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WHOLE NO. 412

SAND-CLAY ROADS

By M. O. ELDERDORF

About 1894, an agent of the office of Public Roads found several miles of natural road near Cape Charles on the sandy shore of eastern Virginia which were smooth and firm throughout the year. An examination of the material developed the fact that the surface was composed of a mixture of sand and clay. An expert of the Office, a few years later, while attending a road meeting in Marion County, Florida, found that the road officials of that county were making excellent roads by surfacing the old sandy roads with a clay and sand mixture obtained near Bartow. From these observations, the origin of the sand-clay road may be traced.

Comparatively little, if any, sand-clay road had been constructed previous to 1894, but, since that time, experts of the Office of Public Roads have been studying and experimenting with this method of construction, and advocating its use, with the result that, ten years after the first observation was made along this line by the Office, there were 2,975 miles of sand-clay roads in the South, distributed as follows:

Table with 2 columns: State, Miles. South Carolina 1,575; Georgia 513; North Carolina 438; Florida 435; Alabama 12.

At the present time, there are probably twice as many miles as in 1904 its popularity being due to the facts that it is cheap, comparatively firm and durable, easy to construct and repair, and that, the materials out of which it is built are plentiful in many sections of the country.

The sand-clay road is made by mixing the sand and clay in such a way that the grains of sand touch each other, the spaces between the grains being entirely filled with clay which acts as a binder. The approximate mixture of sand and clay may be determined by filling a vessel with a sample of the sand to be used, and another vessel of the same size with water. The water is poured carefully into the sand until it reaches the point of overflowing. The volume of water removed from the second vessel represents approximately the proportion of clay needed.

The proper proportion of sand and clay can best be determined, however, as the work progresses, as some clay will contain more sand than others. In fact, clays are very frequently found which already contain about the right proportion of sand. This is true of

the Bartow clay, above referred to.

THE CLAYON SAND ROAD.

If the road to be treated is sandy, the surface is first leveled off and crowned with a road machine, the crown being about 1/4" to the foot from the center to the sides. The clay is then dumped on the surface and carefully spread, so that it will be from 6" to 8" in depth at the center, and gradually decreasing in depth towards the sides. A layer of clean sand is then added, which is thoroughly mixed with the clay either by traffic or by means of plows and disk and tooth harrows.

The best results have been obtained by thoroughly mixing or puddling the materials when wet. For this reason, it is desirable to do the mixing in wet weather. The mixing can be left to the traffic after materials have been properly placed, but this involves a whole winter and spring of bad road, and even then the mixing is not always satisfactory. In all cases, it is advisable to dress the road with a road machine or split-log drag after the materials have been thoroughly mixed, and to give it a crown of not more than 1" or less than 1/2" to the foot from the center to the sides. A light coating of sand may then be added.

THE SAND ON CLAY ROAD.

If the road to be treated is composed of clay, it should be brought to a rough grade with a road machine; the surface should then be plowed and thoroughly pulverized by harrowing to a depth of about 4" after which it should be given a crown or slope of about 1/4" to the foot from the center to the sides. It is then covered with from 6" to 8" of clean sharp sand, which is spread thicker in the center than at the sides. The materials should then be mixed with plows and harrows while they are comparatively dry, after which they are finally puddled with a harrow during wet weather.

If clay works to the surface and the road becomes sticky, more sand is needed.

The road should be shaped, crowned and ditched in the usual manner with a road machine. This should be done when the surface is soft, yet stiff enough to pack well under the roll or the traffic. Wide but shallow ditches should be provided on both sides of the road, and culverts or cross drains should be placed wherever water flows across the road, for it is exceedingly important that the sand on clay road be well drained.

After the clay on sand, or the sand on clay, road is completed, it should be carefully maintained until the surface becomes firm and smooth. The construction of this type of road is by no means a quick operation. If soft, sticky places appear, more sand should be added, and if loose, sandy places are found, more clay is needed. It is just as important to attend to these small details as to any other part of the work, for, if they are neglected, the road is liable to fail.

