

Sample Roads.

Secretary Wilson, in his annual report, points to the fact that "sample roads" have been built in nine different States during the past year by the Department of Agriculture, and he expresses the belief that valuable missionary work was done thereby in the interest of a betterment of the highways of the country. These sample roads will unquestionably arouse the interest of intelligent farmers. But it may be doubted whether, if left by themselves, they will prove materially effective in forwarding the good roads movements. Nor is it to be expected that they will be left alone in this work. The farmer may be interested, and even convinced, but he is not the sort of man, as a rule, to put his hand into his pocket and tax himself of his own volition for road improvement. The initiative must be taken by some more enterprising agent. The farmer will pay his share if county and State laws are passed, and he will, perhaps, eventually become the staunchest friend of such laws. But he will not enactment without a leader.

farmer that it is easier to haul a given load with a given power on such a compact, smooth surface than on the law who is eternally scolding, and a old rutty, muddy, rough road of common experience. This will be especially true if the sample road is injected into the middle of a badly built and poorly maintained road, giving the farmer a sense of relief when he strikes the smooth stretch and of regret when he leaves it. His horse will show the If the young man is considered cligidifference in his condition. If the samhauling purposes, he will find that he can double his loads and so halve his hauling work, and thus beat his competitor using poorer roads in putting the hour, day, month and year when his crop in the market.

These demonstrations mean something to the farmer who thinks, and the percentage of thinking farmers is increasing yearly in this country. Yet even with this enlightenment the active hustling for improved road laws must be done by the agents of the department and by the various organizations which stand for good roads, such as the League of American Wheelmen and the associations of automobilists. A few more seasons of sample road building and the task of securing such laws should be easy of accomplishment.-Washington Star.

Must Have Good Roads.

Good roads are one of the features necessary to the establishment of rural free delivery routes. It is evident that the Postoffice Department meant business when it declared at the start that no free delivery would be maintained the route will be abolished. An Eastern postmaster recently received the following letter, which shows plainly the attitude of the Postoffice Depart-

that the roads traveled by rural cartion, and likely to be impassable in the patrons of routes 1 and 2 that the present lack of attention to these roads will, if continued, be likely to endanger the permanency of the rural free delivery service there.

during the winter and spring months. these highways, which are really serving as post roads, and which should alto repair all deficient portions before winter sets in, so that the permanency of rural free delivery service may be insured."-New England Homestead.

Broad Tires For Farm Wagons.

The great value of broad tires for both farm wagens and carts and those used for carrying heavy loads on the road has long been demonstrated beyoud question. In a recent bulletin issued by the experiment station of the University of the State of Missouri. the director says:

"Numerous tests of the draft of wide and narrow tired wagons have been made at this station during the last two years on macadam, gravel and dirt roads in all conditions, and on meadows, pastures and plowed lands, both wet and dry. The draft has been determined by means of a self-recording dynamometer. The net load was in every trial the same, viz., 2000 pounds. Contrary to public expectation in a large majority of cases the draft was materially less when tires six inches in width were used than

of standard width-one and one-half inches."

A summary on the results of experiments on all sorts of roads and farm

fields follows this statement.

Why Farmers Are Not Pleased. Although the rapid growth of railways in the United States has rendered unnecessary, to some extent, the construction of hard roads, advocates of good roads hold that we have reached a stage in our history when better country highways are necessary to our commercial and agricultural progress. Farmers, as a class, are not enthusiastic over the good roads movement. They feel that the expense to them would be greater than the gains. In the prairie States of the West, where there is little or no gravel, the cost of the improvement is greater than in the East, and it has not been safe there for any rural legislator to proclaim himself an advocate of good roads. If the cost of the improvement, however, were distributed according to benefit received, as is supposed to be the theory upon which city pavements are laid, the farmer might see the question in a different light.

