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EVERYBODY WORKS ROADS IN OLD PATRICK COUNTY

"Good Roads Day" Is Observed With Plow and Shovel

Virginia—or, rather, one county of Virginia—has a new and unique plan for improving its public highways. We are familiar with arbor days, flag days and various other days set apart for the special nourishing of popular sentiment in this or that direction or the furtherance of some particular public movement. But it remains for Patrick county, in the Old Dominion, to proclaim and observe with plow, shovel, gravel cart and lusty labor a "Good Roads Day."

There are two saving features to this scheme. In the first place, it constitutes so an indirect plan of taxation for road-making that few people will give the cost a thought. Second, the roads of Patrick county are, we understand, in such frightful condition that no harm can be done by turning loose upon them for construction or destruction of all the hordes of average citizens whose willingness to help is exceeded by their ignorance of the science of road-building.

The scheme is not economical. The man who can earn \$5 in work that does not burden his hands is not likely to be worth his salt with a shovel. He could much better contribute \$1.50 for the hire of a laborer than go forth and work himself. Patrick county has some 17,000 inhabitants. A contribution of \$1 per head would produce a tidy sum for road improvement. If all the males over 16 years of age take part in this spasmodic attack upon the highways, almost as great a sum will be indirectly spent in sacrificed wages.

But if not much is to be expected in the way of actual and permanent improvement of the roads on this merry-making holiday, it ought at least to have great moral effect.

We mistrust that the memory of broken backs will in the near future be responsible for many votes for a highways bond issue. And even though nothing on so grand a scale be attempted at once, a day "spent on the roads," with all its attendant problems, quandaries and failures to the unskilled, will awaken in Patrick county an astonishing interest in the study of practical highway construction, with good results in the end.—Baltimore News.

Pitched in a High Key

Moving pictures of the Bull Moose convention:

"Cheered him for 52 minutes." "Listened not only patiently but with intense interest to a speech 21,000 words long." "We'll sweep the country." "Give us a Southern man for Vice-President and we'll break the solid South." "Like a religious revival, the audience singing hymns like a camp-meeting crowd." "The credentials committee could not decide the Southern negroes' contests until they heard from Mr. Roosevelt." "Not until Mr. Roosevelt had made his 'confession of faith' did the resolutions committee know along what lines they would have to frame the platform."

Nothing but Roosevelt. Looking on what he considers a wild populist demonstration, the New York Sun correspondent writes: "These people make an idol, a Joshua, a Moses, a Washington, a Jackson and a Lincoln of Roosevelt. He is the personification of all the virtues of past and gone American statesmen." It is a remarkable demonstration of the power of a vigorous personality. To these people Roosevelt is a sort of religion. They accept from him as gospel propositions that from any other man they would reject as rank socialism.

The fervor approaches fanaticism. It is pitched in too high a key to be maintained.—Baltimore Evening Sun.

It is entirely owing to the change of time in the Pacific Ocean and not to journalistic prescience that the death of the Japanese Emperor was known in New York the day before it actually happened in Tokio, recently.

TO BURY AT DEAD OF NIGHT

Funeral Services of Late Emperor Mutsuhito of Japan

The funeral arrangements for the late Emperor Mutsuhito of Japan, who died July 30th, have been completed by the special bureau which has been sitting since Aug. 1. The date of the funeral ceremony at Tokio has been fixed for Sept. 13, and the interment is to take place at Momoyama on Sept. 14.

It is the imperial custom that the funerals of the members of the royal family are held during the night. The night is the time for rest and peace, and the night is the time for deep mourning.

At the funeral uniforms of all kinds will be discarded, except those of army and navy officers. The people who will participate in the services will wear the old Japanese costumes. The new Emperor will wear the old costume, which he has never worn in his life. Everything will be of the old Japan of centuries ago.

The services are simple. The priest of the Shinto will make a lengthy prayer for the spirit of the late Emperor and every word will be the old Japanese word and no modern language will be used.

At the service the light will be furnished by pine tree bonfires, and no other light will be used.

With the slow and melancholy music of old Japan, with the people costumed in the old dresses surrounding the flickering pine fires, the scene will not suggest a single aspect of the modern Japan, and listening to the priest's prayer in the old language, the people will feel that they are in the Japan of many centuries ago.

