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Speech of a Wise Man.

GOOD roads was the keynote of one of the ablest speeches made in Congress this session. It delivered in the House of Representatives by Representative Lee, of Georgia, who, with telling force, brought out fact after fact about the deplorable condition of American roads generally. It is a significant fact that his speech was listened to with the closest attention by members of the House.

Representative Lee began by saying that all civilized governments build roads, and that all save our own have some established system for building and maintaining public highways, under the direction of skilled and competent officials. Early in this century some work of this kind was done by the Federal Government. The dawn of railway building and steam transportation, he said, seems to have largely drawn public attention and enterprise from our common highways, as a natural consequence, for more than fifty years—years that have been full of throbbing life and vigor for us as a nation; years that have no parallel in the history of our race for triumphs of man over nature; years that have been filled with a succession of wonders and triumphs in every field of human thought and endeavor. But the greatest wonder of all these wondrous years is that as a nation we have utterly ignored our country roads, and we seem surprised when we look about us and find them no better than they were half a century ago.

Continuing, Mr. Lee said: "The able Secretary of Agriculture estimates that the cost, the extra burdens imposed upon this country by bad roads, is not less than $600,000,000 annually. These figures almost stagger credulity, but who can gainsay them? And yet, when a bill was recently introduced in this House to appropriate $25,000,000 annually for abating this great and continuing loss, it was ridiculed in some quarters as a fake—visionary and impracticable—as if it were wild and unreasonable to stop a leak of hundreds of millions of dollars with this comparaively small appropriation. But those who reviled it have not seized upon the opportunity to propose a better plan.

"Forty millions of dollars were promptly handed out from the public treasury to pay for the privilege of spending $200,000,000 more to dig a ditch in foreign lands more than 1000 miles from home. Not one-hundredth of one per cent. of our people will ever see it; not one in 1000 of our people will ever feel his burden lightened or his joy and comforts of life increased when it is finished. One-half the sum it will cost, if intelligently expended upon our public highways during the next ten years, would give 100 times as many comforts and pleasures to 1000 times as many of our people. The canal will be a great public utility, no doubt, but better roads are a crying public need, now—every day.

"If the army needs a road it gets it. Even our possessions in the Far East, the Philippine Islands, have been the objects of our solicitous care to the extent of expending $5,000,000 in building roads for them. Porto Rico, though not much larger than some of our counties, has had over $3,000,000 expended upon its roads since it came into our possession. During our brief occupancy of Cuba our Government expended $2,500,000 upon its public roads. Even those little dots in the Pacific, the Hawaiian Islands, have come in for a share and have a contemplated expenditure of $2,500,000 upon their roads. These various sums aggregate $13,000,000 that have been expended during the past few years in building roads, not a foot of which lies within the United States. What have we against our own people that we should deny to them blessings that are freely extended to the idle islanders of the seas?

"But other interests and forces are coming to the aid of the solitary and unorganized farmer. His friends in the cities, having grown rich and equipped themselves liberally with self-propelled vehicles, want better roads to roll them over, and they are interested in the problem of the roads. The manufacturer, learning from experience that bad roads interfere materially with his obtaining steady and continuous supplies of raw material, wants the roads improved. The millions of operatives in the mines, factories and shops are learning that bad roads increase the cost and disturb the regular supply of food products from the farms which they must have, and they want better roads. The merchant has learned that bad roads retard and repress trade, and he wants them mended. Our Postoffice Department is greatly hindered and hampered in its efforts to supply to the country regular and reliable mail service for lack of better roads. In fact, it would be hard to name an interest, an industry, or an individual who would not be benefited by better roads."

Representative Lee said that if he had the privilege of writing upon the statute books a law that had more of the promise and potency for immediate and lasting good to all the people than any law that has been proposed or discussed in the House, it would be a law creating a Department of Public Highways, to act through and in conjunction with State, county and municipal authorities in redeeming the country from the throes and thralldom of its miserable roads, and he would give that department not less than $50,000,000 a year until the work had reached a satisfactory stage of advancement.

"So here we are," said he, "right in the middle of the road, and the sorriest kind of a road at that. 'A condition confronts us, not a theory.' Are not 100 years of observation long enough to convince us that the roads will not reform themselves?"—The Automobile.

PUSH BEATS PULL.

A Fact Demonstrated in the Customs of Various Races.

