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1909

BAD ROADS

A local farmer, after listening to a
reformer on the subject of good roads
at a banquet, took up and said: "What
we are interested in is not good roads
—but bad roads."

There is a lot to that remark.

And at the bottom of this bad roads
question, like most other things, you
will find that this is the fault of the
system. Roads in America are built
helter-skelter, under various super-
vision, under trying conditions of all
sorts, with indifferent money supplies
and worst of all, by the remnants of the
feudal system, called "working out the
tax."

It is, therefore, with pleasure that we
find Mr. Logan Waller Page of the
Director of the Office of Public Roads
saying in World's Work:

"The present system of taxation,
tried upon an unfair basis, cannot be
expected to produce the best results.
It is essential that the methods which
are adopted for obtaining road reve-
nues, shall distribute the burden that
all parties and interests benefited shall
contribute in proportion to their means
and the advantages to be obtained.
This will necessitate a general revision
of road laws so as to provide for state
appropriations to supplement county
and township funds and an adjustment
of taxation so that the cities, the great
corporations, and the owners of auto-
mobiles will bear a considerable por-
tion of the cost.

From time immemorial localization
has proven a totally inadequate policy
in the administration of public roads.
The interests of most of the counties
and townships are too small and the
available revenues too meagre to ad-
mit of the continuous employment of
skilled engineers and road builders to
direct this kind of internal improve-
ment. On the other hand, a central-
ization of authority and supervision
in a state official is feasible and eco-
nomical because the state can, for the
benefit of all the counties, maintain a
corps of competent highway engineers
who will systematize and properly di-
rect the work in each county, the to-
tal cost of this state department being
so widely distributed as to rest but
lightly upon the individual counties.
Centralization must, therefore, be a
dominant factor in solving our road
problems."

ONLY AN ADVERTISEMENT

"Pure—because of our sunlit sanita-
ry kitchen, our own careful, watchful
inspection, and a plant inspected and
approved by a government Food In-
spector."

Not long ago we can remember some-
what of a squabble over the benzoate
of soda question. There have been
several over the pure food laws it has
been a long, hard fight.

Now and then determined, but mis-
guided folk who have things to sell
which are not worth the buying, and
which are dangerous to mankind in
their disease producing results—fight
legislation which seeks to protect the
public.

There is one manufacturer whose
food is so clean that he aided the men
who were determined to protect the
public.

Is it any wonder that people like to
buy his goods?

We are grieved now and then that
people in various businesses have not
the forethought to invite the inspection
of their wares by the closest scrutiny
possible.

The people will pay five times as
much for the pure thing—and buy more
of it.

His Pride Rebelled.

"Yes," said the woman of the house,
"I'll give you a plate of victuals if
you'll say nothing about it to anybody.
I don't care to have it known that I
feed tramps. You can eat on the back
porch, you know, and keep it mum."

"No, thanks. You kin keep it, mum!"
answered Saymold Storey, tilting his
battered hat forward, stiffening up
and stalking majestically off the premises.
—Chicago Tribune.

COMMISSION GOVERNMENT

— V. —

THE EFFICIENCY OF A COMMISSION

"Till now we have assured ourselves: 'A city is a business corpora-
tion'—and run it with a legislature."

In a previous article we have seen how the removal of officials is placed directly in the hands of the people by the Recall. This must continuously be borne in mind in the following discussion. For the people have always guarded the power which they have cautiously bestowed in their public officers. They have since the beginning of this republic taken every precaution to keep a check on each department of government lest it get too powerful and overthrow the rights of the people for their own profit.

If this has led to great evils in the national government—it has occasioned even greater ones proportionately in city government. A city is a corporation, doing business—yet we load it with a balanced power which can do no business quickly and cheaply and effectively and which has at the same time afforded a good nesting place for all of the evils of American politics.

The beginnings of city government in this country were from small villages. There were no great cities. The framers of the constitution of the United States did well when they made the constitution because they could draw from the vast experience of England and their own struggle against the mother country.

But when it came to the town—
What was done—it was shoved off to shift for itself without a model to draw from. Boston did not get a city charter until 1822 although it had been operating for two centuries previously. The development was from the village and the town.