WHERE MARRIAGE IS A LOTTERY. The Chinese Girl Knows Nothing of Her

Husband Until She is Wedded. "Marriage is truly a lottery to the Chinese girl, for she knows not what the is getting until she is actually marbe likely to take the stump for their ried." writes Sui Sin Far, in the Ladies' Home Journal. "Sometimes it is The sample road will prove to the a kind, good husband, an amiable mother-in-law, and much comfort; sometimes it is a tyrant, a mother-inlife that is a weariness to both flesh and spirit. The ceremonies of betrothal and marriage cause much trouble and anxiety. The young man's family begin the negotiations. They engage a go-between to call on the girl's family and tender a proposal of marriage. ble by the girl's parents they consult ple is long enough to meet his average a fortune-teller who decides whether the betrothal would be proper. If his decision is favorable the go-between is given a card on which is marked the girl was born. This is delivered to the young man's family, who in their turn consult a fortune-teller. If he also pronounces favorably, a festival is held by both families, the betrothal contract is signed, and the bridegroom makes a present to the bride of a pair of bracelets, but neither he nor she is present. The betrothal, however, is not considered binding until a pasteboard card has been interchanged by the families. The bridegroom's family provide two of these cards, one having a gilt dragon on its face, the other a gilt phoenix. The phoenix card is retained by the young man's family as evidence of his engagement, while the dragon card is kept by the girl's family. The betrothal is then complete."

Luminous Flowers in France.

Luminous flowers and fruit are the latest novelties in the decoration of over poor roads. Not only must the French homes. The idea was obviousroads be good in the beginning, but ly suggested to the inventor one Nathey must be kept in proper order, or tional Fete evening, when the boulevards were decked out in their gala garb. Garlands of electric blossoms were first used to decorate the streets of Paris on festive occasions during the Exhibition of 1900. They were at "Reports recently received show once voted the most effective ornaments of their kind ever imagined. riers from your office are in bad condi- The idea was developed, and tulips, violets, roses, marigolds, a dozen sorts bad weather. You will please notify of flowers, with a glowing ball of electric light enclosed in their petals of brilliantly enameled metal, now blossom forth in the trees of avenues and in the shrubs of gardens whenever Paris has a public fete. A little extra "A rural carrier cannot possibly refinement of workmanship has sufmake regular time or perform efficient ficed to adapt the luminous flowers service over poor roads, particularly for home decoration, Now all really modern Parisian drawing rooms are The summer is the time for mending converted into magic gardens. Everywhere, of course, there is the usual profusion of fresh flowers. But the ways be in passable condition for the natural blossoms appear to have actransport of the mail. It is the hope quired a supernatural radiance and of the Department that the patrons glow. Cn closer examination it is who are receiving the benefit of the found that here and there artificial service appreciate it, and that they blooms made of suitably-tinted glass will promptly co-operate in an effort have been placed, in the hearts of which shine electric lamps. The same electric flowers are used together with luminous fruit for the dinner table. They are, in reality, artificial fruit, wonderfully imitated in delicately-colored glass, each containing a tiny electric lamp.-London Telegraph's Paris Telegram.

How Rat Portage Cot Its Name. Rat Portage was named for just what the words convey, a portage for rats. It is on the Winnipeg River, just below the outlet of the Lake of the Woods. Long ago, before the country was settled as it is now, there was a portage at the point where the town is built for the thousands of muskrats that passed from the river to the lake in winter and back again to the river in spring. At the outlet of the lake there is a waterfall eighteen or twenty feet high that the rats could not pass over, so they went around, making the "portage."-Detroit Free Press.

When Bores Meet.

IN CONGRESS.

Detailed Doings of Our National Law makers. HOUSE.

Forty-first Day-General debate in the House on the oleomargarine bill have decided to offer an amendment to make the 10-cent tax on oleomargarine in imitation of butter "of any shade of yellow." The amendment is designed to meet the charge of the opponents to the bill that without this amendment the language of the bill might be construed to absolutely prohibit the sale of oleomargarine.

The speakers were: Haugen and Thomas, of Iowa; Shallenberger, of Nebraska; Dahl, of Wisconsin; Gaines, of Tennessee, and Lamb, of Virginia, for the bill, and Messrs. Feeley, of Il linois; Slayden, of Texas; Mondell, of Wyoming; Berkley, of Georgia, and Wooten, of Texas, in opposition.

