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TWENTY YEAR ROADS

Experiments Prove Concrete Roads Almost Indestructible

Greensboro News.

What highway engineers do not know about roads would fill a book.

They know enough to build 20-year roads.

The most useful piece of road in the United States, maybe in the world, is one of 1,300 feet near Springfield, Ill. It has never been used by the public and never will be. It cost \$189,000 to build, and since it was finished, about a year ago, \$100,000 has been spent in destroying it.

This is called the Bates experimental road, or the Illinois experiment, and was constructed by the division of highways of the Illinois department of public works and buildings, in co-operation with the United States bureau of public roads. It is surfaced with seven general types of pavements applied in 65 ways; each 200 feet a different kind of material or combination of materials further reducible to Portland cement concrete, asphaltic concrete and brick. Up to the present, the road has been given an amount of use (loaded trucks run over it) carefully estimated to be the equivalent of 20-years normal use of an average heavy-traffic road. All sorts of surprises for road engineers have been revealed.

The brick type, all of them, went to smash first. No style of brick pavement has stood up. The plain brick outlasted the lug-shape. The concrete shows up best. Numerous sections have stood the pounding, which is what they would have got in 20 years of ordinary use. Some of the curiosities are these: reinforced concrete has not stood up as well as the plain. Without exception every section that has failed has failed first at the line of traffic on the edge of the road. Elaborate impact theories have been disproved.

Hitherto road surfaces have been made thickest in the center, narrowing to the edges. The Illinois experiment points to a reversal of this process, and a design that will now be included in the experiment is of concrete six inches thick in the center, jumping to nine and a half inches two feet from the edges, with a reinforcement bar along the line of traffic, outside. The thick center has been one of the conventions of road building, the original idea being to give the necessary crown for drainage. Then it probably occurred to some engineer that this was mathematically logical, or logically mathematical, since on a narrow road two wheels, with their burdens, pass over the middle part to every one that passes along the edge.

Five western district engineers of the North Carolina highway commission who last week went to Illinois to see this test road and have the numerous results explained by the Illinois engineers found that road men from all over the country have been flocking there in a more or less steady stream. It thus becomes everybody's test road. By means of testing instruments of various sorts, meticulous records kept of the building processes, there are to be found results that bear on every ordinary problem of road construction. It is a post-graduate course for the road engineer, such as is nowhere else to be found. Perhaps it may be worth millions of dollars to North Carolina.

The most important fact elicited, for North Carolinians, however, is that road structure of similar type to those being built by the North Carolina highway commission are proved to have a life of 20 years. This does not mean they can be patched up and kept usable for 20 years. It means that except where accidents occur or unforeseen conditions develop, these roads will support 20 years of traffic of such unit weights as they are made to support, and will be good roads at the end of that period. How much longer they are good for does not yet appear. The stone base, as is well enough known, is good for a thousand years, unless deliberately destroyed, as so much of that of Guilford county has been destroyed, by not keeping a cover on it. The concreted stone base would last a long time, a century or so maybe, without protection.

Mr. Waldrop, of the fifth district, who was of the inspecting party, also got a lesson in road-use psychology, from the road between Springfield and Chicago, which he expects to put into application as soon as he

can get around to it. It is just a strip along the middle of the road; white, on blacktop road, black on concrete. A bit of asphalt and sand, it is kept fresh by the maintenance gangs; and the way it keeps every fellow shinning on his own side is nothing short of wonderful. It takes the bigger part of the strain out of night driving. All the driver has to do is to watch the stripe, to know he is on his own side, when meeting a car; he is no longer under the necessity of checking by estimating the distance from his edge, thus seeing his gaze back and forth between the car in front and the side of the road.

Lenoir To Enforce Its Curfew Rigidly

Lenoir, Oct. 3.—Lenoir is one of the towns that has set a determination to care for the youth of the community, and especially where the parents are lax in parental authority in allowing their children to have such hours as they please and run on the streets until late hours in the night time. Hence the curfew law has been invoked, and Mayor V. D. Guire has set his foot down flat and solid, and gives out to the world that the city ordinance, No. 27, of the town of Lenoir will be strictly enforced according to the letter and spirit of the law. Therefore, he has caused the town to be posted to that effect.