Queer as it may seem, the relative value of push and of pull is a plain fact of nature. If anybody doubts it, let him consider the following details, in which the Statesman shows the difference between the Asiatic and the European:

In India, a man digging in the garden does not throw the earth from him, as the English gardener does, but pulls it toward him. The carpenter sawing wood does not drive the saw, but pulls it, in token of which fact the teeth of an Indian saw are set in the opposite way from those of an English saw. Even when the Indian workman has been induced to adopt the labor-saving machinery introduced from Europe he shows a strange perversity in sacrificing part of the benefit through his habit of preferring to pull rather than to push.

Thus, in turning a wheel, as in raising water from a well or working a crane, instead of pushing the handle down and so getting the benefit of the weight of his body, he pulls it up, and so sacrifices that natural advantage. For the same reason the wheelbarrow has never become naturalized in India, although specially suited for a country where roads are still comparatively few, but footpaths abound. The Indian drill works in the opposite direction from the European bit and brace, and the spot is stirred not from left to right, as in the West, but from right to left.

The same rule holds good in weapons of warfare. The Indian sword is made for cutting, not for thrusting, and the common daos and daggers are on the same principle.

The Indian, in the use of the weapons nature has provided for offense and defense, does not hit out straight from the shoulder like the European, but strikes from above downward, or from right to left with a sweeping movement. Nor is the backhanded slap of which most English schoolboys have had personal experience known in the East.

Kicking out is also rare, although it is coming in with football. Another physical exercise in which the difference is very marked in swimming. In India the arms are not extended outward, as in Europe, but the stroke is downward and inward.

Nor does the Indian take a header into the water with arms extended. Those who have seen the famous divers at Delhi and elsewhere diving from the roofs of mosques into adjacent tanks will remember that they came down feet foremost and assumed a squatting attitude before reaching the water.

Then in riding the Indian horseman keeps his position, not like the European (by holding on by the extensor muscles of the thigh with toes directed inward), but by grasping the saddle with the flexors—that is to say, with the calves of the legs, the toes being directed outward. An Indian scavenger sweeps toward himself, not away, like his brother in the West.

When the Indian beckons some one to approach he does so with the palm of the hand downward; the European in the corresponding act turns the palm upward. Even in Indian writing there is an avoidance of movement of extension.

This is very apparent in the case of Persian, which is written from right to left, but it also holds good in Hindi and other Sanscrit languages. Nearly all the strokes are written downward; the upward sweeps common in English writing are very rare.

Indian Proverbs.

When a fox walks lame, old rabbit jumps.

The paleface's arm is longer than his word.

No Indian ever sold his daughter for a name.

A squaw's tongue runs faster than the wind's legs.

There is nothing so eloquent as a rattlesnake's tail.

The Indian scalps his enemy; the paleface skins his friends.

Before the paleface came there was no poison in the Indian's corn.

There will be hungry palefaces so long as there is any Indian land to swallow.

When a man prays one day and steals six, the Great Spirit thunders and the evil one laughs.

There are three things it takes a strong man to hold—a young warrior, a wild horse, and a handsome squaw. —Statehood Magazine.

Not Run on Time.

Mark Twain says that during his career as a pilot the worst boat on the Mississippi was the Stephen J. Hill. Only strangers, only the tenderfoot, used her. One afternoon, while the boat was poking along down the river a thick fog drifted down and the Stephen J. Hill had to tie up for the night. As she lay there, swathed in gray, a passenger said to the captain: "It is too bad we're going to be late, captain." "We ain't goin' to be late," the captain answered. "But I thought," said the passenger, "that we had to tie up to this bank here all night." "So we do," said the captain, "but that ain't goin' to make us late. We don't run so close to time as all that."

In January Japan's exports were $13,268,000 and imports $16,038,000. Exports increased by $1,000,000 and imports decreased by $4,000,000, a favorable trade balance gain of $3,000,000.

THE GREAT DESTROYER

SOME STARTLING FACTS ABOUT THE VICE OF INTEMPERANCE.

A Startling Request—Petition Which a Philadelphia Saloonkeeper Sent to the Judges of the License Court—Terrible Consequences of Doctored Liquor.

A few days ago a Philadelphia saloonkeeper startled the judges of the License Court by presenting the following petition:

Your petitioner respectfully represents that he is a licensed liquor dealer, having been granted a wholesale liquor license. The license fee was not paid by your petitioner, and the rent and expenses incident to the fitting up of the place and conduct of the business have all been paid by a firm who have had sole charge and management of the business and have received the profits and paid all the bills and expenses.