Listen to what Seth Low says in a chapter on Municipal Govern-
ment contributed to Bryce's American Commonwealth:

"Growing thus out of the town, it happened very naturally that the first conception of the city on the part of Americans was that which had applied to the town and the village as local subdivisions of the commonwealth. Charters were framed as if they were little states. Americans are only now learning after many years of bitter experience that they are not so much little states as large corporations. Many of the mistakes which have marked the progress of American cities up to this point have sprung from that defective conception.

"The aim deliberately was, to make a city government where no officer by himself, should have the power to do much harm. The natural result of this was to create a situation where no officer had power to do much good. Meanwhile bad men united for corrupt purposes and the whole organization of the city government aided such in throwing responsibility from one to another."

Now the question has always been, how can we elect men and give them all the power they want without giving ourselves into the power of unscrupulous men and handing over our rights which will be used to our disadvantage? This question having been settled by the Recall, by which the citizens may take the reins into their own hands at anytime, the thing is easy.

Some thirty-five cities in various parts of North America have dis-
persed with the old plan of mayor, board of works, councils elected from wards and police commissioners, etc. They have said: "This way of doing business is too complicated. When we want any thing done, this is too cumbersome. When anything goes wrong we don't know who is responsible. What we want is a board of directors to run this corporation. And we want to be able to get rid of them when they won't do what we, the stockholders want."

The Des Moines Plan which we have already outlined is as follows:

Sec. 7. The council shall have and possess and the council and its members shall exercise all executive, legislative and judicial powers and duties now had, possessed and exercised by the mayor, city council, board of public work, park commissioners, board of police and fire commissioners, board of water-works trustees, board of library trustees, solicitor, assessor, treasurer, auditor, city engineer, and other executive and administrative officers in cities of the first class and cities acting under special charter. The executive and administrative powers, authority and duties in such cities shall be distributed into and among five departments, as follows:

1. Department of Public Affairs.
2. Department of Accounts and Finance.
3. Department of Public Safety.
4. Department of Streets and Public Improvements.
5. Department of Parks and Public Property.

"The council shall determine the powers and duties to be performed by, and assign them to the appropriate departments; shall prescribe the powers and duties of officers and employees; may assign particular officers and employees to one or more of the departments; may require an officer or employee to perform duties in two or more departments; and may make such other rules and regulations as may be necessary or proper for the efficient and economical conduct of the business of the city.

"Sec. 8. The mayor shall be superintendent of the department of Public Affairs, and the council shall at the first regular meeting after election of its members designate by majority vote one councilman to be superintendent of the department of Accounts and Finance; one to be superintendent of the department of Public Safety; one to be superintendent of the department of Streets and Public Improvements; and one to be superintendent of the department of Parks and Public Property; but such designation shall be changed whenever it appears that the public service would be benefitted thereby.

"The council shall, at said first meeting, or as soon as practicable thereafter, elect by majority vote the following officers: A city clerk, solicitor, assessor, treasurer, auditor, civil engineer, city physician, marshal, chief of fire department, market master, street commissioner, three library trustees, and such other officers and assistants as shall be provided for by ordinance and necessary to the proper and efficient conduct of the affairs of the city; and shall appoint a police judge in those cities not having a superior court. Any officer or assistant elected or appointed by the council may be removed from office at any time by vote of a majority of the members of the council except as otherwise provided for in this act.

"Sec. 9. The council shall have power from time to time to create, fill and discontinue offices and employments other than herein prescribed, according to their judgment of the needs of the city; and may by majority vote of all the members remove any such officer or employee, except as otherwise provided for in this act; and may by resolution or otherwise prescribe, limit or change the compensation of such officers or employees."

Now the average citizen can easily see from the above extract from the charter of Des Moines, that the five men elected by the people have all the power there is for any city government to have right in their own hands. Each man is responsible for his department and every thing which happens, which is neglected in that department, can be laid at his door. Moreover, when the man is in the daylight and can hide nothing, he is very careful—particularly so when he knows the people can remove him from office. There is a man on the job all the time. And so it happens that when an ordinance needs to be passed, it is done by men who are actually in direct responsibility to the people—even if there were not other provisions for the protection of the citizens beside the Recall. (The Initiative and the Referendum.)

