

## SUPERVISION OF NATIONAL ROADS

Inspectors Will Be Required to Know Their Subject.

### A CONCERTED MOVEMENT.

An Active Campaign Will Probably Be Waged in Every State For the Elimination of the Spoils System and the Substitution of the Merit System in Its Place.

A concerted movement for skilled supervision of road work throughout the United States has been launched by the American Highway Association and the National Civil Service Reform League. These two great organizations co-operated in the holding of a session at the recent American road congress in Atlanta devoted to a consideration of the merit system in road management. The United States civil service commission was represented by Chief Examiner George R. Wales, who pointed out the manifest advantages of competitive qualification tests as a requisite for appointment to office. To combat the rather general impression that competitive examinations in all cases mean the answering of stereotyped technical questions Mr. Wales said:

"For these high grade positions, where men of experience and attainments are needed, an examination is given which does not require the competitors to assemble at any place or to answer technical questions. They are called upon to furnish under oath a detailed statement of their education and experience, including all the work they have done since graduation. They may also be asked to submit an original thesis or report or published works, and they are required to give the names of persons able and competent to testify as to their experience and personal fitness. Confidential inquiry is made by the commission from various sources as well as of all persons referred to by the applicant. Gratifyingly accurate and discriminating testimony is obtained by this means of confidential communication. Such testimony approximates, if not equals, the testimony adduced upon cross examination in judicial proceedings.

"A demonstration of the ability of the competitive system to obtain high class men for technical positions has been made within the past year, in connection with the employment of men to appraise the value of the property of common carriers in the United States. For this work the interstate commerce commission required men with qualifications ranging all the way from roddman and chainman to senior positions in civil, mechanical, structural, electrical and architectural engineering, as well as motive power men and expert accountants. There have been approximately 15,000 applicants for these positions, and the task of sifting the wheat from the chaff and of grading the wheat after the sifting was one of considerable magnitude, but it was done, and it was done so well that the I. C. C. expressed its gratification to find that it could secure a force so well equipped to perform the gigantic task of obtaining an accurate appraisal of the value of common carrier property. A system which can successfully secure a competent force of high grade engineers for this valuation work could surely provide the proper kind of men to have charge of the construction and maintenance of public highways."

It is expected that steps will be taken to wage an active campaign in every state for the elimination of the spoils system and to substitute for it the merit system.

#### Cement Roads.

The construction of the old Roman cement roads, which have held together so well throughout the centuries, is by no means a lost art, but is being paralleled today in the construction of cement roads in this country. Percy H. Wilson, secretary of the Association of American Portland Cement Manufacturers, told members of the Association For the Advancement of Science at a recent meeting.

"Considered merely from the standpoint of the number of miles constructed and in use, the concrete road is a new type of highway in America," Mr. Wilson said. "Its basic principle goes back, however, to the ancient Roman roads. These highways, which have endured centuries, were not altogether a matter of massive construction. They were held together by the use of puzzolana as a binding material, the volcanic cement, which also has kept intact many of the Roman edifices built centuries ago. In America engineers have adopted Portland cement as a binding material for roads. Portland cement is as enduring and tenacious as the old Roman cement. If we are to judge from tests upon specimens of like age."

Get Roadmaking on Business Basis. The roads are public property. The condition of the roads affect everybody in economic, social and moral ways. It costs four-fifths of a cent per mile per ton for railroad shipment and on an average 25 cents per mile to haul a ton of farm produce for a mile. Why not put road making on a business basis and get results?—J. H. Miller, Director of Extension, Kansas State Agricultural College.

## CURIOUS FIGURING.

It's a Way the Russian Peasants Has, and It's an Enigma.

### A UNIQUE WAY TO MULTIPLY.

It is Simplicity Itself and Absolutely Accurate, but the Why and Wherefore of the Method and its Results Are a Puzzle to Mathematicians.

This is not a meaningless, freaky twister of a puzzle. But it is a puzzle. It is the method by which Russian peasants multiply, and as yet the boasted mental superiority of America cannot solve the simple riddle of the Slav.