Commencing with the first night of the first day of October the curfew rang, and the edict went into effect, and it says: "Children under the age of 16 years will not be allowed on the streets after 9 o'clock at night, unless accompanied by their parents. The courthouse bell will ring at 9 o'clock each night. Children found on the streets after that hour can be found by their parents at the city lock-up, if wanted."

That's Lenoir's new move to keep the kiddies at home, if their parents will not look after the matter themselves.

NEGRO BURIES HIS MOTHER RETURNS TO PENITENTIARY

Trust Imposed in Moss by Governor Of South Carolina Is Not Mismatched

Columbia, Oct. 5.—Arthur Moss, a negro of Whitmire, was allowed by Governor Harvey to go home from the state penitentiary, where he is serving an 18 year sentence, that he might bury his mother. The governor let the man have his freedom on the promise that he would return at 11 o'clock on the morning of Wednesday, October 4, and promptly at that hour the negro walked into the governor's office, and an hour later, after the governor had allowed the convict to go into the basement of the capitol to arrange some business affairs with one of the state engineers whom he had known for sometime, the penitentiary office telephoned the governor's office to state that Moss had turned up and was again safe in the prison yard.

The governor fixed one condition to the leave of absence granted the Whitmire convict, and that was that he telegraph the chief executive every day at 10 o'clock, advising where he was. Every morning shortly after 10 the governor received his telegram.

Moss is in for 18 years, and he has served three. He faces 15 more. The governor was impressed with the negro's straight story and placed confidence in him. The negro had not seen his relatives since he entered the prison, and the chief executive says he could not turn a deaf ear to the man's plea to be allowed to bury his aged mother.

Barrett Forfeits Bond in Salisbury

Salisbury, Oct. 3.—J. B. Barrett, former president of the State Federation of Labor, forfeited his bond in the sum of \$300 in county court by failing to appear for trial this morning when the two cases against him charging carrying a concealed weapon and drunk and disorderly were called.

The cases had previously been continued twice. Judge Furr ordered a capias in fa returnable in Rowan county court on October 14. The cases against Barrett developed at the time of his visit here during the shopmen's strike.

INGERSOLL AT HIS BROTHER'S GRAVE

A half century ago Robert Ingersoll was one of the most famous men of this country, and one of the most hated. He was famous for his oratory and great ability as a public speaker, and hated because of his bold attacks on the bible in his public addresses, delivered, as many thought, for the sole purpose of making money by the gate receipts he charged for his lectures. It was his custom to hold up to ridicule and scorn many of the well known characters of the bible, and entertain his audiences by his humorous discussions of the characters famous to all lovers of the bible. At the height of Ingersoll's career, his brother died. It developed that the infidels, had agreed that at the death of one the other should deliver the funeral address.

This contract, made no doubt in jest, was faithfully carried out, for the younger brother, Eban C. Ingersoll, died before he had reached middle age. The address that Robert delivered was of such a nature as to give the lie, as church people saw it, to all that he had said in his public addresses about the bible. It was for this reason that the address was the subject of every preacher for a time after it was delivered. It is also classed as a gem of literature that has few equals in any language.

Thinking that many will again read this famous speech with interest we reproduce it below:

Ingersoll's Oration Delivered at His Brother's Grave

"My friends, I am going to do that which the dead oft promised he would do for me. The loved and loving brother, husband, father, friend died where manhood's morning almost touches noon, and while the shadows still were falling toward the west.

He had not passed on life's highway the stone that marks the highest point, but, being weary for a moment, he lay down by the roadside, and using his burden for a pillow, fell into that dreamless sleep that kisses down his eyelids still. While yet in love with life and raptured with the world he passed to silence and to dust.

