

Maintenance of National Highways

Extracts from an Address Delivered at Asheville Before
the North Carolina Good Roads Association by
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For the last twenty years the office of Public Roads has been engaged in collecting and disseminating road information, principally along the lines of construction. In recent years, it has not been necessary to conduct campaigns along this line, except in isolated sections. The publicity which the road movement has received from the press and motor associations has focused the attention of the American people to this line of work.

The Office of Public Roads realized, however, that in many cases, townships, counties and States were projecting construction on an extensive scale but making no provisions whatever for the upkeep of their roads after vast sums had been spent to build them.

To illustrate the folly of this procedure, I wish to call attention to the man who would erect a row of frame structures and take no precaution after their completion to secure fire insurance. A county that builds a first class road at enormous expenditure with no allotment laid aside for its upkeep in the years to come would afford a fair comparison.

With a view to expend collecting data in regard to the maintenance of various types of roads, such as one would encounter in traveling from Washington to Atlanta, it was arranged that the Office of Public Roads and the American Highway Association would furnish the necessary engineering and transportation of engineers engaged on this work, if 50 per cent. of the various counties through which the highway passed would permit the expenditure of sufficient sum of their funds under the supervision of government engineers. Practically 100 per cent. of the counties in North Carolina agreed to this form of co-operation and 75 per cent. of those requested in Virginia also accepted the terms of the government contract.

This work was entirely new to this section of the country and was an innovation to the road officials.

At the outset I wish to make it clear that the engineers made a radical difference between the repair of a road and the maintenance thereof. Wherever the sum designated by the counties was sufficient to employ a patrolman, this style of maintenance was inaugurated. In other sections where the funds were too low, a spasmodic form of patrolman was introduced; or maintenance was placed in the hands of a small squad working at intervals. The general policy of the government was to divide the funds allotted by a county into twelve equal parts, and an effort was made to keep each month's expenditure within the amount laid aside for that month, and at the same time adopt the policy of "a stitch in time, saves nine" so far as the maintenance of a road was concerned. It frequently happened that heavy rains, snow and other unforeseen acts of Providence resulted in a larger expenditure in some months than in others.

The work of the patrolman is very varied; a large per cent. of the work done by them is not apparent to the traveling public. Among some of the things which would not be apparent to the traveling public, but which the patrolman is doing, is the removal of snow, tin cans, bottles, dead leaves, nails, old iron and the cleaning out of culverts and ditches. Another character of the work the patrolman does, which is apparent to the keen observer, has been the inspection of the road at frequent intervals, the removal of brush on the inside of curves, renewal of mile posts and guide signs, clearance of clogged ditches, painting of guard rails, painting of bridges, dragging the roads after rains, cutting the weeds along the side of the road and widening out narrow points along the highway. Particular attention has been paid to cutting the brush back at the railroad crossings and installing warning signs at these points, as well as around dangerous curves.

The patrolmen have been further required to place signs, giving their name at the beginning and end of their route and half way along on their section. Their duties consist of renewing planks on bridges, keeping the shoulders and slopes trimmed, installing new culverts, using the harrow, drag and hoe.

In some sections where the funds have permitted, the name of streams have been painted on the bridges, the town, county and State lines have been established and culverts and bridges have been numbered and some railway crossings have been abolished and others are in process of being eliminated.

All of this work outlined, has not usually been undertaken by the ordinary

method of repairs; where the funds would permit, surface repairs have been made and the depressions filled with new earth or material. Daily reports have been required from the patrolmen showing where they work, the number of hands and teams at work and the nature of the work performed.

The wisdom of the patrol system has been demonstrated time and again where repairs have been made at a cost of less than a dollar by being made at the proper time, whereas if the patrolman had not seen the condition at the time and made the necessary repairs, the cost would have run into a good many dollars. This is particularly true where roads have started to wash after a heavy rain or where the snow has started to soften up the road surface.

Printed instructions were issued to the patrolmen early in the season and the placing of signs at the end of a route has led to rivalry among the patrolmen in regard to the upkeep of their respective sections.

Through the kindness of the Chambers of Commerce, the Boards of Trade, etc., signs were provided for a large part of the way. These signs had only been in use but a short time when it was realized that the small boy was an excellent shot in both Virginia and North Carolina. The new type of sign was then introduced, it being considered indestructible from the shot gun or rifle. This partly solved the problem, but owing to the fact that new roads were constantly being built into the new highway, it was soon seen that it would be necessary to supply signs as fast as these roads were built. To overcome this difficulty and to mark the highway so that there would be no question as to its route, a color scheme was devised and by co-operating with some agencies and in some instances with private citizens, the north division of the highway is now practically continuously marked so that there is no possibility of the tourist or stranger losing his way so long as he watches the sign posts marked with different colors.