Suppose you want to multiply two numbers together. Divide one of the numbers by 2, ignoring the fractions. Continue the process until the divided column reaches one. Then double the other number and continue the process until it equals in lines the first column. Then whenever a number is even in the first column strike it out, together with its corresponding number in the second column. Add the second column, and, lo, the answer! Now, why does it do it? There seems to be no reason for it, but what is it? Can you work it out?

It is infallible. It has never been known to fail. But what principle of mathematics is behind it all? Perhaps it is some queer freak of numbers, some one says, but such things are not to be turned aside with such generalities. Mathematics is not built upon so lax a system. There is some rule behind it all.

Take the simple multiple 12 by 10. Obviously the answer is 120. Try it the Russian way. Place 12 in the first column and 10 in the second. Divide 12 by 2 and multiply 10 by 2 and place the respective answers beneath the sums from which they were derived. It will stand 6 and 20. Dividing 6 by 2 equals 3, and multiplying 20 by 2 equals 40. Continuing, 3 divided by 2 and throwing away all fractions will be 1, while 40 multiplied by 2 will be 80. Now strike out all the numbers in the first column which are even and with it their parallels in the second column—12 and 6 will go out, leaving the last two parallel results. Ignoring the first column and adding the numbers in the second, the answer will be the result of 40 and 80, or 120.

The questions are: Who ever worked it out? How did he start?

Now try working the problem by putting 10 in the first column and subjecting it to the dividing and 12 to the multiplying. It will result like this: Ten and 12 will become 5 and 24, which will in turn be changed to 2 and 48 and finally into 1 and 96. Then, striking out the numbers 10 and 2 with their corresponding numbers 12 and 48, leaving the second column figures 24 and 96 to be added—this becomes 120.

There is no escaping it. No matter how large the score, it comes out right with distressing surety. Take the odd numbers. Perhaps there is some twist in the scheme that applies to even numbers. Take 25 and 15. Going right down the column they become 12 and 30; then 6 and 60; then 3 and 120; then 1 and 240; 12 and 6 go out, taking with them 30 and 60. Add 15, 120 and 240. Answer, 375. Multiply 25 by 15 according to our methods. Correct—375.

Now, why is it that the even numbers must be eliminated on the right side when they do not count at all in the addition?

It is plain to be seen that all the numbers in the second column will be even, but by what freak of calculation are those corresponding to the even numbers in the first column of no consequence when the correct sum is to be obtained?

Where no even number results in the first column, as in 15 x 13, there is no complication; 15 and 13 in the process become 7 and 26, then 3 and 52 and finally 1 and 104. Adding 13, 26, 52 and 104 equals 195, the correct sum. There can be no multiplication in figures which will divide down to a place where there are no odd numbers, for the final number must always of necessity be 1. In the sum 16 x 4, 16 divides itself into 8, 4, 2 and 1 successively, while 4 becomes 8, 16, 32 and 64. All of the pairs are crossed out, with the exception of 1 and 64. In that case the addition of the second column will be 64.

Despite the puzzling nature of this formula, there is some mathematical principle by which it can be explained. There is some rule awaiting the fertile minds of the workers by which this "stumper" can be demonstrated to be simplicity itself.

Another quizzier: Why must fractions be discarded? How is it that the result will be true when several units are cast aside? For example, consider the number 47. Dividing by 2 the result will be 23. One whole unit is thrown away. Twenty-three becomes by the same process 11, another unit discarded. Eleven resolves itself into 5, making the third unit passed by. The next step results in 2 and then 1, but why is it that these three units count for nothing?

The mere fact that the explanation is near, that the whole thing is simple if the key can be found, is one that cannot help but draw attention to this novel means of adding—Philadelphia North American.

The more I study the world the more I am convinced of the inability of force to create anything durable.—Napoleon Bonaparte

## COUNTY NEWS.

### SAR HARBOR.

William Adair is having his house wired for electric lights.

Mrs. Carter, of Ellsworth, is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Conrad Gabrielson.

Rev. L. W. Lott, rector of St. John's church, Bangor, preached at St. Baviour's Wednesday evening.

An entertainment in the form of an old-fashioned country school and spelling school was given at the Y. W. C. A. recently. The guests came in costume to represent the boys and girls of long ago.

There was an evening session of the high school Feb. 19, the usual morning program being carried out in the presence of more than 200 guests who passed freely from one department to another. Chorus singing by the school preceded the exercises.

