

FOR BETTER ROADS

GREATEST WASTE OF MONEYS

Proper Maintenance of Public Roads Is More Important Than Building —Lax Methods Used.

(By E. B. HOUSE, Colorado Agricultural College, Fort Collins, Colo.)

The greatest waste of public moneys that is being committed today is in surfacing our country roads and then apparently abandoning the same. No county that engages in real road building can afford to dismiss its workmen when the road has been constructed.

It rarely ever happens that the initial work on the road is done wisely.



Road in National Estes Park.

but there are a multitude of little things that later must be added or repaired in order that the road may be in good condition. Ruts and chuck holes are sure to form and these must be filled or the road soon goes to pieces. These things should be planned for and done quickly if the improved road is to do the fullest service, and this is the one thing that it seems to me some of our county commissioners are neglecting. They become so imbued with the idea of building good roads that they fail to prepare for the maintenance of roads already constructed.

NEGLECT SEEN ALONG ROADS

Many Farmers Fail to Clean Up Strip of Land by Side of Road—Keep It Seeded to Grass.

It is surprising how many folk have not gotten around to slicking up the strip of land by the side of the road that belongs to them.

That is a part of their domain—clear to the center of the highway, and it is their right, as well as their duty, to put it in the finest shape possible.

It makes the farm look so much better to clear out the old hedgerow and seed it down to grass.

IMPROVED ROAD ADDS VALUE

Good Highways Are Wise Investment, As They Bring Farmer Into Closer Touch With World.

The department of agriculture is authority for the statement that road improvement in Dallas county, Alabama, has added \$5 an acre to the value of lands within half a mile of the improved road.

Good roads are a wise investment. They bring the farmer into closer touch with the world, increasing his access to markets and his opportunity for joy of living, as well as adding value to his farm.

RURAL ROADS AND BRIDGES

Increase in Annual Expenditures of More Than 250 Per Cent in Past Twelve Years.

During the past 12 years the annual expenditures on the rural roads and bridges in the United States have increased from about \$80,000,000 to about \$282,000,000, or an increase of more than 250 per cent. During this same period the annual expenditures from state funds for road and bridge construction and maintenance have increased from \$2,550,000 to \$53,492,000, or almost 2,000 per cent.

Increase Farm Land Values.

An increase in farm land values varying from 25 to 194 per cent has been produced by improvement of main market roads, according to statistics collected by the federal office of public roads and rural engineering.

Seamless Milk Pails.

Milk pails and cans should be smooth, with all cracks and seams flushed with solder. Seamless pails and cans have been placed on the market.

ACROSS THE STREET

By ISABEL FROST.

"One of the joys of living in a city is not knowing or caring who your next door neighbor is, and equal indifference on his or her side."

Jean poured tea with her customary air of absorbed nonchalance.

"Now, where I came from everyone knows all about you. It's simply terrible. You never feel grown up. I'm nineteen and nobody called me Miss Ashton, not a single person. They just said Bab, or that Ashton girl. And because I wanted to break away by myself and do something in the world they—well, they didn't approve."

Hartley eyed her curiously from his place on the high window seat. What a queer, self-sufficient little wanderer she was. It was quite as if a very young, adventurous kitten had started off to see the world by itself. It was mighty nice of Jean to get her under her wing, he thought. Jean was always doing that sort of thing, opening the doors of her Ninth street studio wide to all heart wayfarers who needed cheering up. He could not measure up all that her faith and comradeship had meant to him during his own uphill fight in New York. Perhaps the only thing about Jean he did not like was that she herself never seemed to need help from anyone. He would have loved to know she needed him; that his presence and companionship were a strength to her; that she even missed him when he failed to show up for a few days. As it was, she merely gave him the usual smile and happy greeting, and went on with her work.

It was a week later when he got the tickets to Savelli's musicale. There was a splendid cellist and a good soloist, a young soprano who sang folk songs. He thought Jean might like to go. But instead she told him over the phone that she was too busy, and asked if he would mind taking Bab. The kiddie was lonely and rather at sea, said Jean.