The liquor trade has so degenerated that it is almost impossibie to purchase pure liquors, and it is a crime to furnish cologne spirits and fusel oil to a man or a woman who asks for whisky, and yet it is done. I can no longer permit my name to be connected with a business which distributes such poisonous potions, as there can be no doubt that many of the cases where men and women have been found dead have come to their death through patronizing saloons selling the vile concoctions under the guise of liquor.

Again, I further object to having my name connected with a business which takes from human beings not only their money, but their will power and their reason, and leaves them abandoned or ruined wrecks for all time and eternity.

I further object to being a party to a business which causes so much suffering and misery in the homes of this city. It is a fact which must be taken as verity that more crimes are traceable to the rum business and more sorrowing, heartbroken wives and children, mothers and fathers are due to vile drinks than to any or all other causes.

Your said petitioner, therefore, prays that the said liquor license granted to him for the year beginning June 1, 1905, be revoked. Your petitioner's sense of justice and common honesty and his conscience will not permit him to longer be a party to a business so surrounded with trouble, deception and corruption.

My experience with the said business has presented to me so many views of the terrible consequences of the doctored liquor so largely dispensed in Philadelphia that I now am fully decided and determined to obey the dictates of my conscience and the appeals of my good old mother and try to make a living in a business not so intimately connected with the ruin of all that is good and pure in human life and its relations.—Matthew M. Farrel.

A Typical Case.

The Walkerton Journal, Canada, commenting upon certain legal proceedings in the neighborhood, has the following reference to the parties in the case:

Mrs. Dowd is still in the asylum, but her husband, Maurice Dowd, who was serving a sentence in the Central Prison for vagrancy at the time of the trial, is now in the enjoyment of his liberty, and left for the Northwest a few weeks ago.

Ten or twelve years ago Maurice Dowd was one of the most prosperous and respected farmers of Arthur Township, but in an evil day for himself and his family he disposed of his fine farm and entered upon the career of a hotelkeeper at Arthur village. Soon he fell into drinking himself, and in a few years had become a hopeless drunkard. From Arthur he drifted to Fergus, and thence to Teeswater, where his course as hotelkeeper was wound up last year.

There are six or seven small children, who have been living with relatives since the mother became insane through the wild career of her husband.

Dowd's experience in hotelkeeping is a touching object lesson in temperance. He was worth $15,000 or $20,000 on the farm, but to-day he is financially worthless, his children are dependent upon friends, his wife is in an asylum and he himself a wanderer in the West.

Refuses to Take in Liquor Men.

The Vega Society, which is the leading Swedish organization in New Britain, has taken an important step. It has changed its regulations so that in the future it will not admit to membership any one in the liquor business. This means bartenders and other employes, as well as saloonkeepers. The reason for the action is that the society, which is a sick benefit organization, has been put to a heavy burden by members who have been in the liquor business and have broken down in health. It has necessitated a constant drain on the treasury to pay them benefits.—Hartford Courant.

Liquor Candies.

As the result of investigations made by the Custom House officers of New York it appears that large importations of foreign candies containing cordials, wines and even whiskies are coming into New York, and the duty on liquors is thus being evaded. An examination of the tariff law shows that there is no provision covering the combination candy liquor. The revenue laws alike fail of a remedy, being without regulating powers. The attention of the local Health Board has been called to this defect, and the facts laid before Dr. H. W. Wiley, chief of the Bureau of Chemistry in the Department of Agriculture, Washington.

More Polite.

Denaturized alcohol will poison you right off. The other kind is more polite, but it is largely a distinction without a difference.—Minneapolis Journal.

Temperance Notes.

If you wish to keep out of debt keep out of the saloon.

The way to prevent drunkenness is to destroy the cause.

Public sentiment, if it become strong enough, can crush the saloon. Liquor dealers have recognized this fact by uniting in self-defense.

Every true patriot will hit the drink evil whenever he gets a chance

If we had a million tongues, we would cry: "Save the children from the curse of alcohol."

THOUGHTS FOR THE QUIET HOUR

IN COMMON THINGS.

Seek not afar for beauty. Lo! it glows
In dew-wet grasses all about thy feet;
In birds, in sunshine, childish faces sweet,
In stars, and mountain summits topped with snows.