A patriotic program was well-carried out at the Forest street school Friday. Incidents in the childhood and youth of Washington were recited and dramatized, and the famous cherry tree, gay with paper leaves and blossoms, was cut down. More than fifty guests enjoyed the exercises.

March 1. M.

BLUEHILL.

Mrs. E. E. Fullerton is visiting in Bangor.

Miss Sadie Billings is visiting in Massachusetts.

Miss Elizabeth Hinckley is visiting in Seal Harbor.

Ford Johnson, of Northfield, Vt., spent the past week here.

Miss Beatrice Abram is spending a month in New York.

Mrs. Belle O. Hinckley is on an extended visit in Massachusetts.

H. Sprague Sweet, with two sons, is visiting his mother, Mrs. H. S. Sweet.

M. Coggan, wife and daughter Florence are at their farm for a short stay.

Mrs. A. M. Moore, and daughter Florence spent the past week in Ellsworth.

Misses Lilla, Helen and Ellen McIntyre are visiting their sister, Mrs. Carl Hinckley, in Arlington, Mass.

The annual meeting of the Hancock County Agricultural society will be held at the town hall Thursday, March 4, at 2 o'clock.

March 1. H.

SOUTH BROOKSVILLE.

Albert Kennedy's brother from Massachusetts is visiting him.

Murray and Laura Bates are at home, called by the death of their aunt, Miss Mabel Condon.

Mrs. Georgie Hakeman, who badly scalded herself two weeks ago, is still confined to the house.

The community was saddened by the death by drowning of Miss Mabel Condon last Wednesday. The funeral, conducted

No Use to Try to Wear Out Your Cold, It Will Wear You Out Instead.

Thousands keep on suffering from Coughs and Colds through neglect and delay. Why make yourself an easy prey to serious ailments and epidemics as the result of a neglected Cold? Coughs and Colds sap your strength and vitality unless checked in the early stages. Dr. King's New Discovery is what you need—the first dose helps. Your head clears up, you breathe freely and you feel so much better. Buy a bottle to-day and start taking at once.

Advertisements.

Woman's Health

and spirits depend upon her digestion and circulation. Sallow skin, pimples, facial blemishes and depression disappear after the system has been cleansed and the blood purified by

## BEECHAM'S PILLS

Directions of Special Value to Women with Every Box. Sold Everywhere. In boxes, 10c, 25c.

Advertisements.

OLD AND NEW WAY

The Hyomel Remedy for Catarrh, Colds and Croup a Most Valuable Discovery.

The discovery of Hyomel has made a wonderful change in the treatment of catarrh, head colds, and similar ailments—you simply breathe a medicated air using a small inhaler that comes with every complete outfit.

Hyomel is a combination of antiseptic oils that mixes with the air so that its health-giving medication must go directly to the sore, raw, inflamed lining of the nose, throat and bronchial tubes. It almost immediately stops the disagreeable nasal discharges, quickly relieves that choked-up feeling, heals and strengthens the delicate tissues.

The strongest evidence of Hyomel's curative value for catarrh, head colds, asthma, etc., is that your well-known druggist, G. A. Parcher, sells it under a guarantee to return your money if you are not satisfied. Do not delay treatment, for Hyomel is not only harmless but pleasant to use, and nothing to pay if not cured.

"I Don't Feel Good"

That is what a lot of people tell us. Usually their bowels only need cleansing.

Reall Orderlies

will do the trick and make you feel fine. We know this positively. Take one tonight. Sold only by us, 10 cents.

E. G. Moore.

FREE

If you suffer from Kidney or Bladder trouble, send us your name together with names and address of two others similarly afflicted and we will mail you

FREE-ONE WEEK'S TREATMENT

of our reliable S.S. Kidney and Bladder Pills.

THE S. S. DRUG CO., CARDINGTON, OHIO.

by the Rev. Mr. Bardeen, was held at the home of her father, David Condon, at Orcutt's Harbor. Miss Condon, who was about thirty-seven years of age, had been an invalid several years. Besides her aged parents, she leaves two brothers—Alvin D. and Frank B. Condon, and one sister—Mrs. Luther Bates, of South Brooksville.