The success of the patrol system also has led to the application for further co-operation of the government on the Central Highway, which runs across the State of North Carolina. It is very gratifying to this Office to realize that the North Carolinians are awakening to the necessity of protecting their investments after they make them. The effect of the co-operation is very apparent in a great many unexpected ways. It has led to the general improvement of the hotel service all along the line, the installation of gasoline stations, the building of garages and to auto service between various local points.

It is noticeable that the farmers are now hauling cord wood by truck over these roads and a careful record has been kept in one county of the increase in motor traffic not only of pleasure vehicles, but motor trucks as well.

It has also been realized that the tourist must obtain his meals and lodging in the various counties through which he travels; that the farmers must profit by the tourist trade, which finds its comfort in stopping at up-to-date hotels along the route and enjoying the products which nature has lavished on your productive State.

Many of the patrolmen have shown great enthusiasm for the work they are doing and in many cases the traveling public have shown their appreciation by not only stopping and encouraging them, but have remunerated the men for their excellent care in some tangible form.

The maintenance of a road under government supervision has done much to remove politics from the road question, which I regret to say you will some times find in other States. The patrolmen as a rule have realized that the position depends upon their ability to give satisfactory work, rather than on their voting qualifications.

Messrs. Robert W. Sinclair and Edwin Earle, of Detroit, Mich., are to locate at Salisbury, and make that place a distributing point for all kinds of farming tools, implements and machinery.

Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy.

This is a remedy that every family should be provided with, and especially during the summer months. Think of the pain and suffering that must be endured when medicine must be sent for or before relief can be obtained. This remedy is thoroughly reliable. Ask any one who has used it. Obtainable everywhere.

MANY OLD AND INTERESTING ARTICLES BELONGING TO THE ESTATE OF ASE-NITH COX

The sale of live stock and wheat and oats on hand belonging to the estate of Asenith Cox, was on last Saturday at the late residence of the deceased, near Spoon's Mill, formerly Levi Cox's mill, on Richland Creek, 10 miles southeast of Asheville.

None of the household and kitchen furniture was sold, because the will is now being contested. If the will is broken, all the personal property will be sold, but if the will stands, it may not be sold, for it is all bequeathed to Rufus Garner.

There is much old fashioned furniture and other articles of personal property. There are handmade bedsteads, the posts of which are higher than your head, with rope cords on them; and large feather beds with homespun cloth used in making the bed tick, with straw bed ticks homemade, woven of homespun flax, clean and bright as a pin.

We saw four large old-fashioned wooden dough trays, three of the finest old-fashioned clocks, as bright and clean and looked as new as if purchased from the factory yesterday—the kind of clocks that first came about after the grandfather clock. The oldest one was bought in Fayetteville and cost \$45, long before the Civil war.

There were corner cupboards and bureaus of walnut of the best and most expensive home-made kind. A set of pewter spoons and pewter plates.

Old sets of expensive ware that look beautiful, like hand painted. Drinking cups beautifully finished, made of large horns of cattle.

Two old-fashioned haversacks, of black material, a kind of oil or gum cloth of the kind in use 40 years ago, but looked like they were almost new, so well had they been kept.

Black stitched silk silk bonnets. And there were two of the finest and most expensive old-fashioned women's saddles; several sides of home tanned upper leather.

There were eleven bunches of thread, some parts of bundles, a part of it manufactured at Randleman and a part of it at Franklinville. They were the 5-lb. bunches of thread made on Deep River forty and more years ago.

It has been nearly forty years since this bunch thread was made. Some of the bunches were older than others. The labels were so old on some it could not all be read, but there were some that could be read. On some were the words: "Manufactured by the Franklinville Manufacturing Company Franklinville, Randolph County, No. Car. Hugh Parks, Agent."

On other bunches were the words: "Manufactured by the Randleman Manufacturing Company, Randleman, Randolph County, No. Car." Most of this thread was No. 9.

There were alays and gears, sometimes called harness, for the old-time looms on which were woven the cloth for material out of which the clothing for the entire family was made, quilting poles or frames.

Three round top walnut tables were there, the entire top of each being made from one piece of walnut plank. The best of trunks bound with leather.

A large quantity of flax seed and bags filled with hanks of home-spun flax.

Here and there were chests full of the old-fashioned woven counter panes woven in the most beautiful designs, the cotton from which they were made grown and spun and woven at home. There were quilts and coverlets. Home woven and home-made yarn blankets that were made forty years ago and will last more than forty years yet if properly cared for. Home woven and home made sheets were on every bed and there were a dozen or more large cakes of beeswax, no telling how old.