The House adopted the conference report on the urgent deficiency bill and it was again sent to conference.

Forty-third Day-The House passed the oleomargarine bill, which has been under consideration in that body during the last ten days. There was no division on the final passage, the real test of strength having been made upon the motion to re-commit, which was defeated by a majority of 34, the vote standing 162 to 118. The provision to require the inspection and branding of renovated butter which was adopted in committee of the whole yesterday was retained today on an aye and nay vote. As finally passed the bill is somewhat modified from the form in which it was reported from the committee on agriculture. It makes oleomargarine or imitation butter or cheese transported into any State or Territory for use, sale or consumption therein, subject to the laws of such States or Territories, notwithstanding that it may be introduced in original packages. Penalties for violation of the act are a fine or not less than \$50 nor more than \$500 and imprisonment for not less than 30 days nor more than 6 months.

War claims occupied the attention of the House after the passage of the oleomargarine bill and the day was first bill for the payments of claims of United States citizens arising out of the Spanish war. It carried something over \$55,000 for the payment of 202 claims for property taken within the United States for the use of the army An omnibus bill carrying claims aggregating \$2,114,552 for stores and supplies taken from loyal citizens during the civil war was also passed. These claims were allowed under the provisions of the Bowman act and the bill was identical with one passed by the House at the last session. Two other bills which have been before Congress for 28 years to refer certain claims for additional compensation by the builders of certain monitors during the civil war to the Court of Claims were likewise passed.

Forty-fourth Day-The War Department's bill for the reorganization of the army staff branches and the creation of a general staff corps was transmitted to Chairman Hull, of the House military committee, and by him incroduced into a division of supplies under an officer ranking as major general with brigadier generals in charge of the branches of supplies, commissary finance and transportation. The "general staff corps" is to consider the 'military policy of the country and prepare comprehensive plans for the national defense and for the mobilization of the military forces in time o

It also haschargeo f all questions affecting the army and the co-operation of the army and navy, equipment, etc. A lieutenant general is at the head of this board, with one major general, one brigadier general, four colonels and numerous officers of lower rank.

There is a proviso that General Miles shall be chief of the general staff while he continues in active service. Forty-fifth Day-The House held short session, and did practically noth-

SENATE.

ing. It adjourned at 3:35 p. m.

Forty-first Day-Throughout the early session of the Senate, the Philippine tariff bill was under consideration. Mr. Turner, of Washington, concluded his speech begun last Friday. He devoted his argument as on the previous day, to a discussion of the legal and constitutional phases of the Philippine question, holding in the main, that as the Filipinos had established an independent government in the islands prior to the fall of Manila, the United States, under the principles of international law had no right to the islands.

Forty-third Day—With the exception of a sharp clash between Mr. Lodge and Mr. Patterson over the admission of representatives of the press to the investigation which the Philippines committee is conducting, the discussion of the Philippine tariff bill in the Senate was quiet. The Colorado Senator desired that all newspaper men be admitted to the committee hearings, declaring that as now conducted they were of a Star Chamber character. He said his recollection was that Mr. Lodge suggested that the hearings be entirely secret. This drew the fire of the Massachusetts Senator, who indignantly denied that he had suggested anything of the kind. He insisted that the reports mode of the hearings by the three press associations were accurate and fair to both sides of the controversy. The communication from the Secretary of War, transmitting a memorial of the Federal party of the Philippine Islands in support of American rule in the islands drew from Mr. Patterson the statement that the Federal party had obtained its control in the Philippines by promises to the Filipinos that they would be admitted ultimately to statehood in the United States. Mr. Teller occupied the time of the Senate during the greater part of Two bores never get any amusement today's session and has not jet conwhen the tests were made with tires out of each other.-New York Press. cluded his sneech.