Yet, after all, it may be best, just in the happiest, sunniest hour of all the voyage, while eager winds are kissing every sail, to dash against the unseen rock, and in an instant hear the billows roar above a sunken ship. For whether in mid-sea or among the breakers of the farther shore, a wreck at last must mark the end of each and all. And every life, no matter if its every hour is rich with love and every moment jeweled with a joy, will, at its close, become a tragedy as sad and deep and dark as can be woven of the warp and woof of mystery and death.

This brave and tender man in every storm of life was oak and rock, but in the sunshine he was vine and flower. He was the friend of all heroic souls. He climbed the heights and left all superstitions far below, while on his forehead fell the golden dawning of the grander day. He loved the beautiful, and was with color, form, and music touched to tears. He sided with the weak, and with a willing hand gave alms; with loyal heart and with purest hands he faithfully discharged all public trusts. He was a worhipper of liberty, a friend of the oppressed. A thousand times I have heard him quote these words: "For justice all places are temples and all seasons summer." He believed that happiness was the only good, reason the only torch, justice the only worship, humanity the only religion, and love the only priest. He added to the sum of human joy; and were every one to whom he did some loving service to bring a blossom to his grave, he would sleep tonight beneath a wilderness of flowers.

Life is a narrow vale between the cold and barren peaks of two eternities. We strive in vain to long beyond the heights. We cry aloud, and the only answer is the echo of our wailing cry. From the voiceless lips of the unreplying dead there comes no word; but in the night of death hope sees a star, and listening love can hear the rustle of a wing. He who sleeps here, when dying, mistaking the approach of death for the return of health, whispered with his latest breath: "I am better now." Let us believe, in spite of doubts and dogmas, and fears and fears, that these dear words are true of all the countless dead.

And now to you who have been chosen, from among the many men he loved, to do the last sad office for the dead, we give his sacred dust. Speech cannot contain our love. There was, there is, no greater, stronger, manlier man."

Auto Thieves Active In Winston Warehouses

Winston-Salem, Sept. 27.—There appears to be an organized band of thieves stealing small cars from the tobacco warehouses in this city. Five machines have disappeared within the last few days, two having been stolen this morning. In every instance but one the cars were owned by farmers who had brought tobacco to the local market.

AUTO AND ARSON GANG BROKEN UP

Had Made Thousands of Dollars By Defrauding Insurance Companies in Vance County

Raleigh, Oct. 7.—Penitentiary sentences for W. G. Padrick and H. M. Lewis, of Henderson, convicted in Vance superior court of defrauding insurance companies through illegal disposition of automobiles, mark the final breaking up of an auto and arson gang that have been engaged for over two years in the theft of cars and their destruction by fire, and in the burning of buildings, according to Insurance Commissioner Stacy W. Wade.

Seven men arrested through investigations, three of whom now have received sentences, put a black spot on the county of Vance as the place of greatest fire risk in the state, Mr. Wade said. The theft of a score of automobiles and their destruction, and the burning of at least two valuable pieces of business property were proved against the gang, of whom Padrick is alleged to be the leader.

Padrick was sentenced by Judge J. Lloyd Horton to serve from five to eight years in the state prison, while Lewis was sentenced to from 18 months to three years. Four others had previously received sentences.

According to investigations of the insurance department, conducted by H. E. Kennedy and J. E. Scott, department inspectors, Padrick and his lieutenants had made thousands of dollars through the theft of cars and the collection of insurance after they had been destroyed. After a theft the car would be sold to an accomplice of Padrick, Padrick holding a mortgage, got the loss payment rights in the insurance policy, and the machine a week or two later while in the possession of the accomplice, and supposed purchased, would be burned. On another occasion, the investigators proved, Padrick invited a friend to go for a ride with him. On the trip the car suddenly caught fire, and the friend testified to the fire. The insurance department alleged and introduced evidence tending to prove that a deliberate short circuiting of wires caused the fire.