Miss Asenith Cox died in June of this year. She was never married. She had a brother Dennis, who was born and reared at the old home place and lived there until long after the Civil war when he moved on Little Williams' place where he operated his grist mill and cultivated his farm until he died about 18 years ago. His sister Hannah, who lived with her sister Asenith at the old homestead died about the same time, there being only nine days intervening between dates of their deaths.

Since the death of her sister Hannah, Asenith has lived alone at the old home place where they were born and reared.

They had another brother Dawson, who died soon after the Civil war. Their father was known as "Blind Tommie" to distinguish him from "Squirrel Creek" Tommie Cox.

Their mother was an older sister of the late Heskiah B. Allen, who lived near Ramseur and died some 20 or 25 years ago.

The gold both in coin and bars which was hidden about the place

A LESSON FOR THE STEWARD

King Frederick William III of Prussia was a man of few words; whatever he had to say was always brief and to the point, as the following anecdote from a foreign journal shows:

The king, who was accustomed to interest himself in all the details of court management, ordered his steward to take special pains to see that all the carriages and wagons were amply supplied with food and drink whenever they left for a journey of a day or so; but it sometimes happened that the steward failed in his duty and dispatched the drivers without any food, giving them a coin, perhaps, to buy what they wanted. That usually meant that the driver went hungry, as he did not have much opportunity to leave his horses and dine at a shop or restaurant.

At length the king became aware of his steward's failure to carry out his orders, and awaited the next opportunity to bring the fact to his attention. He had not long to wait. That night the king stopped his coachman as he entered the courtyard, and upon inquiry, found that the man had had nothing to eat since breakfast. He held out a dollar in his hand that the steward had given him to buy food with. Without a word the king took the dollar.

He went into the castle and summoned the steward. That worthy appeared immediately and made a profound bow; but as he raised himself up, he was surprised to feel a coin placed against his mouth.

"Eat it!" ordered the king.

"But Your Majesty, I—"

"Eat it!" the king roared.

"Why, Your Majesty, I can't eat it."

"Oh, you can't? But you expected the coachman to! Well, in the future, just remember that—that people eat food, not money. Do you understand?"

The steward understood; in the future the king's coachmen were amply supplied with provisions whenever they went upon a journey.—Youth's Companion.

A MERITED COMPLIMENT

The Lexington Star has the following to say about the election of Mr. Varner as President of State Good Roads Association:

"At the annual session of the North Carolina Good Roads Association, held in Asheville this week, Mr. H. B. Varner, of Lexington was re-elected president of the association. This is the seventh time Mr. Varner has held this office and it is well deserved. Mr. Varner has always been one of the most loyal advocates of and workers for good roads, not only in North Carolina, but in the South."

Rev. G. Wilbur Shipley, pastor of Albemarle Presbyterian church, has been elected president of the Albemarle Normal and Industrial Institute, to succeed Rev. Geo. H. Atkinson, recently resigned.

UGH! CALOMEL MAKES YOU DEATHLY SICK

Stop Using Dangerous Drug Before It Salivates You! It's Horrible!

You're bilious, sluggish, constipated and believe you need vile, dangerous calomel to start your liver and clean your bowels.

Here's my guarantee! Ask your druggist for a 50 cent bottle of Dodson's Liver Tone and take a spoonful tonight. If it doesn't start your liver and straighten you right up better than calomel and without griping or making you sick, I want you to go back to the store and get your money.

Take calomel today and tomorrow you will feel weak and sick and nauseated. Don't lose a day's work. Take a spoonful of harmless, vegetable Dodson's Liver Tone tonight and wake up feeling great. It's perfectly harmless, so give it to your children any time. It can't salivate, so let them eat anything afterwards.

amounted to several thousand dollars. The Courier has heretofore published the facts about this and other matters heretofore.

Here and there in the yard and about the premises can be seen holes dug by persons trying to find more gold which is believed by many to be buried about the premises. The buildings consists of one four room two story frame dwelling house with a porch on one side and a shed on the other with a room on each end and porch between.

The weather boarding, shingles and ceiling and flooring and every piece of material in the building is of heart pine—no sap can be found in any part of the building. The planks used in ceiling are about 10 inches wide. To the north of this building is a large single story building with two rooms with a great big old fashioned made chimney in the middle. One of the rooms to this house is built of logs and is weatherboarded "up and down," except the wall on the side where the porch is, with rough heart plank boards.

Such is life. People work and fight for gold while living, heard it, doing neither themselves nor any one good in this world and they cannot take it with them after death.

ATTENTION! ARE YOU SICK?

