

Adapted to Main Highways

MACADAM ROADS TOO EXPENSIVE FOR CITY STREETS OR RURAL BYWAYS, UNCLE SAM SAYS

(By United Press)

Washington, August 9.—"The Macadam road," said the United States Office of Public Roads to-day "is particularly adapted to main highways connecting centers of population, but it is not satisfactory for city streets and is too expensive for rural roads other than highways or pikes." The department has been investigating.

From 12 to 15 feet is recommended as a suitable width, provided the road is flanked on each side with firm shoulders from three to 5 feet wide, to prevent shearing of the sides by wheels.

The Macadam method of road construction was first introduced about the beginning of the nineteenth century in England by a Scotchman named John Loudon McAdam. The chief feature of the construction which has since become one of the foremost methods of road building in every country of the world, are: a raised, thoroughly drained, and crowned earth foundation; a sub surface of broken stone fragments, not larger than two and a half inches in diameter and of uniform size; a surface binding of stone dust and screenings.

During the last forty years this method has been modified and the stone fragments are graduated in size with the coarser stones at the

bottom. Recently various bituminous preparations have been added to the surface of bidders. Heavy, petroleum oils, asphalt, bituminous cements and tar mixtures are now used largely for this purpose. The addition of some such binding material renders the road impervious to the damaging action of water and forms a hard smooth, resilient surface. Although it was formerly thought necessary to surface the road with a layer of macadam from 8 to 12 inches in depth, Uncle Sam's road experts declared the surface should be as thin as is consistent with durability—not over six inches deep in any cases and often only three.

This saving of surfacing material greatly lowers the cost of the road, without detracting from its wearing qualities in the least, they contend. The road bed should be of porous material, well-drained and should be free from clay or loam. Grades exceeding six feet to every 100 feet of road are considered excessive for heavy traffic. Curves with less than two hundred feet radius should be avoided. Build around the slope of a hill—not over it. Build as straight as possible, always considering grading first. A special recommendation is made by the office of public roads that the surface crossing of railroad tracks be eliminated through culverts or overhead bridges.

Trap rock is considered by the Government experts as the best for road building purposes, although some granites and the harder limestones give good results. The United States of Public Roads tests samples of rock submitted to it without charge, and furnishes advice as to the fitness of any sample for road building.

The cost is entirely dependent on local conditions and the avail-

ability of materials. However, an estimate of the cost of the macadam surface, foundation and drainage cost, eliminated, places the average expenditure, where imported trap rock is used, at approximately \$3000 to \$5000 per mile.

In Massachusetts, the actual cost of imported trap rock, in place and rolled, was \$1.70 a ton, covering 3.13 square yards of surface at five inches in depth. Local stone was secured in this instance at \$1.22 a ton.

Construction of macadam roads as of any other kind, in the opinion of the United States Road Bureau should always be under the direction of an experienced road engineer "if best results are to be obtained."

All Plans Are Formulated

Definite plans were formulated Monday night by Mr. Thomas J. Markham and his committee of helpers for a campaign for the raising of funds for furnishing and equipping the Y. M. C. A. Building.

The plan of campaign is being mapped out very carefully and Mr. Markham is very hopeful that the committee who have undertaken this work will meet with complete success.

For the present the committee are proceeding quietly but before the campaign is closed measures will be taken to give the movement wide publicity and everybody will have an opportunity to make a contribution to the fund.

Elizabeth City's Y. M. C. A. has been open since the first of May and those who took the lead in the opening of the building for active work are expecting to carry their plans now to a successful conclusion.

HOLTON—KIRBY

Mr. Oscar Holton and Miss Bessie Kirby, both of this city were married Sunday at the bride's home on Parsonage street by Dr. B. C. Henning, pastor of the First Baptist church. The bride is the daughter of Mr. J. F. Kirby of this city and the groom is the son of Mrs. Laura Kirby of Beaufort county.