The drama "Fisherman's Luck" was played to a large audience at Forester hall, by students of Bluehill academy, Friday, March 1. C.

### NORTH WEDGWOOD.

Mrs. Annie Eaton, of South Bluehill, is the guest of Mrs. Cora Allen.

Martin Clark, of Bluehill, will commence sawing staves for G. M. Allen & Son this week.

Colby Hooper and family, who have been living in the mill house, have moved home to Bluehill.

Mrs. Elizabeth Allen died Feb. 26, after a short illness, aged eighty-seven years. She leaves one daughter and one son—Edwin Allen and Mrs. Edith Hartwell, of Walpole, Mass.

Feb. 26. A. G.

### EAST SURRY.

Mrs. Priscilla P. Haynes died at Cambridge, Mass., Feb. 21, aged seventy-three years. Mrs. Haynes was born at Surry, the daughter of Ambrose and Sarah Patten. She was the widow of Opha Haynes. She leaves one son—George H. Haynes, of Milford, Mass., one sister, Mrs. Henry Phillips, of Surry, and one brother, Charles L. Patten, of Denver, Col.

March 1. C.

### EAST BLUEHILL.

Mrs. J. B. Grindell is ill.

David Curtis, of Bluehill, while cutting wood for R. B. Long, cut his foot badly last Friday.

Mar. 1. R.

Constipation causes headache, nausea, dizziness, languor, heart palpitation. Drastic physics grip, sicken, weaken the bowels and don't cure. Doan's Regulate act gently and cure constipation. 25 cents. Ask your druggist—Adel.

### Advertisements.

RHEUMATISM IS SLOW POISONING

because the entire system becomes permeated with injurious acids.

To relieve rheumatism Scott's Emulsion is a double help; it is rich in blood-food; it imparts strength to the functions and supplies the very oil-food that rheumatic conditions always need.

Scott's Emulsion has helped countless thousands when other remedies failed.

No Alcohol. Refuse Substitutes.

14-48

Advertisements.

MAKE YOUR CASH WORK

This bank not only affords unquestioned protection for savings, but adds to all deposits at a liberal rate of interest.

Hancock Co. Savings Bank, Ellsworth

Advertisements.

CHANCE FOR THE ELLSWORTH AMERICAN READERS.

Coupon worth 25c If Presented at G. A. Parcher's Store.

In order to test the Ellsworth American's great circulation and its superior advertising value, we have made arrangements with G. A. Parcher, the popular druggist, to offer one of his best selling medicines at half-price to anyone who will cut out the following coupon and present it at his store:

COUPON.

This coupon entitles the holder to one 50c package of Dr. Howard's specific for the cure of constipation and dyspepsia, at half price, 25c. I will refund the money to any dissatisfied customer.

G. A. PARCHER.

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS.

If you cannot call at his store, cut out the coupon and mail it with 25 cents, and a 50c box of the specific will be sent you by mail, charges paid. Do not put it off. "One to-day is worth two to-morrows."

The merchant who says he does not believe in advertising, nevertheless places a sign over his door and decorates his window. The sign tells the passer-by where the merchant is located; the attractive window invites him in from the sidewalk. That's advertising, and good as far as it goes, but it doesn't go far enough—it doesn't get beyond the sidewalk. An advertisement in the local paper carries the sign and the window to the homes of prospective customers, and pulls them some home to the store.

Legal Notices.

THE subscriber, James H. Tapley, of Perth Amboy, state of New Jersey, hereby gives notice that he has been duly appointed administrator de bonis non of the estate of JOHN P. TAPLEY, late of BROOKSVILLE, in the county of Hancock, deceased, and given bonds as the law directs. And in compliance with sec. 42, chap. 66, and sec. 1, chap. 89, of the revised statutes of Maine, I have appointed Oscar L. Tapley, of Brooksville, to be my agent, and do stipulate and agree that any legal process served on him shall be binding on me as such administrator.

All persons having demands against the estate of said deceased are desired to present the same for settlement, and all indebted thereto are requested to make payment immediately.

February 8, 1915.

JAMES H. TAPLEY.

Order of Notice Thereon.

