

INTO A MILE OF CONCRETE.

Engineering and Contracting.
It is a simple matter for any contractor to figure out the amounts of cement, sand and gravel needed for a certain length of highway construction. In fact Bulletin 1077 of the U. S. Department of Agriculture contains a vast amount of this sort of information, with tables giving approximate figures for various thicknesses of pavement. Information on the preliminary work is not so easily obtainable, however, and there are some amazing sidelights to the construction industry that the contractor has but little opportunity to come in touch with.

For example, the government bulletin estimates that a mile of concrete pavement, 7 inches thick at the edges and 8 inches thick in the center, will require 3,913 barrels of portland cement, including 1,102 cu. yd. of sand, or fine aggregate and 1,464 cu. yd. of coarse aggregate or stone.

In making 3,913 bbls. of portland cement, over 390 tons of coal are required at the cement mill. Approximately 19 tons of gypsum are required to regulate the setting time of the material. To get the cement shipped to the construction job, over 15,600 cloth cement sacks are needed—and approximately 15 bales of cotton must be woven into cloth to supply this item incidentally, over 30,000,000 cloth cement sacks are lost or destroyed each year, and the textile mills are called on to furnish material for the replacements. Back in the cement quarries, approximately 450 lbs. of dynamite were shot off in blasting loose the raw materials required for the cement for the mile of highway.

The government bulletin estimates that 30 gallons of water are needed to mix and cure a square yard of concrete pavement. Over 300,000 gallons of water must be furnished for the mile of road, and approximately 4,500 tons of concrete go into the construction.

A good idea of what the highway construction business means to the railroads can be obtained from the requirements of the mile of concrete road. About 42 cars of fine aggregate, or sand, are needed on this job. Sixty-five cars of coarse aggregate are required and it takes 20 cars to haul the cement—or 127 cars for the basic materials. Where reinforcing is specified, further transportation is called for, while the water supply is governed by local conditions. In addition to these requirements, the drainage, grading, bridge and culvert construction must all be provided for.

When it is considered that the equivalent of over 7,000 miles of 18-foot concrete pavements were placed under contract during this year, the enormity of the transportation end of the work is easily seen. More than 880,000 freight cars are needed to transport the cement, sand and gravel for this operation. As the peak of the demand comes during the late summer and fall, there is added difficulty in getting materials on the job at exactly the time desired. Early shipments of construction materials, and loading of all cars to capacity limit, would go a long way toward alleviating the congested conditions.

SURPRISE BIRTHDAY DINNER.

Written by his niece.
About three hundred relatives, neighbors and friends gathered at the home of Mr. Henry Buckner near Silk Hope last Sunday, the occasion being the celebration of the 72nd birthday of Mr. Buckner. The dinner was a complete surprise to him, not knowing it until Sunday morning when the relatives and neighbors began to arrive.

A large table 93 feet long was erected in the yard and was loaded with various delicacies that satisfy the appetite and hunger of human beings.

When all had gathered around the table, Mr. Straughan made a very interesting talk, telling of the long life of service which had been given by Mr. Buckner. Rev. Nube Dark, pastor of Hickory Mt. Baptist church, led in prayer.

The afternoon was spent in happy acquaintance. The occasion was a conversation and renewing old acquaintances. The occasion was a very happy one to all who attended and particularly so to the honored guest. He is well known in that section of the county as a man of exceptional kindness and charitable deeds towards his neighbors and friends.

People were present from Mann-dale, Pittsboro, Staley, Burlington, Greensboro, Siler City and Durham.

VERDIE THOMAS.

GENERAL NEWS BRIEFS.

Short Items of Common Interest to All

New York.—Over half million people attend theaters here daily.

Dallas.—Klan day at the Texas State Fair drew 300,000 people. More than 30,000 of those were Kluxers.

Orlando, Fla.—Two bandits held up a jewelry house here and robbed it of jewels valued at \$40,000 and escaped.

New Brunswick, N. J.—Public officials should not be allowed to drink liquor says Congressman D. Upshaw.

Chicago.—Ten times as many people wear glasses in the United States as in England, says a London specialist.

Washington.—North Carolina schools will be the first in the United States to plant memorial trees for Warren G. Harding.

Wichita Falls, Texas.—Oscar W. Underwood opened his campaign here for the nomination of president of the United States.

Chicago.—The passing of the old clay pipe has greatly decreased the number of cancers of the lip, says a well known London doctor.

Washington.—Secretary Weeks will not deliver the address at the unveiling of the Bennett Place memorial near Durham on November 8th.

Stockholm.—The Nobel prize for medicine has been awarded to Drs. F. G. Banting and J. J. R. McLeod, of Toronto, for their discovery of insulin.

Oklahoma City.—Governor Walton has been ousted as governor by the Supreme Court, but Walton says that he will continue the fight. He will be impeached.

Cutawissa, Pa.—James Huber, 7, accidentally pulled the trigger of a gun loaded with salt; shot and killed his sister, aged 5. The gun had been loaded with salt to kill a dog.

Pittsburg.—Fire destroyed a Catholic orphanage. The loss is nearly half million dollars. Eighty children and 150 nuns were rescued from the burning building without a single loss of life.