Go not abroad for happiness. For see,
It is a flower that blossoms by thy door!
Bring love and justice home, and then no more
Thou'lt wonder in what dwelling joy may be.

Dream not of noble service elsewhere wrought;
The simple duty that awaits thy hand
Is God's voice uttering a divine command;
Life's common deeds build all that saints have thought.

In wonder-workings, or some bush aflame,
Men look for God, and fancy Him concealed;
But in earth's common things He stands revealed,
While grass and flowers and stars spell out His name.

—Minot J. Savage.

Life's Tempests and Trials.

Snow and vapors; wind and storm, fulfilling His word.—Psalm cxlviii., 8.

One of the most remarkable monuments in Westminster Abbey is that to Sir John Franklin, the discoverer of the Northwest Passage, who died amid the terrors of the Arctic regions in 1847. Through the efforts of Lady Franklin the last of many expeditions sent out was successful in disclosing the steps of her husband's progress in the Polar regions, ending with the tragic record of his death. She erected the monument in the Abbey, which depicts a vessel crushed amid icebergs, and underneath are the words: "O ye frost and cold; O ye ice and snow, bless ye the Lord; praise Him and magnify Him forever." Out of the depth of her bereavement, loneliness and poverty there still remained boundless and implicit faith in God.

The first aspect of the wind and tempest, the ice and the snow is one to inspire awe, anxiety and dread. We naturally ask, How can we praise God for those elements in whose train come disaster, desolation and death? Amid all this disorder and ruin the Psalmist tells us that some law is working and God's word is being fulfilled; even the powers which seem to have escaped His control have their uses and further His designs. We may trust Him to bring order out of chaos, good out of evil.

At least one reason for the devastation is apparent to the close observer. On a relatively small scale the storm is hostile to life, but on a much larger one it is the great enricher and nourisher of the soil, which without it would remain dry, hard and unproductive. Out of death comes new life; out of decay the grain which sustains and the flowers which beautify.

The storm and the tempest have their uses also in developing the energies of men. The strongest characters are not nurtured in pleasant climates, where man obtains his food easily from the earth and the trees, but rather in colder countries and on stubborn soil, where one must struggle for very existence. Need we wonder that Mexico, with all its mineral wealth, is poor, and that Alaska, with its forests, its furs and its ice, is rich? It is stern necessity which develops the strength of manhood, forces the pioneer to build a home and at last makes the desert to "rejoice and blossom as the rose."

Not only is such a person moved to battle against the destructive forces of nature, but he is also aroused to conquer man's inhumanity to man. A very large share of the world's sufferings comes not from nature, but follows directly or indirectly from human carelessness, selfishness and greed. Most of the accidents on railways, on steamboats, in tunnels and mines are of this character. God Himself cannot prevent such evils without interfering with man's free will, and hence with his education, but every such accident arouses men's indignation, awakens their inventive skill and leads to greater caution, watchfulness and security.

The storm and the tempest have yet another mission—in calling forth a blessed tide of sympathy. Poor King Lear, out on the heath with bared head and quaking limbs, amid the thunder and the lightning, the wind and the rain, is but a type of multitudes of others who have learned sympathy through bitter experience. And thus, whether for individual misfortune or public calamity, there are opened many fountains of tenderness and generosity in human souls. Surely we may be thankful for whatever turns our hearts in kindness toward our fellow men.

My friends, when you stand amid the tempests of life, trust God. When you look upon the marvels of nature, praise Him. When you are stirred by the grandeur of His works, show forth His sympathy and His love.—Olin Scott Roche, Rector of St. Peter's Church, New York, in the Sunday Herald.

An Authority on God.

The intellectual world will sit at the feet of one who can explain truth he has himself discovered, but cares less for the teachings of that man's pupils. Dare we expect men and women to listen while we repeat to them what others have told us of God? The knowledge we gained through a pamphlet or sermon may be true, but if we have only another man's word for it we teach as the scribes.

Helen Keller, just learning to write, sent this message to Phillips Brooks: "Tell me something you know about God." It is the awakening world's plea to Christians to-day: "Tell us not what you have heard an evangelist say about God, but what you yourself know."—Pacific Baptist.

The Lord's Manner.

But this is the Lord's manner: If there be but one grain of corn in many heaps of chaff, He will never leave winnowing rather than lose it. Send He will, messenger after messenger, until He hath gathered it into His barn.—Thomas Hooker.