That was the beginning, and he went on sullenly at first, then indignantly, believing it was all Jean's fault. Bab enjoyed going around with him to the exhibitions and little studio teas immensely. She was pretty and exuberant, tantalizing and whimsical.

One day she came up to Jean's studio rather white and discouraged.

"You know I'm not earning anything at all, not a cent," she said suddenly. "It's funny how little one can live on here, isn't it? I hate spaghetti and cereals. Mother was the most wonderful cook you ever saw. I don't see how people starve in garrets and paint or write masterpieces."

Jean did not take her seriously. It was so usual to say you are not making money, and only meant you were not earning the hundreds you had hoped to.

The morning of the fourth day a phone call came from Miss Milligan, the landlady across the street.

"You're little Miss Ashton's friend, aren't you? Well, she's pretty sick, and if something isn't done the doctor says she's got to go to a hospital right away. It's pneumonia, he says, and she hasn't been eating regular."

Jean stood in the middle of the floor, thinking quickly. Then in five minutes she had called up a good nurse, her own doctor, and had made arrangements for bringing Bab over to her own cozy suite of rooms. When Hartley came down at noon she met him at the door with her finger to her lips. He listened in silent wonder as she told him what she had done.

"But your work—"

"Never mind my work. We've got to feed her up and put her on her feet again. Go and send a telegram to her mother for me. Answer that phone, will you, while I write this?"

Hartley obeyed, and turned from it to her with a curious smile.

"There's somebody downstairs from Haines Falls," he said. "He wants to know if you know where Miss Ashton is. Isn't she from Haines Falls?"

"I'll see him." Jean went down the winding staircase quickly, and met the tall, anxious-faced youngster waiting there.

"I got a letter from Bab—from Miss Ashton—last night," he said brokenly. "We were engaged, you know, and she broke it, but she wrote me she was on the last lap, and she didn't care what happened she was so hungry and sick. So I came at once to take her home. I wondered if you'd fix it so we could be married first."

Half an hour later Jean left the two together in the darkened room, Bab, her eyes bright with fever, but conscious and holding fast to the big boy's hand. Hartley sat in the studio on the window seat waiting for her. She went to him; her eyes rather tired now that the nerve-strain was over.

"I'm going to let him take her home as soon as she can travel. You don't know how guilty I feel, Wade, to have let her live right across the street and get into such a state. I thought, of course, you were looking after her if you were in love with her."

"Who said I was?"

"You did, over in the square."

"I said I was in love."

"Well?"

"Jean," he said softly, despairingly. "Jean, can't you see anything; can't you understand anything at all?"

The nurse stepped to the door for something, but after one glance retreated noiselessly. There is such a thing as professional discretion.

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Better Farming in the South

FOOD AS WELL AS COTTON THE NATION ASKS OF DIXIE

South May Be Face to Face With Disaster If Food As Well As Cotton Is Not Grown by Farmers—Home Guards of Defense in Great Army, Is Position of the Farmer.

From the Farm Service Bureau.

In time of war the interests of the army come first. Regular commerce must give way to troop trains, ammunition and army freight in general. At such times the wants of people cannot be readily supplied. Forethinking people will, therefore, prepare against it.

The Southern farmer is facing this situation. What ought he to do?

Railroads have been hauling millions of dollars' worth of food products to the South each year. Recently there have been occasional "famines" in some of these articles because of the inability of the railroads to haul all they were offered. In fact, serious situations have been narrowly averted.

What then might be the result of a car shortage more acute than has ever been experienced?

How would Southern cities be fed? Where would the Southern farmer who raises only cotton, get food? "Grave possibilities are, therefore, confronted. They are probabilities if immediate steps are not taken.

How can such a disaster be forestalled? Only by the Southern farmer growing foodstuffs as well as cotton. He can do it. It is his duty to do it. It is his patriotic service. In doing this piece of work he will be one of the most useful units in the army of defense.