Berlin Is a Flyless City

Berlin, the cables say, has banished the fly—not by "swatting," nothing so crude, but by removing the conditions that breed flies. Screens are not required in the windows of the German capital, saving a considerable sum to the householder. We Americans put in screens all over the house, cover the butter, the milk and bread, and shoo the fly with fans, sticks and fly-killers. Whole States join in "swat-the-fly" campaigns, slaughtering them by the millions. Yet we allow, in the very center of residence sections, filthy stables where the flies breed by the million.

As long as most of our traffic is drawn by horses and mules we cannot expect to have a flyless city, any more than we can banish the smoke evil when every train leaves a long trail of soft-coal smoke. Open sewers breed flies and mosquitoes here, but they will soon be things of the past. The sewerage system will remedy that. The horse is too useful to be banished, but we can insist upon cleaner stables and cleaner streets; at least diminishing the pest. The Medical Record suggests for the familiar slogan, "Swat the fly," a substitute, "No filth, no flies." We accept the amendment. It carries the evil back to its source. Exchange

A "Moonshine" Mule

What shall the Federal Government do with a pack mule that makes regular trips across the line out of old Indian Territory, gets its pack filled with liquor and goes back again to distribute its supply to regular customers? This problem was laid before the United States District Attorney at Muskogee, Okla. The information stated that the bootlegging mule made its trips without a pilot and that the name of its owner of those persons who supplied the liquor was unknown.

The mule's field of operation is along the line between Creek county, in the old Indian Territory, and Payne county, in what formerly was Oklahoma Territory and where the Federal liquor law does not apply.

Someone in Payne county is said to load the mule's pack, whereupon the animal returns across the line, stopping at certain farm houses, where the farmer takes out his bottle and drops the money into the pack. A special investigation will be made to ascertain the "power higher up" than the mule.

EFFICIENT AGENCIES OF OLD COUNTY FAIR

Important Factor in Development And Progress

MAKES FOR WIDER EDUCATION

Railroad President Writes About This Institution

President W. W. Finley of the Southern Railway Company, writes as follows on "The Advantages and Benefits of the County Fair:"

It gives me great pleasure to comply with this suggestion for the reason that, in my opinion, the county fair can be made a most important factor in the progress and development of the locality in which it is held.

At the county fair the visitor sees what his own neighbors are doing where the conditions of climate and soils are similar to those on his own farm. The men who have attained the best results and carried off the premiums are known to him. He can talk with them, visit their farms and learn just how they have succeeded. A county fair thus becomes a most efficient educational institution. This is especially true where, as at some of the fairs in the Southeastern States, lectures are delivered by experts in different branches of agriculture, horticulture, livestock raising and dairying. While amusement features in connection with a fair aid in increasing the attendance, I believe that they should be subordinated and that the primary aim of the managers of county fairs should be to make them of educational value to the farmer in aiding him to solve his practical problems.

As a result of the study which I have given to agricultural conditions in the Southeastern States in connection with the work for farm improvement being carried on by the Southern Railway Company, I have become convinced that the most important problem confronting the farmers of our section at this time is that of increasing their average yields per acre. This may be said to be an all-inclusive problem, for it involves not only cultural methods, but questions as to the rotation of crops so as to get the best results as to raising live-stock for manure as well as for direct profit, and as to the proper use of the right kind of fertilizers and the application of lime to soil needing a lime treatment.

The county fair can be made a most efficient agency in the solution of the problem of increasing the yields of our Southeastern soils. As a means to this end I would suggest to the managers of these fairs that they require exhibitors to attach to their exhibits or post up with them placards giving the most complete information practicable as to the conditions under which they were produced. For example, the educational value of a corn exhibit would be much increased if it should be accompanied by a placard stating the rotation of crops in which the corn had been grown, describing concisely the character of soil and the methods by which it had been prepared, the date and method of planting, the date and methods of cultivation, the amount of barn yard manure used per acre with the time and method of its application, the character and amount of commercial fertilizers used with the time and method of their application, the yield per acre obtained, and any other facts of an instructive nature relative to the production of corn. Similar placards with such changes as might be necessary to adapt them to the different exhibits would add greatly to the practical educational value of the fair.