There can be nothing tied up between the mayor, the council and the board of public works in a quarrel between them caused by the jealousy of one for the other.

The result is that the city business is handled quickly and well by the same method that the business of other corporations of millions of dollars is managed.

But remember that these men have power only when the people are satisfied with their work.

Under the present plan business can not be done quickly. The men who conduct the business have not enough power. And the people never get a chance when their interests are in danger.

Paying For High Protection

While it is not difficult to name a number of things and several thousand persons of which and whom the New York Sun disapproves, it is hard to find anything which has its absolute endorsement. It is true that at times it has seemed to dislike our divinely inspired tariff, but it has always disapproved still more of anybody who tried to get it reduced. It is, therefore, with gratitude that the following editorial comment is reprinted:

Is there any part of the business of importing that is free from graft? Is there any graft in any part of the business of importing that is not extortory on the part of the sworn servants of the United States treasury? Is there any ship that comes into our docks that can be unloaded without graft, the same payable to an official of the United States treasury? Does not the bulk of all demurrage charges on our water front depend for its mitigation upon the liberal payment of graft to somebody representing the United States of America?

Here is an entirely truthful exposition of part of the price we pay for high protection. A tariff may stimulate infant industries, and we are more or less committed to the principle that it does so. Unfortunately, if we give one section of the community privileges over another, we upset the balance of our political system to exactly that extent. In fact, we throw the balance out of gear in such a way that it has a tendency to get worse instead of better. The appetite of the protected industry grows with what it feeds on.

This is not the worst of it, and the evils the Sun points out are among the least of those which we have voluntarily brought upon ourselves. The great evil is the terrible deterioration in the quality of what we produce, with the consequent degeneration of the worker who produces it. Ten years ago the Dingley tariff had been in operation for only a short time. All the protection that it could give had doubtless been appreciated, but its demoralizing power had not been realized. To take a simple instance, if any man will consider any article of attire, say his suspenders, and ask himself how much longer they lasted at the same price ten years ago, he will get an idea of what the tariff has done.

There is no department of industry to which this does not apply. It had, in fact, become so dangerous in the manufacture of steel rails that the railroads had to bring the most active pressure to bear upon the manufacturers in the interests of public safety in order to secure an article upon which had been expended a reasonable amount of time and workmanship.

This is not to say that the principle of protection is bad, but to point out how inevitably it has become corrupted, with the results which the Sun acknowledges. What it has done in the way of debauching our legislators at Washington, no words can tell, and the grim fact still to face is that the evil increases as the years go on. Already our tariff is embroiling us with the peoples with whom we trade. It is rendering our schemes of colonization abortive, and, last and worst of all, it is building up between the East and the West of our country a sectionalism which bids fair to become as bitter as that which existed half a century ago between the North and the South. —Wall Street Journal.

The Golden Rule and the Tariff

(Harper's Weekly.)

It has been held that the Golden Rule was fit for individuals, but unsuited to nations. Our tariff laws have been examples of that theory. They have been framed in times past without the slightest regard for any country but this, but the Payne bill makes a bashful courtesy to the Golden Rule in its concession to the Philippines, and squints at the same rule in its "maximum and minimum" provisions. Framed as our tariff laws have been, they have worked as might be expected, doing some damage to other countries, but their greatest mischiefs to ourselves. In so far as the present one violates the laws of mutual advantage which must eventually govern the relations of the nations, it is a detriment to us and our progress and an obstacle to the world's peace.

CARD OF THANKS.

I desire to express my most sincere thanks to our relatives and kind friends and neighbors for the sympathy extended to me in my sad bereavement in the death of my dearly beloved husband, John H. Lawler, also for the beautiful floral offerings, especially do I want to thank the members of the W. M. A. U. of the American Seeding Machine Co., also the pallbearers and Messrs. Wilson & Pohlmeier for their efficient service. His Bereaved Wife.

Penny Club Chicken Dinner, K. of P. Temple, Wednesday. Price 35c.

14-3t

There's nothing like bread made from Gold Medal Flour.

Disson

Women in the Trades

(Dayton Journal.)

According to the census, there are 303 occupations in which the bread winners in this country are engaged. At least one woman or more can be found occupying places in all of them except nine.