If you are you want the best attention and you also want the best drugs. You want medicine that is fresh and pure and which has not lost its usefulness.

You want your prescription filled accurately and just as it is wanted by your doctor.

You want it filled away carefully so that when you want more of the medicine it can be found easily.

THE STANDARD DRUG COMPANY lives up to these rules and we invite you to call to see us. We have the best line of drugs and medicines in this section and they are bought by a man with years of experience and from the best houses in the business.

We are careful in the buying of drugs as we are in the compounding of your prescription. They must be right.

We also have the largest line of toilet goods in this county. All the popular odors in Talcum Powder and Toilet Waters.

SYMPHONY LAWN STATIONERY in all the popular sizes and colors. Box Paper, Pound Paper and Envelopes to match.

We have a large line of plain business envelopes at 5c per package in all the sizes which you may want.

We also have the large Official Envelopes in several sizes at 10c per package.

The Rexall line of writing tablets are always in stock in all the sizes. We have the large, wide Rexall tablet for only 5c as well as the letter size at the same price.

Genuine Linen Envelopes to match our Pound Paper at 10c per package.

LORD BALTIMORE and USTACO LINEN POUND PAPER at 25c per pound. This is the greatest value ever offered in a moderate priced pound paper.

Call to see us and look at our line.

Standard Drug Co.

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R. C. JOHNSON

At New Stand W. J. Miller Building

Has a full line of Dry Goods, Shoes, Clothing, Hats, Caps, etc., at lowest prices. Come and see for yourself.

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Binders, Mowers, Binder Twine

JUST RECEIVED—A carload of McCormick Binders and Mowers. Also McCormick Binder Twine. If interested, Phone, Write or Call to see us.

MCCRARY-REDDING HARDWARE CO.

HOW POULTRY PEOPLE CAN ASSIST THE LABORATORY

You, no doubt, are familiar with the combined efforts being put forth by the Experiment Station, A. & M. College, and State Department of Agriculture.

You are perhaps familiar with the reorganized and extended course of instruction in poultry at the college, the numerous letters answered daily giving information from the office of Poultry Investigations and Pathology, the instructive monthly circular from same office and the Station Bulletins, the first of which is now going to press. Also work in poultry experiments is entering the second year at the Iredell Test Farm and work is being started at two other test farms.

Chick mortality, feeding experiments, mendelian and other experimental work is being carried on at the West Raleigh plant.

More than a thousand dollars has been utilized in establishing a research laboratory and we now have, perhaps, the best laboratory of its kind, in the United States.

We want to take up systematically the study of the various problems of parasites and diseases. We are now undertaking the study of the various parasites and especially the lice, mites, etc. In the summer time these parasites are numerous and cause the most damage and annoyance. You should have no trouble in assisting this laboratory in obtaining material. If you are a member of the North Carolina Poultry Breeders' Association, you should feel it a pleasure to help this good work along.

How to Prepare the Vermin
Take a clean bottle (a small one), place the lice or mites in it, stop tightly and pack in a small box and send by parcel post. Place parasites or vermin of only one kind of bird in each bottle and label the bottle giving kind of bird it is from, that is whether from chicken, turkey, duck or goose. We want parasites from all kinds of birds.

We will appreciate the cooperation of every one keeping poultry in the

"STAND BY THE PRESIDENT"

The peace-at-any-price Bryan Democrats, the "strict neutrality" leagues and the German-Germans in this country, who are shouting for political pressure upon the president to force him to their way of thinking, may learn something of American patriotism by reading the admirably fine and patriotic editorial from the New York Tribune republished on this page.

High patriotism, not partisanship, rings in these words of the Tribune:

"It would be better for the Republican party to endorse Woodrow Wilson in 1916 that to permit the principle to be established that to defend American interests is to commit political suicide"

"American Republicans" declare the Tribune, "must replace German Democrats in the national alignment."

And indeed why should not both parties unite in the re-election of such a man as Wilson in this crisis of the world's history? What the country needs in these days of stress and difficulty is not a high tariff man or a low tariff man or a trust buster, but a great, cool-headed, clear-thinking, wise, unselfish, iron-willed leader.

If we have such a man as President, why should any true American, Democrat or Republican, want to change him—why should not all join in upholding his hands, as Taft and Cannon and Tribune advise?

Is there any reasonable chance that the United States could find a wiser or better pilot?

Zebulon Vance Judd, professor of rural education in the University of North Carolina, has resigned to become professor of the recently created department of education in the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, Ala. He enters an institute of 2,000 students and at a salary larger than North Carolina's State Superintendent. He begins his work in September.

state of North Carolina.
B. F. KAUFF,
Poultry Investigations and Pathology.