Rhodenberg Assails Hughes

(By United Press)

Washington, Aug. 8.—Representative Rhodenberg of Illinois assailed Candidate Hughes today for consulting on the Mexican situation Senator Fall whose hobby is intervention and Ambassador Wilson, discredited ambassador to Mexico.

Starving They Eat Human Flesh

(By United Press)

Boston, Aug. 8th.—Rather than starve the Armenians are eating human flesh, according to a cable to the American Committee for Armenian Relief.

The cable, it is claimed, was received from a high authority in Turkey and is believed reliable.

It is stated that the Armenians, driven to desperation, are devouring the bodies of their exhausted comrades.

Hundreds were sent to the desert of Arabia and the Euphrates valley without food and their plight is pitiable in the extreme.

THROWN INTO BOILING OIL

(By United Press)

Condit, Ala. Aug. 8.—Thomas P. Cravette, superintendent of a Turpentine plant here, met instant death today when his body, hurled by an explosion against a brick wall dropped into a vat of boiling oil.

Mexico Ready Broaden Scope

(By United Press)

Washington, Aug. 8.—Mexico is willing to "broaden the scope" of negotiations between that country and the United States to include a discussion of the economic rehabilitation of the country, according to a statement given out by minister-designate Arredondo today.

It is the desire of his government however, that matters of military issue be taken up and settled first, however.

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Reduction in Postal Rates

(By United Press)

Washington, Aug. 8.—Postmaster-General Barieson has announced his intention of making a two-cent stamp carry anywhere in the Western Hemisphere. The cut will probably become effective during September.

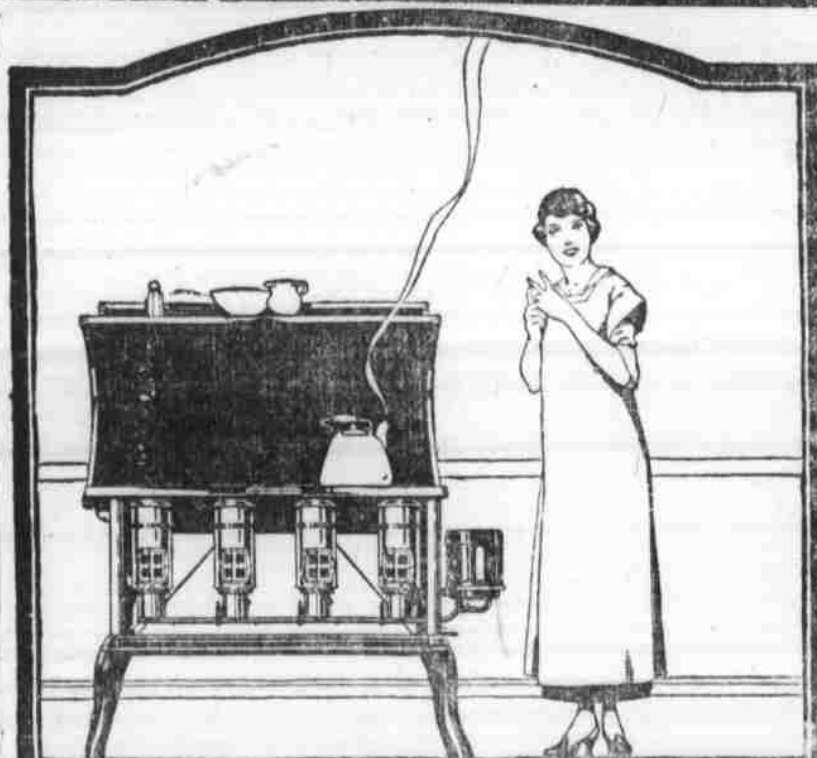
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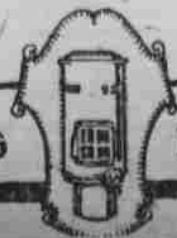
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