A recent report shows that of the unusual occupations for women, five are pilots on steamboats, ten are baggage-women on steam railroads, thirty-one are "brakesmen" and twenty-six "switchmen" or holding positions as "yardman" or "flagman." There were forty-three women carriage and hack drivers, and 508 were listed as machinists.

There were, according to the records, 100 women architects, and 150 women builders and contractors. There were 167 women masons, and no less than 545 female carpenters. Forty-five women plasterers, 1,759 women painters, glaziers and varnishers; 126 women plumbers, and 241 women paper hangers show to what extent woman is entering the building trades. There were also two women slaters and roofers, but the number is so insignificant it need not be considered.

There are nearly five million women engaged in bread-winning occupations. Of this number 44.2 per cent are under twenty-five years of age, and 22.6 per cent are under twenty-one years of age. It would be hard to bring a more severe indictment against modern civilization than to consider these latter figures showing as they do the millions of immature women who are compelled to earn their livelihood in the trades.

The worst feature about these figures is that they are constantly increasing. The fact that there are only nine bread-winning occupations into which women have not entered, is itself a tragedy, for there are a hundred occupations into which women should never have been thrust. It may be several years until the effect upon the human race is seen, but it is bound to have an effect, and that effect will not be favorable. In the very nature of things these women in the trades cannot make the best mothers. That is to say, woman is so constructed that laborious work interferes with child-bearing. Further, these women in the trades do not stand as much chance of marrying and becoming mothers as women in the home.

While it is true that these women in the trades deserve a great deal of credit for going into such occupations to earn their livelihood, now that such conditions have been forced upon them, the fact remains that it ought not to be necessary for any of them to have to engage in such occupations. Whatever we may think about woman's rights, and woman's independence, any one who has taken the time to think seriously of the matter is bound to admit that a woman's proper place is the home. Hence, any condition or system which forces her out of the home is a crime against not only the women themselves, but future generations.

KANSAS MAN LOSES

Marriage Following Courtship

Of Only Three Days

Ends Sadly.

WIFE IN THE COUNTY JAIL

Muncie, Ind., Nov. 13.—The romantic marriage of Mrs. Cora Green, 26, of Whitley, to James A. Eakins, 33, a wealthy farmer of McPherson county, Kansas, after a three-days' courtship, which occurred in this city on July 27, has turned out to be a complete failure.

Mrs. Eakins returned to Muncie a few days ago and since that time has been celebrating her return from the western country. The other afternoon the police were called to the rear of the Rohrs & Bath store, where they found the woman in a beastly state of intoxication, in company with Harry Cox, a local hostler. She was taken to police station by force and was later jailed for intoxication. Cox was not held. When questioned at the police station about her marriage Mrs. Eakins stated that after living with her husband for a few months she made some discoveries about his character that were displeasing and decided to return to her home in Muncie. She refused to tell her reasons for her dislike of the western farmer. Mrs. Eakins was gayly dressed when arrested.

HOPE FOR ECZEMA PATIENTS.

D. D. Prescription Now Offered at 25 Cents—A Trial Will Convince.

The oil of wintergreen compound for eczema—known as D. D. Prescription—can be secured at present from Conkey Drug Co., in a 25 cent bottle.

This offer is especially made to convince those skin sufferers who have not yet tried the remedy. One bottle will suffice to cure a mild case, and the first application will instantly prove to you that you get relief at once from the itch. The moment you wash the skin with this mild, soothing liquid, the itch is gone.

If—upon our special recommendation—you want to try a bottle of this proven eczema cure, at 25 cents, telephone or call at our store. Conkey Drug Co.

In Order of Importance.

"How's yer wheat?"

"First rate."

"Pigs doin' well?"

"Fine."

"That puny colt come round all right?"

"He sure did."

"Glad to hear things is so likely. Bill, how's yer wife?"—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Some Gossip on Paris Fashions



(By La Voyageuse.)

Paris, Nov. 13.—American women who are the possessors of handsome furs should rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for there has been a tremendous rise in the price of fine furs this season. In fact, each winter sees an increasing demand, say the dealers, as might be expected, hence the advance in prices. It is a condition not unpleasant for the dealer to contemplate, but one which is not altogether lacking in seriousness to prospective purchasers, except to those whose means are unlimited.

