride Ratterree had charge of a most interesting program.

Auxiliary Holds Meet.
The local unit of the American Legion Auxiliary held a most interesting meeting on Tuesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Pride Ratterree. The meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. Paul Mauney after which the salute to the flag was given. A program on Memorial day was given. Mrs. Mauney reported that the annual poppy-day was highly successful and that \$30 was cleared from the sale of the little red flowers.

B. F. Ormand, Jr. spent Friday night at home. B. F. is a member of the graduating class at Davidson college, the finals to be held June 3-5. Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Ormand will attend the graduating exercises.

Mesdames George Houser, J. L. Suttle, Jr., Misses Mildred Moss, Sara Kate Ormand and Helen Hay spent the week-end in Washington, D. C.

Mrs. B. J. King has returned to Kings Mountain after a ten-days visit to Thurmont, Md., where Mr. King is conducting a subscription campaign for the local newspaper of Thurmont.

Mrs. B. F. Ormand spent last week in Charlotte as the guest of her sister, Mrs. F. H. Ramsey of West Trade street. While in Charlotte Mrs. Ormand attended the Memorial day exercises held on Sunday at the Carolina theatre.

Two excursion boats valued at \$200,000, were burned and sank off Quincy Point, Mass., Sunday. Watchmen on the vessels jumped to safety.

The Homestake mine at Lead, S. D. is the largest producing gold mine in the United States.

Carolina Teachers Are Worried Over Realtors' Sales Tax Stand

(By M. R. DUNNAGAN.)

RALEIGH, June 2.—Teachers are beginning to look askance at efforts of the realtors of the state who are favoring the retention of the general sales tax and opposing the return of the state-wide ad valorem tax on real estate, and are asking if such efforts are as altruistic as they appear on the surface.

Recently the North Carolina association of Real estate boards has carried in some newspapers and sent out in folder form a page advertisement in which was quoted excerpts from editorials published in 20-odd North Carolina newspapers to show that these papers are not so strongly opposed to the sales tax. The object was to help popularize the sales tax by showing relief in property tax, and to counteract opposition by the N. C. Merchants association and the N. C. fair tax association, which groups seek to have the sales tax repealed.

Position is Not Clear.

Some of the teachers, at least, have begun to ask whether the realtors are against ad valorem tax on a statewide basis only, or school unit basis. If on a statewide basis, well and good; if for county and city school units also, then not so good, since teachers would favor a supplemental tax levied on real estate to increase salaries or extend terms, as the law provides.

If the realtors oppose these local levies, then that is another thing still. The teachers will follow the realtors on the state-wide property tax matter, but when it comes to local or county units, then it is expected that they will part company.

The efforts of the realtors will doubtless lose some of its effect unless the point is cleared up, for there are many citizens, as well as teachers, who would doubtless, under present conditions, vote for local supplemental school taxes.

Taking note of the page of editorial excerpts, Willard L. Dowell, secretary of the state merchants group, has wired all of the papers from which excerpts were taken, asking them to answer collect two questions: "Do you support the purpose of certain sales tax advocates to increase the sales tax at the next legislature?" and "do you favor making the sales tax a permanent state tax revenue measure?"

This, of course, puts the newspapers "on the spot." The editorials were in few instances advocating the sales tax, but were largely suggesting that it be given a chance, that it was the best that could be

Aided by Navy



Stricken with appendicitis on his honeymoon voyage, two U. S. Navy planes bearing a surgeon and supplies were ordered to make a 1,000-mile dash from Panama to Galapagos Islands in the Pacific (as shown on map) to aid William Robinson, American engineer, in response to radio appeal of his bride the former Florence Crane, Chicago heiress.

done at the time, and that it saved the state's credit and supports in part the eight months term of school.

But the newspapers, in large measure, must depend upon advertising from local merchants for their support, and the Dowell telegram puts many of them in a tough spot, as a definite answer is demanded.

ADMINISTRATRIX NOTICE

Having qualified as administratrix of the estate of C. F. Hambright, late of Cleveland county, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the said estate to present them to me properly proven on or before the 27th day of April, 1935, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of any recovery thereof. All persons owing the said estate will please make immediate settlement to the undersigned. This April 27th, 1934.
MRS. NANCY B. HAMBRIGHT, Administratrix, C. F. Hambright, Greenville, N. C. 4 Apr 30th

What Is Smarter Or Cooler For Summer
Than A White Linen Suit? It launders well. It comes in two piece models, both double and single breasted styles. All linen for—
\$2.95
Sizes 14 to 20.
The Stamey Co.
FALLSTON POLKVILLE

JUST OPENED!! CITY SERVICE STATION
CORNER LaFAYETTE AND WEST SUMTER STS.
Thurman H. Smith, well-known and experienced auto repairman, is now operating the one-stop service station next door to Whiteway Cleaners. A well-equipped garage, in charge of Dennis Turner, is also being maintained.
-- SINCLAIR PRODUCTS --
TRY US—WE KNOW WE CAN PLEASE
City Service Station
PHONE 149 W. SUMTER-S. LaFAYETTE STS.

THE STAR EVERY OTHER DAY \$2.50 PER YEAR

Out of the GROUND . . . and BACK to the ground
Nature Provides Only One NITRATE FERTILIZER
CHILEAN Natural Nitrate is the only nitrogen that comes from the ground. It is the only natural nitrate—the only nitrate with Nature's blending of vital rare elements or "impurities" so essential to good crops. Quick-acting—safe—dependable. Chilean Natural Nitrate is the perfect side-dresser, proved by over a century of use.
There are two kinds of Chilean—Champion Brand (granulated) and Old Style. Both are the genuine original soda—the natural material. You are perfectly safe with either one. But make sure you get what you want when ordering from your dealer. It's just as easy to get what you want instead of—something else. Simply tell him—"Champion Chilean" or "Old Style Chilean", and you'll be safe.
Chilean NATURAL NITRATE
THE ONLY NITROGEN THAT COMES FROM THE GROUND