Padrick and his crowd worked successfully for more than two years. Insurance reports denoted extraordinary heavy losses on automobiles insured in that section of the state, but investigators failed to reveal the cause. Insurance collecting tricks were tried once too often, however. The last one was an attempt to burn two buildings in Henderson owned by Padrick and fully insured.

While the fire department was answering an alarm from one building the second one on the other end of the town was burned. The fire company saved the first building, and an investigation produced a ball of towels which had been soaked in kerosene. One towel bore the imprint of the Raleigh hotel and another contained Padrick's laundry mark, which a Henderson laundry verified. Investigators also found that Padrick had a short while previously stopped at the Raleigh hotel.

From these discoveries a chain of evidence was entwined about the man that led to his arrest and around a dozen others who had been his accomplices.

Mr. Wade said the state has not before experienced such bold work on an organized scale. Padrick was supposed to be well situated in Henderson, and was worth considerable money. His evasion of arrest over a period of two years indicate his shrewdness in carrying out his schemes.

Danville Tobacco Auctioneers Sell 1,460,994 Pounds

Danville, Va. Oct. 7.—Official figures on the opening week of the sale of tobacco in the auction houses published today revealed a record both in prices and in the quantity sold.

The figures of the Danville Tobacco association reveal that 1,460,994 pounds of leaf was sold for \$479,500.31, the average being \$31.85 per hundred. The available records fail to disclose a first week similar to this in size.

Figures of the receipts of tobacco in the two receiving plants of the Co-operative Marketing association are not available. It is reported however that they were heavy and that most of the tobacco has been sold.

WOMAN, AGED 87, APPOINTED TO SENATE

"Grand Old Woman Of Georgia" Succeeds Late Senator Watson

Atlanta, Ga. Oct. 3.—A woman from Georgia today won the distinction of being the first of her sex to obtain appointment to the United States senate when Mrs. W. H. Felton, of Cartersville, Ga., long known as the "grand old woman of Georgia," was appointed by Gov. Thomas W. Hardwick as senator to succeed the late Thomas E. Watson until the November elections when a successor will be chosen at the polls. Mrs. Felton is 87 years of age and has been prominent in state politics for nearly half a century.

Mrs. Felton has accepted the office and in expressing her gratitude for the honor stated that it was going to thrill the nation when the news is conveyed from the lakes to the gulf that a woman has been chosen to become a member of the United States senate.

"England borrowed an American born woman," said Mrs. Felton, "to accept a seat in the British parliament, but noble old Georgia experienced no need to borrow, and she alone of the 48 states in the United States had a governor with courage to say so, and to confirm the saying by an executive proclamation."

Before tendering the appointment to Mrs. Felton, Governor Hardwick through mutual friends offered the office to Mrs. Thomas E. Watson, widow of Senator Watson, who, the governor said, declined it because of ill health.

In a statement today Mrs. Felton said: "It was eminently fitting that this position should have been tendered to the widow of the late Senator Watson."

"For myself," said Mrs. Felton in a communication to Governor Hardwick, "I wish to thank you, expressly and emphatically, in the name of thousands of Georgia women—wives, mothers, grandmothers and great-grandmothers—who are enthusiastic Georgians and who represent the state in varied lines of noble philanthropy and endeavors."

Mrs. Felton was born in DeKalb county, Georgia, June 10, 1835. She was the oldest child of Charles and Eleanor (Swift) Lattimer. She was married October 11, 1853, to Dr. W. H. Felton, who died in 1909. Five children were born to this union, but only of them, Dr. Howard E. Felton, survives.

The new United States senator was one of the two Georgia women on the executive committee at the Columbian exposition in 1893. She has always taken an active and lively interest in civic affairs. In the interest of temperance she toured Georgia in 1886-87.

Mrs. Felton has been one of the principal exponents of woman suffrage in the south. She is an active member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, a member of the Colonial Dames of America, and one of the earliest members of the Atlanta Woman's club.

She was summoned in the spring of 1921 to St. Augustine, Florida, for a conference with the then President-elect, Warren G. Harding. Believing her to be one of the outstanding representative southern women prompted Mr. Harding to chose her for this mission.

