Farms in America Are Washing Away

Over 100,000 Acres of Farm Land Made Poor During 1932

Crops and their prices, the devastation wrought by drought, etc., engross readers of agricultural items, yet we rarely hear of the most destructive force in the great farm areas and that is the fact that the farms themselves are often slipping away.

Washed down by water and even blown off by winds, the fertile soil is being stript, leaving the infertile subsoil, not good for cultivation.

A national survey in the United States of these conditions has just begun.

Says H. H. Bennett, writing of them in the New York Times:

"In America last year 3,000,000,000 tons of soil washed out of fields and overgrazed pastures. Fully 100,000 acres of farm land were made hopelessly poor. Under normal price conditions this would have cost our farmers $400,000,000.

"Our original wealth in soil has served to prevent any general realization that all land is not permanently fixed. Unrestrained soil erosion is rapidly building a new empire of wornout land in America—land stript of its rich surface layer down to poor subsoil, and land gullied beyond the possibility of practical reclamation. This wastage of the nation's basic asset is speeding up.

"Three-fourths of the agricultural area of the nation is sloping enough to invite ruinous cutting away. Already more than 100,000 acres of the 350,000,000 in cultivation have lost all or most of the original top-soil.

"Bedrock has been reached in countless places and deep gullies have torn asunder millions of sloping acres. All this has been abandoned; yet, all of it could have been saved.

"Probably no other nation or race has permitted such rapid depletion of large areas of its agricultural lands.

"We have looked upon our vast domain of agricultural land as limitless and capable of enduring forever. What are the menacing aspects of this evil erosion?

"The area of the more favorable soils is steadily diminishing. Acreage yields are declining.

"Cultivation is more difficult and costly. Water flows across the impervious clay exposed by the stripping of the mellow, absorptive topsoil more rapidly to augment floods.

"Stream channels are silting up and overflows are becoming more frequent and destructive. Vast areas of extraordinary original productivity are being covered with infertile sand and gravel."

Our best estimates, Mr. Bennett tells us, indicate that erosion steals twenty-one times as much plant food as the crops take off the land. And it is by no means restricted to the action of rain-water. In the drier parts of the country erosion by wind is frequently even more destructive. He goes on:

"Thousands of fields have been stript of the productive surface layer, great holes have been dug and numerous areas have been deeply buried with the wind-driven material.

"In some localities farm machinery left in the open has been completely buried with this drifting soil. Recently wind-driven dust from the West laid down over the black soils of Iowa enough red material, derived from the distant Red Plains of Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas, to give a distinct red color to the soil.

"At the new experiment stations every promising practical method for slowing down erosion is to be tried out on a field scale. Terracing, strip-cropping, scarification of the land, and other methods are being tested, first on small plots and then in large fields.

"The cheapest methods of reclaiming erosion-worn land are being determined, with the cost. Conservation of the remaining soil, however, is to be the prime endeavor of the program, rather than reclamation of depleted land. Various methods of gully control are being tested, using living dams of grass, trees, shrubs, and vines, rock dams and dams made of poles, brush and other cheap materials. Every effective experiment will necessarily constitute a demonstration."

Women Join British Columbia Gold Rush

Like their men folk, many British Columbia women have caught the gold-hunting fever. Many are now in the field and others have announced their intention to go out with pick and axe in the spring.

An ex-nurse from Vancouver has led the procession. Using an airplane to take in supplies, she is at present carrying on prospecting work in the Cariboo district.

Inspired by this example, many women have taken the geology course provided by the British Columbia government.

A Hungarian woman, suing her husband for alimony, was astonished to hear that she had been divorced several years before. Her husband is a professional hypnotist, and she asserts that he must have put her in a trance and then obtained her signed consent to the divorce.

League to Rule Port of Leticia For One Year

American Heads Commission for Area Claimed by Both Colombia and Peru

Manaos, Brazil.—The dispute between Colombia and Peru over possession of Port Leticia on the Amazon River has entered its final phase with the installation at the port of a League of Nations Commission which will govern the area pending completion of direct negotiations between the two countries.

Thus, the League's first direct intervention in a New World quarrel has resulted successfully, at least so far as regards persuading Colombia and Peru to cease hostilities which for a time threatened to involve the two neighboring republics of Brazil and Eucador in the conflict.

United States Officer Heads Group.

The League commission, composed of representatives of two non-member countries, the United States and Brazil and of Spain, will govern the port and corridor of Leticia for one year. The commissioners, Colonel Arthur W. Brown, of the Judge Advocate General's Department of the United States Army, president; Captain Albert Delemost Basto, commander of the Brazilian squadron on the upper Amazon River, and Captain Francisco Iglesias, the Spanish aviator, are to select an international armed force to assist them in maintaining order in the disputed area which forms a rectangle about 100 by 30 miles, lying between the Amazon and the Putumayo Rivers.

