



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.

The sample road will prove to the farmer that it is easier to haul a given load with a given power on such a compact, smooth surface than on the old rutty, muddy, rough road of common experience.

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.

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 over poor roads.

Reports recently received show that the roads traveled by rural carriers from your office are in bad condition, and likely to be impassible in bad weather.

"A rural carrier cannot possibly make regular time or perform efficient service over poor roads, particularly during the winter and spring months. The summer is the time for mending these highways, which are really serving as post roads, and which should always be in passable condition for the transport of the mail."

Broad Tires For Farm Wagons.

The great value of broad tires for both farm wagons and carts and those used for carrying heavy loads on the road has long been demonstrated beyond question.

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.

of standard width—one and one-half inches.

Why Farmers Are Not Pleased.

Although the rapid growth of railroads 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.

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 she is getting until she is actually married," writes Sui Sin Far, in the Ladies' Home Journal.

Luminous Flowers in France.

Luminous flowers and fruit are the latest novelties in the decoration of French homes. The idea was obviously suggested to the inventor one National Fete evening, when the boulevards were decked out in their gala garb.

How Rat Portage Got 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.

When Borees Meet.

Two borees never get any amusement out of each other.

IN CONGRESS.

Detailed Doings of Our National Law-makers.

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 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 Illinois; 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.

War claims occupied the attention of the House after the passage of the oleomargarine bill and the day was made notable by the passage of the first bill for the payments of claims of United States citizens arising out of the Spanish war.

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 introduced 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.

SENATE.

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.

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.

Forty-fifth Day—The House held a short session, and did practically nothing. It adjourned at 3:35 p. m.

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.

Twentieth Day: When the house met there were a number of 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 new code was adopted at night and is now the statutory law of the State. The new jury law was also ratified.

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.

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 Lucioe 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.

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.

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.

Woman Suffragists in Session.

Washington, Special.—The first International Woman's Suffrage Conference and the thirty-fourth annual convention of the National American Woman's Suffrage Association was begun here with an unusually large number of delegates in attendance.

SOUTHERN INDUSTRIAL

New Enterprises That Are Enriching Our Favored Section.

To Double Capacity.

The first six months' operation of Ellawhite Cotton Mills at Uniontown, Ala., has proven so successful that the stockholders have decided to double the plant. This action necessitates the increase of capital stock from \$75,000 to \$150,000 and the installation of 3,500 spindles, which is the number now in operation.

A \$100,000 Enlargement.

The management of the Jackson Fiber Co., of Jackson, Tenn., has decided upon a considerable increase in its equipment of machinery, the expenditure for which would amount to about \$100,000.

CHANGE AT FREDERICKSBURG.

Big Manufacturing Plant Makes Important Changes.

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

"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."

"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 mills, feed mills, feed cutters, corn shellers, corn planters, field and lawn rollers, trucks, barrows, etc., for foreign as well as domestic trade."

The Rhodhiss Mill.

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 spindles and 450 looms.

Textile Notes.

It is reported that Rufus Hinshaw, of 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 factory at Dallas, Texas, or at Fort Worth.

R. L. Beare of Humboldt, Tenn., is corresponding with a cotton manufacturer relative to the establishment of a cotton mill at Humboldt.

A report states the Mineola Manufacturing 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., is 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 10,980 spindles.

R. E. Noe of Statesville, N. C., contemplates establishing a mill for manufacturing felt and cotton batting, and is asking manufacturers of the required machinery to correspond with him.