Despite her advanced age, Mrs. Felton is exceptionally active. She has a large political following in the state and took an active and positive stand for Governor Hardwick during his recent campaign for re-election.

Former Deputy Sheriff Is Sentenced to State Prison

Asheville, Sept. 21.—Walter Brooks, aged 41, special deputy sheriff employed by the Biltmore estate, was found guilty last night by a jury in superior court of second degree murder for killing Laurence West and Emory Lance, July 15, 1922. He was sentenced by Judge George H. Brown today to serve 40 years at hard labor in the state penitentiary.

Brooks appealed from the sentence and Judge Brown fixed bond at \$40,000. The defendant drew a term of 30 years for killing Lance and 10 years for slaying West. Brooks showed no signs of emotion as sentence was passed upon him. He appeared calm, just as he has been throughout the entire trial, which was one of the hardest fought in court here in recent years.

54,000,000 POUNDS OF TOBACCO BOUGHT

The Reynolds Company Makes Biggest Purchase So Far Recorded, It Is Said

Lexington, Ky., Oct. 9.—Fifty four million pounds of burley tobacco were sold late today by the Burley Tobacco Growers' Co-operative association to the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco company. The total amount of money involved in the sale would not be known until the actual transfer of the leaf was made, officials of the association said.

The sale was announced by James C. Stone, president of the association, who said that a part of the leaf was being purchased for export.

The transaction represented the largest sale of burley tobacco to a single manufacturer in the history of the industry, association officials declared.

The sale today practically cleaned out the stocks in the hands of the growers' co-operative organization, officials said.

Father Drowns His Three Little Tots And Then Kills Himself

Rochester, N. Y., Oct. 9.—The bodies of a father and his three children lay side by side in an undertaking establishment here today, victims of a tragedy last night. The children, Ethelyn, 5; Grace, 2, and Russell, six months, were drowned in a bath tub at their home by the father, William E. Wheeler, who then fired a bullet into his brain. Despondency because of inability to obtain employment was responsible for the crime, police said. Mrs. Wheeler discovered the bodies after she had returned home from church. A note protruding from beneath the bathroom door told of the act of her husband and gave instructions as to the disposition of his body and the furniture in the house. It read in part:

"Dear Milly: "It had to come at last. I can see no other way out. Pay up every bill. That's what I did it for. I'm taking the kiddies with me so you and no one else can say that I left them a burden on you. If I were to hang on longer it would be the same old story."

Mrs. Wheeler swooned after the bathroom door was broken down by a boarder. She told police that her husband appeared to be in excellent spirits when she left for church.

The children were found clasped in each other's arms on the bottom of the tub, which was half filled with water. The father hung over the edge of the tub, still clutching the pistol from which he fired the fatal shot.

SIDNA EDWARDS AND FRIEL ALLEN FREED

Were Two Of The Six Men Convicted For Famous Hillsville Shooting

Richmond, Va., Oct. 7.—Sidna Edwards and Friel Allen, two of six men convicted of shooting up the courthouse at Hillsville in 1912, were given conditional pardons here by Governor E. L. Trinkle.

At the same time the Governor refused pardons to Sidna Allen and Wesley Edwards, sentenced to 35 and 27 years imprisonment, respectively, for their part in the affair in which the presiding judge, Thornton L. Massie, Commonwealth's Attorney W. M. Foster, Sheriff L. F. Webb and a young woman were killed, and Dexter Goad, the clerk, and several jurymen were wounded.

Sidna Edwards was under sentence of 15 years and Allen was serving 18 years, both being convicted of murder in the second degree.

Governor Trinkle, in announcing the pardons to Sidna Edwards and Friel Allen, declared that their prison record "has been without a mark during the entire period" of their confinement, that both are reformed young men and will in the future lead law-abiding lives and in addition, he was led to believe Sidna Edwards to be of "a rather weak mentality." He said he believed the purpose of the law to have been accomplished by the length of time they had served, and for "these and other reasons was granting them a new trial in life."