Colombia, with about 5,000 soldiers and a large number of civilian laborers already concentrated along her southern frontier, plans to encourage colonization of the tropical lands about Port Leticia. The original project to develop the southern area, contemplated at the time Colombia formally took over Port Leticia from Peru by virtue of the Salomon,Lozano treaty of 1932, was interrupted by the occupation of the port last September by 300 Peruvian irregulars and the subsequent refusal of the Peruvian Government to relinquish the seized territory.

Road Building to Be Pushed.

Military roads hurriedly constructed from Central Colombia to the banks of the Putumayo River to facilitate troop movement are now to be employed for the transport of colonists and later for the handling of their crops. The civilian laborers who worked on the roads are to be encouraged to remain in the Amazon Valley by grants of land by the Colombian Government. Work will be pushed to completion on those roads in an unfinished state at the time Colombia and Peru agreed to suspend hostilities.

Leticia offers Colombia her only port on the Amazon River at a point accessible to steamers of fairly heavy draught. The impossibility of shipping produce from the southern area out of the country except through Peruvian or Brazilian territory has prevented exploitation in the past of an area remarkably suited for agricultural industry. In the future agriculturists, particularly cattle raisers, will be afforded the opportunity of sending their products to the mountain cities in north central Colombia or of exporting them down the Amazon to Brazil or abroad.

Spanish Olive Producers Predict Surplus of Oil

Madrid.—There will be a large olive oil surplus in Spain this year, predict olive growers. The olive crop will be one of the largest in history, they say. Statistics show more than 71,530 square miles of Spanish soil covered with olive orchards. The oil, according to Department of Agriculture figures, will be in excess of 1,000,000 tons.

This compares with the 1929 production of 209,437 tons and the 1930 production of 727,518 tons.

Decreases in exports are worrying the growers most. The domestic consumption is hardly more than a quarter of a million tons. The other expected 750,000 tons will be four times the quantity the growers have any hope of exporting this year at the price they must get to show a profit.

The cost of production has gone up despite the fact that 1933 has been ideal climatically. To harvesting and marketing difficulties, due to strikes and acts of sabotage, are attributed this complication.

Woman Declares Man's Viewpoint As Best

Chicago.—Women who manage iron and steel mills, hold high offices in coal and food companies, or practise the various professions, were told recently that they lacked man's viewpoint on money matters.

They heard this opinion in a convention session of Zonta, business and professional women's society, from Mr. S. Katherine Maddux of Chicago, its president.

"Women will spend freely," she said, "and demand very little accounting of where their money goes. But they quibble over society dues and expect magnificent returns for very small outlays."

Bulky Comedian Of Films Dies

Was Victim of Heart Attack Following Celebration of His First Wedding Anniversary

New York.—Roscoe (Fatty) Arbuckle, bulky comedian of the films, died recently of a heart attach that followed a celebration of his first wedding anniversary of his third marriage. He was 45 years old.

The actor, who had been attempting a "comeback" from the blight that fell on his career as the result of the mysterious death of an actress during a gay party in 1921, died in his sleep in his suite in a midtown hotel.

Wife Discovered Him

His third wife, the former Addie McPhail, screen actress, discovered his death. After summoning the house physician, she became hysterical from grief. Physicians said Arbuckle died of angina pectoris.

Arbuckle had just completed a picture, "Tamalio," at a Long Island studio. It was one of six he had recently done for Warner Brothers. On the night of his death he went with his wife to the apartment of William Lahiff, restaurant proprietor, where a party was given in honor of the Arbuckle anniversary.

After the party Arbuckle retired, apparently in fairly good health, despite recent attacks of a heart ailment. A few minutes later, however, his wife called on him, received no answer and then discovered that he was dead.

Arbuckle became known to millions the world over in the palmy days of pie-tossing comedy.

Finds He Already Owns House He Wants to Buy

Aosta, Italy.—Secondo Molinatti, an Americanized Italian, looked for himself a whole day before he found whom he was seeking.

Returning to his native town after thirty years in New York he espied just the kind of house he had always dreamed of having. He wanted to buy it then and there but the tenant told him he would have to see the owner. He did not know the owner's name because he rented it through an agency.

The agency was closed until the next day. Then Molinatti discovered tnat he himself was the mysterious owner. The house had been purchased with funds he had sent home for investment.

He made a donation to charity of part of the sum he was willing to pay for the house.