It requires approximately 1 cubic yard of clay to surface 1 1/2 running yards of road 12' in width or about 1173 cubic yards to the mile. From 3/4 to 1 cubic yard will make a load for two horses on a dry clay road. The cost of the road will therefore depend largely upon the distance the material is hauled, the average being from \$300 to \$800 per mile. A road built under the direction of the Office of Public Roads at Gainesville, Florida, 1 mile long, 14' wide, and having 9" of sand clay surface, cost \$881 per mile, or ten cents per square yard. Another sand clay road built by the Office at Tallahassee, Florida, 16' wide, 7" thick cost \$470 per mile, or about five cents per square yard.

Fever Sores

Fever sores and old chronic sores should not be healed entirely, but should be kept in healthy condition. This can be done by applying Chamberlain's Salve. This salve has no superior for this purpose. It is also most excellent for chapped hands, sore nipples, burns and diseases of the skin. For sale by All Druggists & Dealers in Patent Medicine.

A Sicilian Child's Amulets. In Sicily old time superstitions are still general. The constant dread of the peasantries is the evil eye, and all wear charms to ward it off. When a child is born four amulets are hung about its neck—a little horn of coral, a cockleshell, a key and a tiny sack of salt—the horn to keep away the evil eye, the shell for safe keeping, the key to enter paradise and the salt for wisdom.—Fekotto's "By Italian Seas."

A tickling cough, from any cause, is quickly stopped by Dr. Shoop's Cough Cure. And it is so thoroughly harmless and safe, that Dr. Shoop tells mothers everywhere to give it without hesitation even to very young babes. The wholesome green leaves and tender stems of a lung-healing mountainous shrub, furnish the curative properties to Dr. Shoop's Cough Cure. It calms the cough, and heals the sore and sensitive bronchial membranes. No opium, no chloroform, nothing harsh used to injure or oppress. Simply a resinous plant extract, that helps to heal aching lungs. The Spaniards call this shrub which the Doctor uses, "The Sacred Herb." Always demand Dr. Shoop's Cough Cure. S. R. Biggs.



MISS MILDRED KELLER.

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Friends Were Alarmed—Advised Change of Climate. Miss Mildred Keller, 718 18th street, N. W., Washington, D. C., writes: "I can safely recommend Peruna for catarrh. I had it for years and it would respond to no kind of treatment, or if it did it was only temporary, and on the slightest provocation the trouble would come back. "I was in such a state that my friends were alarmed about me, and I was advised to leave this climate. Then I tried Peruna, and to my great joy found it helped me from the first dose I took, and a few bottles cured me. "It built up my constitution, I regained my appetite, and I feel that I am perfectly well and strong."—Mildred Keller. We have on file many thousand testimonials like the above. We can give our readers only a slight glimpse of the vast array of unsolicited endorsements Dr. Hartman is receiving.

Government by Commission.

Virginia cities are turning to the Texas plan of municipal government. Some weeks ago the common council of Lynchburg adopted a committee report favorable to it. The Staunton council has adopted a similar committee report except that according to the Richmond News Leader, the Staunton proposition goes further than it has been carried in Texas. It recommends that the control and management of the city's executive and administrative affairs be placed in the hands of one man, to be selected by the council, to be known as general manager, to be adequately paid to give his entire time and thought to the city's service. And our contemporary says "a plan looking to the same general end but following more closely the methods of the Texas cities is under serious consideration in Richmond."

Municipal government by commission has proven successful wherever it has been inaugurated, even in so large a city as Des Moines, Iowa. The idea is spreading and it would not be surprising if the near future should witness its general adoption in the towns of the country and the cities also, excepting those of great size.—Charles Observer.

Help your Carrier

Postmaster Mobley desires to call attention to the practice of some patrons of rural delivery of placing loose coins in their boxes each time they desire to dispatch letters in stead of supplying themselves with postage in advance of their needs. This practice imposes undue hardship on rural carriers in removing loose coins from boxes and delays them on the service of their routes.

The postmaster, therefore, urgently requests the patrons of rural delivery provide themselves and keep on hand a supply of stamps consistent with and in advance of their needs. It is also very desirable that rural patrons place in their mail boxes small detachable cups of wood or tin in which to place coins, when necessary, in purchasing supplies of stamps.

It depends upon the pill you take. DeWitt's Little Early Risers are the best pills known for constipation and sick headache. Sold by S. R. Biggs.

Personally Conducted.

By ARTHUR BOLTONWOOD. Copyrighted, 1907, by J. G. Reed.