On this 27th day of February, a. d. 1915, on reading the foregoing petition, it is—

Ordered by the court, that a hearing be had upon the same on the 9th day of April, a. d. 1915, before said court at Portland, in said district, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon; and that notice thereof be published in the Ellsworth American, a newspaper printed in said district, and that all known creditors, and persons in interest, may appear at the said time and place, and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of said petitioner should not be granted.

And it is further ordered by the court, that the clerk shall send by mail to all known creditors copies of said petition and this order addressed to them at their places of residence as stated.

Witness the Honorable Clarence Hale, Judge of the said court, and the seal thereof, at Portland, in said district, on the 27th day of February, a. d. 1915.

[L. S.] JAMES E. HEWEY, Clerk.

A true copy of petition and order thereon.

Attest:—JAMES E. HEWEY, Clerk.

Bankrupt's Petition for Discharge.

In the matter of GEORGE B. WARDWELL, Bankrupt.

To the Hon. Clarence Hale, Judge of the District court of the United States for the District of Maine.

GEORGE B. WARDWELL, of Castine, in the county of Hancock, and State of Maine, in said district, respectfully represents, that on the 26th day of December, last past, he was duly adjudged bankrupt under the Acts of Congress relating to bankruptcy; that he has duly surrendered all his property and rights of property and has fully complied with all the requirements of said acts, and of the orders of court touching his bankruptcy.

Wherefore he prays that he may be decreed by the court to have a full discharge from all debts provable against his estate under said bankruptcy acts, except such debts as are excepted by law from such discharge.

Dated this 23rd day of February, a. d. 1915.

GEORGE B. WARDWELL, Bankrupt.

Order of Notice Thereon.

On this 27th day of February, a. d. 1915, on reading the foregoing petition, it is—

Ordered by the court, that a hearing be had upon the same on the 9th day of April, a. d. 1915, before said court at Portland, in said district, at ten o'clock in the forenoon; and that notice thereof be published in the Ellsworth American, a newspaper printed in said district, and that all known creditors, and persons in interest, may appear at the said time and place, and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of said petitioner should not be granted.

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Witness the Honorable Clarence Hale, Judge of the said court, and the seal thereof, at Portland, in said district, on the 27th day of February, a. d. 1915.

[L. S.] JAMES E. HEWEY, Clerk.

A true copy of petition and order thereon.

Attest: JAMES E. HEWEY, Clerk.

## AGRICULTURAL INSURANCE CO.

WATERTOWN, N. Y.

ASSETS DEC. 31, 1914.

Real estate,	\$ 25,000.00
Mortgage loans,	704,547.00
Collateral loans,	96,425.00
Stocks and bonds,	2,963,628.12
Cash in bank and on hand,	2,000,000.00
Agents' balances,	216,204.18
Interest and rents,	42,193.82
Gross assets,	\$4,988,244.48
Deduct items not admitted,	189,951.27
Admitted assets,	\$4,798,293.21

LIABILITIES DEC. 31, 1914.

Net unpaid losses,	\$ 161,000.00
Unearned premiums,	1,905,253.74
All other liabilities,	244,000.00
Cash capital,	2,000,000.00
Surplus over all liabilities,	1,688,039.47
Total liabilities and surplus,	\$4,798,293.21

C. W. & F. L. MASON, Agents.

ELLSWORTH, ME.

Advertisements.

ATLAS ASSURANCE CO., Ltd.

LONDON, ENGLAND.

ASSETS DEC. 31, 1914.

Real estate,	\$ 88,870.81
Stocks and bonds,	2,866,730.18
Cash in office and bank,	1,681,171.58
Agents' balances,	286,305.80
Interest and rents,	29,992.73
Gross assets,	\$3,772,171.00
Deduct items not admitted,	216,081.98
Admitted assets,	\$2,962,991.62

LIABILITIES DEC. 31, 1914.

Net unpaid losses,	\$ 129,725.95
Unearned premiums,	1,691,756.56
All other liabilities,	45,696.77
Surplus over all liabilities,	1,095,914.34
Total liabilities and surplus,	\$2,962,991.62

OMAR W. TAPLEY, Agent.

ELLSWORTH, ME.

Advertisements.

STATEMENT

OF THE

PHENIX INSURANCE CO.,

OF HARTFORD, CONN.