Britain's Suicides Up, Murders Show Decrease

London.—Criminal statistics made public by the Home Office show that robbery with violence is increasing in England and that London's share of the crime is by far the largest of any city in the country.

The Home Office figures show increases also in prevalence of fraud and suicide, while murder and manslaughter cases continue to decrease.

Ranks of professional burglars in the United Kingdom appear to be dwindling. The statistics show that 64 per cent. of all breaking-and-entering offences were of trivial varieties attributed largely to young persons.

Convictions for drunkenness were 46,846 last year, compared with a pre-war yearly average of 95,000.

Italy Expands Power of Vast Guild System

"Corporations of Category" Added to Groups in Control of Economic Life

Rome.—Italy's famous guild system, or corporate state, after seven years of operation, has just been rounded out by the creation of what is known as "corporations of category." These are corporate groups of various categories of industry, commerce and agriculture. They include representatives of both employers and employees.

Hitherto the guild system has been built on the following basis

1. Syndicates, consisting of groups either of employers or employed in various groups of endeavor divided geopraphically according to provinces.

2. Federations, consisting of all the syndicates in a certain branch of endeavor, such as the metalurgical industry.

3. The National Council of Corporations, the supervising body of the guild system.

4. The Ministry of Corporations, headed by Benito Mussolini, which is the governmental directing body.

The new corporations of category seem to fit in between the federations and the National Council. They assume some of the duties hitherto performed by the Ministry of Corporations.

The chief importance of this development may therefore be said to be: The government passes on to the organizations of employers and employed themselves some of the functions it previously abrogated to itself. Chief among these is the settlement of labor disputes. The tasks of the corporations of category are announced as four:

1. Advisory—Various ministries may call on them for an opinion on any matter coming within their competence.

(2) Conciliatory—They settle by consent collective labor disputes in their own category, a task hitherto discharged by the Ministry of Corporations.

(3) Judicial—If the parties to a labor dispute agree to refer to the corporation rather than to the labor court, its award will have executive force.

(4) Regulatory — The corporation can regulate collective economic relations with corporations in other categories.

The corporations of category will thus be able to act on such questions as smoothing out wage disparities in a given occupation, regulating conditions of apprenticeship and vocational training, co-ordinatng credit, welfare and labor exchange activities. The government will refer to them many of the tasks hitherto assigned to special commissions and committees. They also will be the proper organs for negotiating interguild agreements to reconcile the sometimes contrasting interests of commerce, agriculture and industry.

New French Railway Line Without Grades

New York.—The strategic railroad being constructed by French engineers from the Argonne forest to the French frontier is one of the most amazing railroad achievements in history, as it is on an even level for its entire length, according to Leonard Nason, author of "Chevrons" and other war novels.

He says that the railroad is being constructed without any increase in grades to expedite troop trains.

Lindy Lends a Hand

This summer Colonel Lindbergh and party intend to survey the far north, visiting Greenland and possibly Iceland. He is shown with the aeroplane just after the pontoons were in place.

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Plug Tobacco will last you 1/3 longer. It burns 1/3 slower . . . gives you more smokes, more enjoyment for the same money.

DIXIE

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Queen Attends Performance at Covent Garden

Ballet Given in Honor of World Economic Conference—Opera House Blazes with Jewels

London.—The most novel adornment seen recently at Covent Garden, when the famous Opera House blazed with jewels, orders and decorations as in pre-war days, was provided by a young foreigner. On top of ordinary evening dress he wore an opera cloak of pale blue silk.

The occasion was a ballet given in honor of the world economic conference by the Camargo Society, leading organization in London cultivating the newer school of the ballet.

Her Majesty wore a gown of Emerald green, with a tiara of diamonds, and the Duchess of York a rose pink gown with a spray of roses at the shoulder.

Boxes were occupied by conference delegates from France, Japan, Poland, Chile, China and Greece, while the rest of the world's representatives were seated in the stalls.

Among the star performers was Lopokova, wife of Prof. J. Maynard Keynes, the author of "The Economic Consequences of the Peace."

English Girl Goes to Australia to Marry

Five years ago J. Thwaites left Cumberland, England, to find out if an Australian farm would make a suitable home for his bride.

Early this year Miss Gladys Trobe, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, received a letter telling her to sail.

When her ship, the Hobson's Bay, reached Melbourne, he was waiting on the quay for her and they were married shortly afterwards.

"He hasn't changed in five years, and he still has his Cumberland accent," said Miss Trobe when they met again.