"It has been very much like a dream," the girl was saying earnestly. "Of course I had pictured it all out to myself, but I never imagined it would be anything like this. It has been—she paused as if seeking a proper adjective—"heavenly," she said at length, with a little reminiscent sigh. "The only trouble is that it ends all too soon. Day after tomorrow we sail for home." Lancaster looked at the pretty, eager face beside him, and the pathos of it touched him. He was trying to imagine how the word "heavenly" could apply to the dull, colorless wanderings of these "personally conducted" tourists. He glanced through the door into the next room. There they were, gathered about a tired looking guide who was using his umbrella as a pointer while he explained nasally, "This, ladies and gentlemen, is an excellent example of Rembrandt's later work." They were a weary looking but eager group, anxious evidently that nothing should escape them. They lifted their tired eyes to the picture indicated by the umbrella and stared at it dully while the droning voice recited off its stereotyped phrases like some school-boy reciting a well learned lesson. "We must go back," said the girl.

glancing uneasily at a tiny silver watch. "We are missing a lot." "You had better rest a while," Lancaster counseled. "We'll take it all in by and by. I think I know this gallery quite as well as the guide does. I'll show you a Vandyke that they will miss entirely. We'll take our time and go back to the hotel leisurely." "The girl looked at him narrowly. "Then you've been here before?" she asked.

Lancaster nodded his assent. "I've been watching you since you joined us at Cologne," she said. "Most of the time you've been very much bored. I concluded you had seen it all before." Lancaster said nothing. He was wondering if some sudden intuition had given her an inkling of the truth. "If you had taught school in Iowa as many terms as I have," said she, "if you had slaved and saved and looked



"ARE YOU GOING BACK TO IOWA TO TEACH SCHOOL?" ed forward to this, perhaps you would enjoy it as I do. But you've been awfully kind since you've joined us. You've shown me lots of things I wouldn't have missed for worlds and that I'd never have seen but for your thoughtfulness. Oh, I knew you must have traveled this country quite extensively." She looked at him with an intentness that was rather disconcerting. "Tell me," she said, "why should you, knowing all these things as you do, care to travel with us?" Lancaster regarded her for a time in thoughtful silence. Dare he tell her the truth? He looked into her clear gray eyes and decided to risk it. "Shall I tell you the real reason?" he asked. "Why, yes, of course," she replied, with a little note of surprise in her voice. "Well, then," said Lancaster sturdily, "it was because of you." "The color deepened in her cheeks. "Oh!" she said, with sudden comprehension. Her eyes fell. She was abstractedly pulling her gloves to cover her embarrassment. "You remember that evening at the hotel in Cologne?" Lancaster went on, "when you and I were partners at whist? I joined your party the next morning. I wanted to be with you—just to be near you." "I—I rather wish you hadn't told me," she said uneasily. "Would you rather I had fibbed positively?" he asked. "No," she replied slowly. "You see," Lancaster explained, "I'd been poking about the continent all by my lonesome, and, to tell the truth, I'd not been having a very brilliant time of it. And that night at Cologne—He paused. "Yes, that night at Cologne?" she prompted. "It seemed," he said very gravely, "as if you fitted into a niche in my life that had been made for you and that had always been waiting for you." She was still nervously pulling her gloves. The personally conducted flocks, headed by the guide, swarming his umbrella like a shepherd's flock, were filing out of the room beyond, bound for the hotel. "Are you going back to Iowa to teach school?" asked Lancaster. "Yes," she said quietly. "There was a rather painful silence for a time. "Is teaching school in Iowa something very, very desirable?" he pursued. "Not always," she confessed. "I was thinking," said he, "that after we got home I should like very much to come to Iowa if you'd let me, and then I'd like to bring you back here for a little personally conducted tour all our own—just yours and mine. I haven't showed you a tenth part of what I'd like to show you then when just you and I are in the party." He leaned nearer her. "I want that personally conducted tour to go on forever," he added. He spoke quietly, but with such earnestness that the hot blood crept even to her temples. He noticed that her hands were trembling and that her breath had quickened. "It would be no end better than this tour," said he. "What do you think of it?" Very deliberately her eyes were lifted to meet his. He read in their depths an answer that set his pulses bounding. "Oh, it would be"—she began. "Heavenly," he suggested, with a gay laugh. "Yes, heavenly," she said softly as his hand closed over hers.

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