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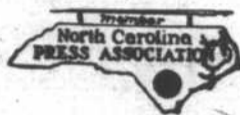
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Monday, February 21, 1949



Prosperity Follows Good Roads

(By Charles M. Upham—Reprinted from the January 20, 1949 issue of the Hawthorne, New Jersey Press.)

The culture of a country is in proportion to its transportation. It can properly be said that the prosperity of an area is dependent upon its highway transportation. If a country has no transportation facilities, stagnation soon results. A good example of this was New York snow-bound for three days.

The advantages of providing an adequate system of highways connecting major municipalities was well illustrated in North Carolina just after World War I. In 1919, just prior to launching its highway construction program, the State trailed Georgia with 125,000 motor vehicle registrations and Virginia with 105,000. North Carolina had only 65,000. North Carolina then bonded and started a highway program that connected up the entire State with improved roads. Georgia and Virginia were on a "pay-as-you-go" plan resulting in a much slower highway building program.

A few years later, when the program was nearing completion, North Carolina had 450,000 motor vehicle registrations and exceeded Virginia by 100,000 and Georgia by 150,000. When the highway construction program began there were 17 persons per car in Virginia, 20 per car in Georgia and 31 in North Carolina. In 1928, there were ten people per car in Georgia, seven per car in Virginia and six in North Carolina. The answer to this remarkable reversal is found in the fact that during this period, North Carolina built 3,500 miles of hard surface pavement, Virginia built 1,600 miles and Georgia 900 miles. Prosperity as indicated in automobiles followed the good roads. Other developments in the state were in proportion, including an influx of industry and population.

There are innumerable examples of how areas have developed immediately after highways have been provided. In Delaware, practically all of its improved highways were in the northern section which was enjoying reasonable prosperity. The lower counties had practically no roads. At certain times of the year transportation was halted completely.

Maryland, located on the same peninsula, has had the benefits of a good road system for eight or ten years. A quick glance at the conditions in those two States showed that the soil was practically the same—the people were of the same origin and heritage, and the only difference was in the condition of its highways. Maryland, which had the highways was enjoying real prosperity and was building up productive farms and marketing goods at big prices. Delaware, which had practically no roads in southern counties, maintained a stagnant economy. Its farms were anything but prosperous—due primarily to the fact the Delaware farmers could only market their crops when weather conditions made it possible.

In the twenties all this changed when roads were provided in southern Delaware. In a short time farms became more productive and farmers marketed their products at top prices. Today, the entire area is a thriving truck garden. Production has brought good profits in the larger cities where the farmers are able to sell their goods due to the fine road system that Delaware has built.

This same story has happened, and is happening in many parts of the country. It shows that the prosperity of an area is in proportion to its highway facilities. Transferring this same situation to other parts of the country, the same prosperous influences are felt regardless of whether it is an agricultural, industrial, or vacation area.

Good roads are also known to change the whole productive economy of a community. A region in Alabama, dedicated to cotton raising for generations, changed over to raising fruit and vegetables with the construction of good roads. Able to deliver to distant markets by truck, the orchards and truck gardens of the neighborhood prospered.

Every city in the United States depends to a greater or less degree on the surrounding country for food as well as for other things. The vital importance of having adequate feeder roads and keeping them open therefore becomes a matter of life and death. Shutting off a city's supply of milk, eggs, and fresh vegetables can have serious results.

We have reached the point where our highways do not meet the demands of the ever-increasing traffic. More money must be invested if we are to secure benefits that follow good roads.

The trouble with some arguments is that while they have two sides they apparently have no end.—Winston-Salem-Journal.

The world seems to be in a bad stew. China is all broken up, Turkey is afraid of the Russian bear, and Communism is still cooking in Greece.—Winston-Salem Journal.

Further evidence of the fact that the United States is now the seat of the world's culture may be found in the news that the director of the Monte Carlo casino is over here at Las Vegas learning to shoot craps.—Greensboro Daily News.

U. N. Told 'Slaves' Die By Thousands

Lake Success.—The United Nations received sworn testimony yesterday that labor slaves are dying by hundreds of thousands each year from beatings and starvation in Russia.

The testimony was taken in affidavit form by the American Federation of Labor from former inmates of slave labor camps and laid before the Economic and Social Council in a voluminous document.

The United States is backing the A. F. L. exposes with a resolution calling on the international Labor Organization (I.L.O.) to investigate slave labor.

Willard L. Thorp, U. S. Assistant Secretary of State, dared Russia on Monday to permit I.L.O. people behind the iron curtain for a look at labor conditions.

Charges Denied
Soviet delegate Semen K. Tsarapkin denied the charges completely yesterday. He countered with charges that the United States enslaved labor by such measures as the Taft-Hartley law.

The charges by the A. F. L. and the U. S. Government, he said, were intended as a smoke screen to divert attention from what he called serfdom in American labor.

The U. S. resolution was presented immediately after Miss Tony Sender, A. F. L. representative, made an hour-long speech quoting from the sworn statements.

The American proposal asked that the entire document be sent to the U. N. Commission on Human Rights.

One of the most graphic descriptions was contained in a statement by Julius Margolin, Polish author, who now lives in Israel.

10,000,000 Minimum
Margolin estimated that a minimum of 10,000,000 persons were in Russian concentration camps inside the Soviet Union. He said deaths in these camps run into the hundreds of thousands every year.

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HONOR GOD

It is great to honor God. This should be the aim, desire, plan and purpose of man. We should honor Him because He created us. He made us in His own image and likeness. "What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou has made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honor." (Psalm 8:4,5). For the honor God has bestowed upon us we should honor Him supremely.

We should honor God for our health. What a great blessing health is! No doubt there are millionaires who would give all they possess if they could buy good health with it. They can't. Good health is a great blessing from God.

We should honor God because He gives us a sound mind. This is to be appreciated more than we realize. Just visit some insane institution and behold the mentally deranged. How pitiful! Maybe many of them failed to take care of their health, and by wrecking themselves physically they wrecked themselves mentally. We ought to honor God, love and reverence Him for the right use of our minds, thus taking care of our bodies and minds.

We should honor God for our homes, our business, or that which brings us a livelihood, if we are in the right business. If home and business is not what it should be, then we ought to seek God's help and obey His directions. It is our privilege to have Christian homes and engage in business wherein God can be our partner. This pleases God.

We should honor God for our country. We live in a Bible land. We live in a land of churches, and a land where there are thousands of Christian people. Think of what it would mean to live in a country where God is unknown, and where there are no Bibles and Christian people, and where millions bow to deaf, dumb idols and worship them. Their prayers and hearties are not heard; they carry their own burdens; they get no relief from their sins; they suffer in body, mind and soul. Their gods can't help them. Our God forgives our sins when we call upon Him, sanctifies and saves us from sin, and prepares us to live here and hereafter. We should honor Him for our souls, and with our souls consecrated fully unto Him. Everybody ought to honor God. To do so brings glorious rewards, but to fail will bring a tragic consequence.

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