Charleston, W. Va.—Two years ago a woman named Dotson disappeared from her home and she was believed to have been murdered. The husband and father were arrested. The woman has been found in Inez, W. Va. In dragging the creek for the supposedly murdered woman the skeleton of a woman and child were found. The father and husband have been released from jail.

MOUNT VERNON SPRINGS

Sanford Express, Sept. 4.

Recently the writer spent a delightful half day at Mount Vernon Springs, the Saratoga of Chatham county. Mount Vernon Springs is naturally a beautiful place. The waters of the spring have medicinal properties and the hotel is built in a lovely rolling country. As a health and pleasure resort for tourists for our Southern Seaboard in summer and for Northern people in winter, it can and some day will be made one of the most popular spots in North Carolina. Pinehurst and Southern Pines cannot compare with Mount Vernon Springs in scenic beauty, leaving out the mineral waters. Instead of scrubby black jacks and small pines you find here groves of forests of majestic oak, hickory and other trees with wide spreading branches—grand and magnificent parks fashioned by the hand of the creator of our universe. You find here too, a beautiful fertile and prosperous farming region.

It really seems that nature has designed this spot as a place of rest and recreation. There are broad and smooth plateaus which could easily be arranged into fields for golf, race courses and all of the popular sports and games. At a small outlay an extensive lake could be formed for boating, bathing and athletic sports. A modern highway leads to the place.

The widow and children of the late John M. Foust own this resort and a large belt of country around it, and the hotel is run during the summer months by Mrs. Foust and family. The hotel is situated on a knoll and the place is cool and delightful all summer. With work it could be made an ideal summer resort, and if the natural advantages of the place were known to the health and pleasure-seeking world many new buildings would soon be erected to accommodate not only the summer but winter tourists. The surrounding country is a garden spot and guests at the hotel are feasted on the best.

The farms around Mount Vernon Springs are pointers to prosperity and progressiveness. Good crops are everywhere in evidence and about the homesteads graze fine cows and other live stock. That section of Chatham does not raise a great deal of cotton and little if any tobacco, but it goes in for fine corn, wheat and other grain crops. From the appearance of the farms one would gather that their occupants are mostly landlords.

Truly Mount Vernon Springs and the country hereabouts is a veritable Arcadia—a modern Vale of Tempe. Besides its hotel and homes the village has church buildings and a modern academy. The hotel is only one mile from Ore Hill, on the Southern Railway. Many Greensboro people go down to Mount Vernon Springs to spend Sunday and the place is visited daily by scores of people in automobiles.

The octopus is highly valued in Japan as an article of food.

GOOD ROADS IN THIS STATE

In a speech at High Point last Thursday Mr. Frank Page, the good roads man, said that it was hard to estimate the benefits of good roads, but he soon told the audience something of the great good the State has already derived from its \$65,000,000 bond issue.

In 1920 there was consumed in the State 73,997,882 gallons of gasoline, there being 142,284 autos in the State, giving each car 520 gallons of gas at 25 cents a gallon, or \$130 per year.

In 1922 there was burned up in the State 86,125,368 gallons of gasoline in which 181,955 cars, or 463 gallons per car, or \$175.75 in round figures per car.

Between the two years there was a saving of \$14.25 in gasoline per car, or a combined total of \$2,520,000. So, said the chairman, there is one splendid example that it pays to build good roads, to say nothing of the increase in trade throughout the State.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT

We, the senior class of Brown's Chapel Sunday School, join in deep sorrow and sympathy with Brother J. N. Dark over the loss of his companion and our Sunday school scholar and classmate, Sister Fannie A. Dark, who was one of our oldest and most faithful members. We shall miss her presence and pleasant smiles, but we submit to our Heavenly Father's will, and pray that all of our class may be as faithful as she was in attendance at Sunday school until her last sickness, and be ready when our time school and join the great Sunday school and join the great Sunday school of God, Christ and all the good and faithful Sunday school and Christian workers that have preceded us into the sweet haven of rest, where God and Christ have prepared a Heavenly mansion for us all, and for all who will trust and obey him.

COM.

High Point.—President Coolidge will be nominated by the Republican convention and the county will re-elect him to the presidency in 1924, declared James H. Bartlett, first assistant postmaster general and former governor of New Hampshire, here to attend the Pageant of Progress.

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KODAKS.

R. F. PASCHAL,

Attorney-at-Law, Office over Postoffice Siler City.

Recently two French soldiers were bathing in the Rhine River. Since they were unable to swim, the soldiers were in a serious condition. A young German, who was watching, swam out and rescued both of them. The French Tribunal, to reward him, promised that anything he asked would be granted. He asked that the lives of seven men, who had been condemned to be shot for causing trouble to the French authorities, might be spared. The request was granted.

POSTMASTER EXAMINATION

A civil service examination will be held at Sanford on Saturday, November 24th, for the purpose of securing an eligible list for the appointment of postmaster at Ore Hill.

The compensation for postmaster in this office was \$602 for the past year. Applicants must be 21 years of age except women applicants who may enter the examination at 18 years of age. Those taking the examination must reside in the territory supplied by the office at Ore Hill.

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His next visit in Pittsboro will be Tuesday, November 27th. His next visit in Siler City will be Thursday, November 22nd.

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