Chinchilla, for instance, that most elegant of fragile pelts, and the best specimens of which come from Africa and from South America, is said to be so scarce in those countries as to be well nigh extinct. Skins which sold for a dollar twenty years ago now command forty or fifty dollars, and are rare at that. The supply of sable, too, is decreasing each year. Such skins from Russia, having the famous blue tinge, which it is impossible to imitate, bring almost fabulous prices. Seal-skin, also, is dearer. Ermine alone, which is regarded as a valuable fur, is less expensive than formerly. For this reason, if for no other, it will doubtless appeal to many as being smart wear, apart from its softness and general suitability for a variety of dress purposes.

Stoles, wide and narrow, long and short, pointed like a shawl and again rounded and flounced with another fur, resembling the old-time capes worn by the beauties of Fragonard so loved to paint, are being shown. Many of the long and somewhat narrower stoles are ornamented with heads in imitation of a dog's head, rather than that of the animal whose skin it actually is. These are particularly stylish. The daughters of the north are fast acquiring, with their furs, the coquetry which their southern sisters display with theirs.

Dainty and bewitching are the ways of wearing fur stoles and of dangling one's muff, which, by the way, are huge this season, but very light in weight, lined with the most entrancingly pretty and softest of silk or chiffon. The stoles are so made that they can be worn in various ways. A model of pointed fox may be put on one day with the long, flat ends hanging down at the back and the fronts crossed upon the shoulder line beneath a couple of fox masks, while the next day, they may be worn in exactly the opposite manner. The characteristics of the fur must determine, to some extent, the way in which the stole is worn.

Manufacturers of hat pins are said to be seriously considering the question of reducing the length of these articles of feminine wear, as a result of the general demand on the part of men whose health demands that the length of pins be shortened. There

The Greatest of Wars.

The greatest war the world ever saw has been waged for the past five years without attracting more than the casual attention of the reading public. The object of the struggle is the actual control and practical ownership of half a continent. Hundreds of millions of dollars have been so far spent in the conflict—as much more is certain to be poured out before the issue is decided.

The rival armies in the field aggregate tens of thousands of men. Each army has its daring scouts, its spies, working in deepest secrecy, its great generals whose far-flung plans are more than continental. Fighting to the finish among themselves, all the hostile forces are, besides, strangely fronted by a common foe. And it is only by defeating this universal enemy that they can hope to defeat their individual opponents.

This war has seen feats more daring, achievements more stupendous, courage more inspiring, skill more marvellous than any of the titan-battles which Homer sang or Cressy chronicled. Victory means loot of a continent; it means, China, Japan, Alaska, the islands—Asia—the exacting of tribute from half of the world.

Of the great financial captains who plan the grand tactics of the war—the Hills and Harrimans—the Manns and Morgans—the Sir William Van Hornes and Sir Thomas Shaughnessys—much has been written. This is to celebrate the work of the men actually in the field and on the firing line—the work, rather than the men themselves, for they remain to the end anonymous—the nameless gentlemen—adventurers of the new democracy.—From "The War with the Mountains," in the December Technical World Magazine.

Suffering Women

A \$1.00 Box—And My Valuable Book—Both Free.

Just My Healing Method—And Pains of Years Quickly Vanish.



WHY WOMEN SUFFER SO

Some women go along in life suffering untold agonies, while others enjoy living, never know an ache or pain. Why is this? I am a woman and had my share of pain. My share, I say, and I mean it. Such suffering as only a woman stands in silence, but I helped myself, and I say to you sisters who suffer from Leucorrhoea, Uterine Inflammation, Laceration, Tumor, Painful Periods, Ovarian Troubles, Pains in Back, Bowels, Bearing-down, Desire to Cry or Hot Flashes, you are foolish to suffer longer. Write me, and I will mail you a \$1.00 box of my Healing Method Free, also my valuable book which explains why women suffer so. Doctors don't understand your troubles, and they can't help you. Don't suffer longer. Just tell me where your pain is and I will mail you the \$1.00 box and the book, both free of charge. Mrs. Sarah Furman, 218 Athenaeum Bldg., Chicago, Ill.