Negro Dies at 99 Years of Age

Staunton Daily Leader: Jenkins Bannister, a negro who claimed to be ninety-nine years old, died in Staunton Tuesday night. Persons who knew him say that he looked to be that old whether he was or not. He had not been a resident of Staunton for many years, coming here from Bath. He leaves two daughters who reside here.

GREAT CROWDS HEAR ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

Gov. Wilson Meets Expectations Of His Friends

PROMINENT PARTY MEN THERE

Also Members of Women's National Democratic League

With "trust in the will and judgment of the common people" as his keynote Woodrow Wilson accepted the nomination as Democratic Presidential candidate at his summer home at Sea Girt, N. J., last Wednesday.

Briefly and simply the Governor was notified of his nomination by Senator-elect Ollie James of Kentucky, who emphasized, as he said, that the Governor had obtained the honor untrammelled by obligations and unembarrassed by affiliations of any kind. Though the Governor spoke in acceptance theoretically to fifty-two members of the committee, representing every State and Territory in the Union, the speech, sounding the depths of his political philosophy, was heard by a great throng.

Prominent Democrats, Governors of many States, their families, members of the Women's National Democratic League and a multitude of seashore folk, most of them in the garb of the seashore, came from up and down the Jersey coast to attend the exercises.

From the broad veranda of the white-coated house, where the Governors of New Jersey are wont to spend their summers, the nominee delivered his speech. Grouped beneath widespread willows and elms were the more prominent guests, hedged in by clumps of ferns and hedges.

Following are some of the statements in the address:

"We must not speak to catch votes, but to satisfy the thought and conscience of a people deeply stirred by the conviction that they have come to a critical turning point in their moral and political development."

"The forces of the nation are asserting themselves against every form of special privilege and private control and are seeking bigger things than they have ever heretofore achieved."

"Our task now is to effect a great readjustment and get the forces of the whole people once more into play. We need no revolution; we need no excited change; we need only a new point of view and a new method and spirit of counsel."

"When we act we should act with caution and prudence, like men who know what they are about, and not like those in love with a theory. * * * There should be an immediate revision [of the tariff], and it should be downward, unhesitatingly and steadily downward."

"I do not know any greater question than that of conservation."

"With regard to the development of greater and more numerous waterways and the building up of a merchant marine, we must follow great construction lines and not fall back upon the cheap device of bounties and subsidies."

"There is another duty which the Democratic party has shown itself great enough and close enough to the people to perceive, the duty of government to share in promoting agricultural, industrial, vocational education in every way possible within its constitutional powers."

The Tallest Building

The last steel girder of the tallest business structure in the world was riveted on recently at the top of the Woolworth building in New York. The Colossus of Rhodes was one of the seven wonders of the world because it was 105 feet high. Seven of such statues could be placed one on top of another and the last could not look over this giant new office building. When completed the structure will weigh 25,000 tons, and will have cost \$13,000,000. It is sixty-three stories high, and will have a population of 10,000 people and yield an annual income of about \$2,500,000.

BEEF WILL REMAIN HIGH

Only Relief Lies With Farmers in Corn Belt

Cheap prices for beef based on a more abundant supply of cattle cannot be expected for several years, according to M. F. Horine, statistician of the Union Stock Yards and Transit Company of Chicago, who has issued a statement commenting on the record high prices paid for cattle in the Chicago market the past week.

In his opinion the only relief lies with the farmers of the corn belt who with improved methods of farming and the use of corn and alfalfa in feeding may be able to produce beef cattle in larger numbers and at lower cost in the next few years.

"If anything were needed to prove the scarcity of beef cattle in this country and that the law of supply and demand governs prices at the market it has been furnished the last few days in the sale of numerous shipments of beef steers on the Chicago market for from \$10 to \$10.50 per hundred pounds, the highest price paid since the war between the States.

"The present situation is easily explained. The drought of 1909 and 1910 throughout the southwestern regions and Mexico and the general drought of 1910, which extended throughout western Canada and all the western and southwestern range regions, together with the partial drought and extremely severe winter of 1911, reduced the already deficient supply of breeding young stock to such an extent that a general scarcity of all kinds of cattle throughout the country as now manifested became inevitable.

"As it will take from three to five years to build up a new supply at the very best possible rate and under the most favorable conditions an abundance of beef at reasonably cheap prices need not be looked for during several years to come. Certainly no more favorable opportunity has ever existed than is now presented to those who are fortunate enough to have the breeding stock and prepared to raise cattle for market."