In response to some statements made during the debate Mr. Teller asserted that the prominent commanders of the American army did not agree with the conclusions reached by the members of the Philippine commission as to the reconciliation of the people of the Philippines. He mentioned among others the name of General Chaffee.

Twentieth Day: When the house met there were a number vacant seats. A great many new bills were presented. The senate sent over word that it insisted on its amendment to the chicken bill. The house appointe to the committee on conference as follows: Capt. Dean. Mr. Dominick and Mr. Brown.

There was a lot of discussion but nothing of general interest was done. Twentieth Day-The senate was in session both morning and night. Beyoud the ratification of acts the proceedings of neither session were of in-

The new code was adopted at night and is now the statutory law of the State. The new jury law was also ratifield. The governor was in waiting in his office and as soon as these two acts were ratified they were sent down to the chief executive and received his signature and the seal of the State. Jurors will probably be drawn in aww. jury law.

Forty-fourth Day-A little flurry was created in the Senate over the employment, since the beginning of the session, of a score or more of extra clerks and messengers. The charges of extravagance made induced the reference of the whole subject of clerical employment to a committee for investigation and report. The matter was brought up by Mr. Clay, of eGorgia, who made a vigorous protest against a report from the committee on contingent expenses authorizing additional employes. He pointed out that during the past 30 days more than 20 extra messengers and clerks and been employed at a salary of \$1,440 each per year. He had been informed, he said, that 9 of these employes were for committees that had not had a meeting in 8 or 10 years. The bill creating a permanent census office was under consideration made notable by the passage of the for a time, but was not disposed of finally. An effort to cut down the salary of the Director of the Census was defeated.

After the passage of a large number of private pension bills, the Senate eulogized the life and character of the late Representative Brosius, of Pennsylvania.

Forty-fifth Day-During the entire session the senate had under consideration the bill establishing a permanent census bureau. It was not completed but an agreement was reached to take it up again immediately after the executive session that is to be held on Monday next for the consideration of the Danish treaty.

The great contest of the day, of course, was over the transfer to the classified service of the employes of the census office who are to be retained in the permanent establishment. It involved the entire civil service question and the debate covered much of the ground that heretofore has been gone over in congressional debates.

A School Girl Rescued.

Mocksville, N. C., Special.-Late Wednesday evening, near Beck station, eight miles north of Mocksville, Miss Mamie Stafford, aged 14. while on her way home from school, was assaulted by Luicoe Gray, a negro, but the screams of the young lady attracted the attention of near-by citizens who quickly went to her rescue, the negro fleeing with a posse in pursuit. Gray was arrested a few hours later and brought to this place by Deputy Sheriff Crotts and lodged in jail. The young lady is the daughter of Lee Stafford. of this county, and is of splendid fami-

Prince Henry Denies.

Bremerhaven.-By Cable.-Previous to sailing Prince Henry, in conversation with a correspondent of the Associated Press, referred to the report that he had written a letter to Admiral Dewey apologizing for the conduct of the German squadron in Manila bay during the war with Spain. "It is all untrue," said the prince. "I have never written to Admiral Dewey in my life."

Charged With Forgery.

Macon, Ga.-Special.-Dr. D. M. Melton alias Smith alias Clay, who is held here under charges of wholesale forgery, says he has made \$37,000 since October and that he is good for all his obligations. He says his mother is worth \$100,000 and resides in Seattle, Wn., and sends him money frequently. An officer from Sanford, Fla., arrived to take him back to Florida, where he is wanted on several charges of for-

Woman Suffragists in Session.

Washington, Special.-The first Intenrnational Woman's Suffrage Conference and the thirty-fourth annual convention of the National American Woman's Sufferage Association was begun here with an unusually large number of delegates in attendance. The convention was presided over by Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, its president. The delegates were welcomed to the city by Hon. Henry B. F. McFarland, president of the board of District commissioners.

SOUTHERN INDUSTRIA

New Enterprises That Are Enrich. Our Favored Section.