At this time it is as important for the Southern farmer to enlist to produce food crops as it is for the young men of the South to enlist as soldiers. It will be easy to get men for the army. It should be easy to get men to raise farm crops. Let Southern farmers rally to the call. Let them become Home Guards by producing this summer such crops as corn, cowpeas, sweet potatoes, beans, sorghum, peanuts, soy beans, velvet beans and such garden crops as tomatoes, turnips, cabbage, onions, Irish potatoes — by raising hogs, poultry — by producing eggs, milk, butter — by preserving berries, fruits, vegetables — and do all this not only for themselves, but produce enough to have some to sell.

Efficiency and maximum crops are what the national leaders are calling for. This means making every lick count to the utmost. It means good preparation, liberal fertilization, thorough cultivation, and crop conservation.

Emergency Crops

As a guide in meeting the crisis, which is now confronting the South, the Farm Service Bureau suggests the following, which of course, must be modified to suit local conditions:

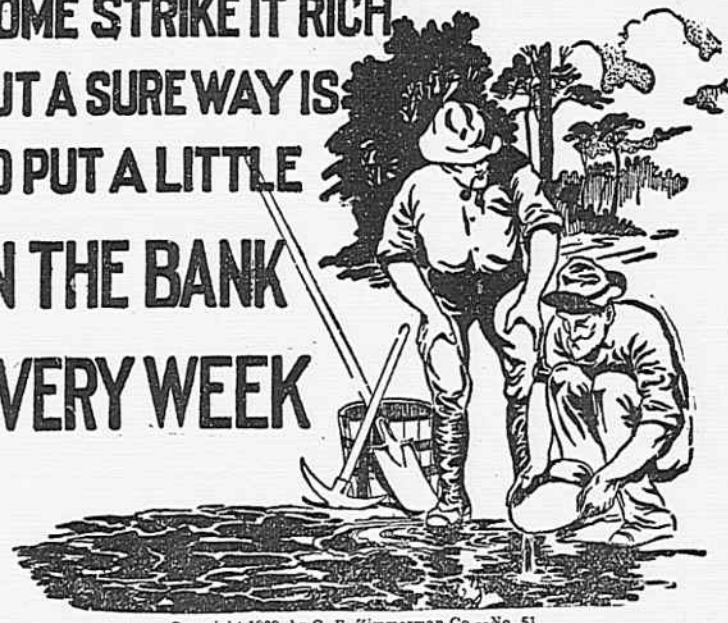
Those crops which can be used for food for man or beast, and which can be planted at once should be given immediate attention. The acreage of cotton per plow may be maintained, and all possible efforts should be put forth to increase the yield. Lint will bring a good price, and seed will prove valuable because of their oil. On a 25-acre tract, in ten or eleven acres of cotton may be given each plow, and it is recommended that seven or eight acres be given to corn in which should be planted peas, soy beans or velvet beans. The corn can be harvested, and the beans or peas given over to pasture or gathered for feed. At least two acres should be given to soy beans or cowpeas and sorghum for hay. One acre for grazing; one acre for sorghum syrup; one acre for sweet potatoes, and one for different kinds of vegetables. This will give a total of 25 acres, and represents only the crops for summer planting. Winter grains may be seeded immediately after some of these are harvested.

Everything bearing upon large yields should be given emphasis. The land should be thoroughly prepared; the best known varieties used; the right kind and liberal amounts of fertilizer applied, and thorough cultivation given.

This is of special importance over much of the South where the soils are lacking in soluble plant foods. Not less than 400 to 600 pounds of fertilizer should be used per acre on the crops suggested.

On account of the car shortage and the farmers' inability to secure ample fertilizer to put under their crops at the time the land was being prepared, it is recommended that a liberal side application of fertilizer be used on all crops already planted. Increase of crop yields will come with increase in quantity of fertilizer used.

SOME STRIKE IT RICH BUT A SURE WAY IS TO PUT A LITTLE IN THE BANK EVERY WEEK



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