It Is to Laugh

The International Harvester Company, summoned to show cause why it should not be dissolved as a combination in restraint of trade within the meaning of the Sherman Act, not only specifically denies all the government charges against it, but declares that its business is conducted with a view to benefiting the agricultural classes of the country and that it does actually help them.

The solicitude is indeed touching which exacts from American farmers for agricultural machinery prices from twenty-five to forty per cent. above those at which identically similar articles are delivered, freight paid, in Russia, South Africa, Australia and almost everywhere else in the civilized world outside of the United States. The Harvester Combine posing as a public benefactor presents a spectacle only less ridiculous than that afforded by the Bull Moose posturing as the champion of the popular rights and interest against the depredations of the "predatory rich" and the exactions of the Aristocracy of Privilege. In both cases it is to laugh.—New York Virginian-Pilot.

Asphalt for Valley Turnpike

The Board of Directors of the Valley Turnpike Company held a meeting at Winchester Tuesday afternoon and made a trip of inspection over the pike between Strasburg and Winchester. It is proposed to asphalt about sixteen miles of the road between the two towns. One mile of this work has been completed, and meets with the Board's approval. Later several of the large hills between Harrisonburg and Staunton will be treated to asphalt. Strasburg and Middleton have each contributed.

Edinburgh's application to have the improvement made through that town was rejected for the reason that too much work has already accumulated.

Some people think heaven is situated somewhere near earth.

ROOSEVELT AND JOHNSON PROGRESSIVE NOMINEES

Vigorous Campaign Will Be Waged By Bull Moose

At a rather late hour last Wednesday night Theodore Roosevelt of New York, was nominated for President by the "National Progressive Party," in session in Chicago, and Hiram W. Johnson, at present governor of California, was nominated for Vice-President.

The nominations were made with great acclaim, and both Roosevelt and Johnson made speeches of a few minutes, accepting the honors.

The "Progressives" say that they will soon have a whirlwind campaign started and will wage one of the most vigorous fights this country has ever seen, and one that will spell victory in November.

It is now thought that Roosevelt will do his campaigning in the West, while Johnson will spend most of his time in the East.

The platform adopted by the National Progressive party advocates political and industrial tariff reforms. It is the form of a contract with the people and is mostly written by Colonel Roosevelt.

The platform begins thus:

"The conscience of the people in a time of grave National problems called them into a new party—one of the nation's awakened sense of justice. We the Progressive party, dedicate upon ourselves to establish for the people of the country a government of the people, by the people and for the people."

The platform assails the Republican party for its connection with the trusts, and the Democratic party for its incapacity.

Its principal planks are for woman suffrage, National Presidential primary, election of United States Senators by popular vote.

Publicity of campaign contributions, during the campaigns.

Give to the people the right of initiative, referendum and recall of judges.

For employers to fix wage scales, and other public data as the public element in industry demands.

Provision for rural banking and rural credits; betterment of life of the farmer, and the citizens of the country at large.

Strengthening of anti-trust law; creating a national industrial committee.

Remodeling of patent law and prevention to use of patents of tools for monopolies; institution of parcels post; strengthening of interstate commerce law.

Sound and elastic currency reform, guarded against use for speculative purposes.

Favoring good roads; opening of coal and resources of Alaska, and other developments under home-stead plan.

Providing for two battle ships a year; improvement of waterways.

Panama Canal built and used by Americans, must be controlled by them.

Gratuited inheritance tax, and favoring ratification of amendments to constitution giving government right to levy income tax.

Competitive system for postmasters, marshals and other non-political positions.

Progressives' Unique Campaign

Taking swift counsel among themselves in Chicago the leaders of the new Progressive party are planning to begin within a week a whirlwind campaign from coast to coast. It is to be unique among political campaigns in the history of this country.

The camp meeting revival idea took strong hold upon the imagination of the leaders, and they intend to expand it. The active participation of women, even to extent of placing women on the executive committee, will be invoked. It is proposed to instruct local leaders to use religious hymns freely at all progressive meetings, interspersed with patriotic airs, and always to close with the doxology. In other words, this is to be a twentieth-century crusade.

Some men believe that the only way to enjoy life is to cultivate bad habits.