To Double Capacity

The first six months' operation Eliawhite Cotton Mills at Unionton Ala., has proven so successful that the stockholders have decided to double a plant. This action necessitates the crease of capital stock from \$75,000 \$150,000 and the installation of 35 spindles, which is the number now; operation. About fifty people are en ployed at present, and this will doubled, all the operatives housed in cottages owned by the company. Steam-power is used and yarns is the product, four bales cotton being now worked up daily. The staple used comes from the immedian vicinity of Uniontown.

A \$100,000 Enlargement.

The management of the Jackson Fiber Co., of Jackson, Tenn., has about decided upon a considerable increase its equipment of machinery, the m penditure for which would amount about \$100,000. The contemplated at ditional installation is 6,000 spindle preparatory machinery for same, a looms to take care of the product and manufacture brown cotton-bag good This company's plant at present has 20,000 spindles and 624 looms, produc ing cotton cloth for making bags. officers are members of the Beni Bros. Bag Co., of St. oLuis, Boston and other cities, and the plant at Jackson was only completed a few months an

CHANGE AT FREDERICKSBURG

Big Manufacturing Plant Makes in portant Changes.

The Fredericksburg, Va., Daily Str. of Feb. 7, says: "Mr. Chas. Tyler, d Baltimore, Md., has disposed of his in terest in the Southern Foundry and Machine Works, located in this city, to John T. Dole, Esq., of Chicago, Ill.

"The officers will be John T. Dole president, and a gantleman whose name we are not at liberty to give, vie president and general manager. Mr. Frank Tyler will be assistant manager of the mechanical department, and Mr. L. Jeff Milbourne secretary and treas-

"Mr. L. Jeff Milbourne has been in charge of the financial and sale department since last May and will continue his services in that line.

"Under the new organization the company expects to do a large and increasing business, adding more capital, putting in new and latest machin-

"In addition to the manufacturing of their well known genuine Farmers Friend, Dixie, Tyler Chilled, Oliver Pattern and other makes of plows, they manufacture a full line of saw mils, feed mills, feed cutters, corn shellers, corn planters, field and lawn rollers trucks, barrows, etc., for foreign a well as domestic trade.

"The transfer of this property means much to the city of Fredericksburg. "The purchase price was in the neighborhood of \$70,000."

The Rhodehiss Mill.

RHODHISS MILL EQUIPMENT Announcement is made of the completion of the buildings for the Rhodhiss Manufacturing Co., of Granite Falls, N. C., under construction for some months. This company organized over a year ago, with capital stock of \$300,000, and will begin operations with an installation of 15,000 spindle and 450 looms. Contract for this machinery has just been awarded, and the manufacturers will ship it as soon a possible, so that the plant may ready for producing early this summer. Water-power will be used. Gea B. Hiss of Charlotte, N. C., is president, and C. J. Rhodes, secretary treasurer.

Textile Notes,

It is reported that Rufus Hinshaw, d Graham, N. C., will build a cotton mill at some location in the South.

M. Lasker of Galveston, Texas, proposes the establishment of a bag facory at Dallas, Texas, or at For

nangieman (N. C.) Manufacturing Co, has expended considerable money for improvements recently, including the overhauling of its engine, installation of 3,000-pound capacity drying machine for raw stockhouse, etc.

R. L. Beare of Humboldt, Tenn. i corresponding with a cotton manufacturer relative to the establishment of a cotton mill at Humboldt. The manufacturer makes a liberal offer, which Mr. Beare will endeavor to meet.

Rangieman (N. C.) Hosiery Mills 15 completing improvements that will improve the character of its product of half-hose and full-ribbed hosiery.

A report states the Mineola Manufac turing Co. of Gibsonville, N. C., will change its production from plaids to outings; mill now has 2,000 spindles and 200 looms.

Central Mills of Sylacauga, Ala., now operating at full capacity day and night in order to supply the demand for its product of 10 to 26 yarns. This plan has 10,080 spindles.

R. E. Nooe of Statesville, N. C., con templates establishing a mill for manu facturing felt and cotton batting, and is asking manufacturers of the requir ed machinery to correspond with him