Sir Eric Drummond Gives Up League Keys

Geneva, Switzerland.—In the presence of the entire secretariat, Sir Eric Drummond turned over the keys of the League of Nations to Joseph Avenol of France, the new Secretary-General.

Both Sir Eric and M. Avenol expressed faith in the league as an institution of world peace.

The new Secretary-General also took over the league's "White House," the official residence of the head of the secretariat, an 18th century mansion in the suburbs.

Sir Eric will probably become British Ambassador to Italy.

Fragile Cigarette Tax Stamp Made in Texas to Stop Reuse

Austin, Tex.—Texas has moved to stop loss of revenue through reuse of cigarette tax stamps by making the stickers tiny and fragile. The new stamps, not quite as large as a dime, are printed on specially treated paper which "crumbles" when an effort is made to remove it from a package.

Charles Lockhart, State Treasurer, estimated thousands of dollare were lost to the state when the old stamps were in use.

Social Consciousness Is Y.W.C.A.'s New Slogan

New York.—The philosophy of the Young Women's Christian Association was reported in a Columbia University survey to have changed from one of religious dominance to that of social consciousness. The survey was made by Dr. Grace H. Wilson, research graduate of teachers college at Columbia.

"There is a rather general belief among Y.W.C.A. leaders," she said, "that religious attitudes are to be developed through the whole educational process. There are reflected here, not only new tendencies in educational philosophy and procedure, but changes in religious thinking as well."

Classified Advertising

GOVERNMENT APPROVED CHICKS

SALE OF GOVERNMENT APPROVED Chicks. While they last: Leghorns .06c, Barred Rocks .06¾c. One week old chicks one cent more. J. G. Tweddle, Fergus, Ont.

Archbishop of Canterbury Gives Christening Party

London.—His Grace Most Rev. Cosmo Gordon Lang, the bachelor Archbishop of Canterbury, holds a christening party next week when he baptizes the baby daughter of Antony and Mrs. Acton in the chapel of Lambeth Palace, where the parents were married a year ago. Afterwards there will be a tea-party for the relations and god-parents.

Mrs. Acton is a grand-daughter of the late viscount Cowdray, of whose family the archbishop has long been a friend.

The baby's names are Caroline Janey, and her christening robe is made from the gown of Valenciennes lace in which her mother was presented at court.

Returns Aid Received

Haslingden, Eng. — Haslingden guardians committee have received a letter from a former relief recipient stating that he has returned to work and wishes to repay the money he was granted. He has received some cash from the sale of an insurance policy, and in the circumstances he asked if he could give back what he had received in relief.

The clerk to the committee gave the information and has received from the man the total amount paid to him in relief, plus interest at 5 per cent.

Hitler "Life" Shortest In Reichstag Directory

Berlin.—Germany's new congressional directory, the "Reichstagshandbuch," contains the first autobiography of Chancellor Adolf Hitler as a Nazi Deputy.

The sketch, generally assumed as written by Hitler himself, is the briefest in the book. It reads as follows:

Born April 20, 1889, in Braunau-on-the-Inn. Catholic. Attended grammar school and lower realschuler. Building trades worker to make study possible. Soldier 1914-'20. Presently German Reich's Chancellor."

OFF COLOUR? HOW IS YOUR LIVER?

Wake up your Liver Bile —Without Calomel

Your liver's a very small organ, but it certainly can put your digestive and eliminative organs out of kilter, by refusing to pour out its daily two pounds of liquid bile into your bowels

You won't completely correct such a condition by taking salts, oil, mineral water, laxative candy or chewing gum, or roughage. When they've moved your bowels they're through—and you need a liver stimulant.

Carter's Little Liver Pills will soon bring back the sunshine into your life. They're purely vegetable. Safe. Sure. Ask for them by name. Refuse substitutes. 25c at all druggists. 48

IN UP-TO-DATE STABLES

—Old Reliable Minard's

When horses come in to stable with wire-cuts or saddle boils, or cows have caked udder, the thing to do is get the Minard's bottle at once, as Mr. Dowd of Glenboro, Manitoba, knows. He writes:

"I like your Minard's Liniment. Like to have it in the house. I have found your Minard's Liniment especially good for barbed wire cuts on horses."

A family doctor prepared Minard's Liniment over 50 years ago. Still invaluable in every stable and every house. 81

WEAK WOMEN

Take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

Have you ever felt that you were too weak to do anything . . . that you did not have the strength to do your work?

Women who are weak and run-down should take a tonic such as Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Headaches and backaches that are the result of a tired, run-down condition often yield to this marvelous medicine.

98 out of every 100 women who report to us say that they are benefited by this medicine. Buy a bottle from your druggist today . . . and watch the results.

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