Ask For Grace.

On every occasion of uneasiness we should retire to prayer, that we may give place to the grace and light of God.—John Wesley.

COMMERCIAL

R. G. Dun & Co.'s "Weekly Review of Trade" says:

"Ample rains throughout the farming regions provided the most important commercial factor of the last week, large crops being essential to a maintenance of national prosperity at the maximum position recently attained. Retail trade responded to the stimulus of warm weather, lightweight wearing apparel going freely into consumption, and there is an unusually liberal volume of wholesale business for this time of year. Mercantile collections are still somewhat irregular, but at most cities payments are improving, and the financial situation is more encouraging, now that the San Francisco banks have resumed business without any disturbance.

"Manufacturing plants are well occupied and building operations are heavy, but there are indications of a lower level for commodity quotations for the month of May. Customary summer quiet is noted in some departments, although there is less than the usual interruption, and preparations are already in progress for a very active fall season. Labor conditions have improved, the only new disturbance of note being locally among the painters, while the steel industry suffers less delay from old disputes. Railway earnings thus far reported for May exceeds those for last year by 11 per cent.

"Absence of interest is the feature of the primary market for cotton goods, the lethargic attitude of purchasers being assumed in anticipation of obtaining concessions.

"Failures this week were 188 in the United States, against 211 last year."

WHOLESALE MARKETS.

Baltimore.—FLOUR—Firm and unchanged; receipts, 14,118 barrels; exports, 179 barrels.

WHEAT—Dull; spot, contract, 88½@88¾; May, 88½@88¾; July, 84½ asked; steamer No. 2 red, 81¾@82; receipts, 45,219 bushels.

CORN—Firmer; spot 56¾@57; May, 56⅝@56¾; July, 53⅝@53⅞; September, 54⅛@54⅜; steamer mixed, 53¾@54; receipts, 46,789 bushels; Southern white corn, 55@57.

OATS—Firmer; No. 2 white, 40@40½; No. 3 white, 39½@39¾; No. 2 mixed, 38½@39; receipts, 14,583 bushels.

RYE—Dull; No. 2 Western, 66½@67 export; 71@72 domestic; receipts, 880 bushels.

HAY—Unsettled; No. 1 timothy, 17.50 asked; No. 1 clover mixed, 14.50@15.00.

BUTTER—Steady; unchanged; fancy imitation, 18@19; fancy creamery, 21@22; fancy ladle, 16@17; store packed, 12@14.

EGGS—Steady; unchanged, 16½.

CHEESE—Strong; unchanged; large, September, 14¼; November, 14.

SUGAR—Steady; unchanged; coarse granulated, 4.70; fine, 4.70.

New York.—BUTTER—Weak. Receipts, 6,818. Street price, extra creamery, 20@20½; official prices, creamery, common to extra, 14@20; do., held, 14@17; renovated, common to extra, 10@16; Western factory, common to firsts, 11@15.

CHEESE—Strong. Receipts, 2,803. New, State, full cream, large and small, best, 9¾; do., fair to good, 8¾@9¼; do., inferior, 7¼@8¼.

EGGS—Steady; unchanged. Receipts, 17,629.

POULTRY—Alive, steady. Western broilers, 24@26; fowls, 14½; turkeys, 12. Dressed quiet. Western broilers, 22@28; turkeys, 14@15; fowls, 11@13½.

FLOUR—Receipts, 16,287; exports, 6,763. Firm and higher for top grades.

LARD—Barely steady. Western prime, 8.70@8.75. Refined quiet. Continent, 9.25; South American, 9.75.

SUGAR—Raw steady. Fair refining, 2 29-30@2 15-16; centrifugal 96 test, 3 13-32@3 7-16; molasses sugar, 2 21-32@2 11-16. Refined steady.

POTATOES—Firm; Jersey sweets, per barrel, 2.00@3.00.

WHEAT—Receipts, 52,000 bushels; exports, 8,000 bushels; spot irregular; No. 2 red, 93 nominal elevator, No. 2 red, 94 nominal f. o. b. afloat; No. 1 Northern Duluth, 93½ nominal f. o. b. afloat; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 90½ f. o. b. afloat.

CORN—Receipts, 104,275 bushels; exports, 27,203 bushels; spot firm; No. 2, 57 nominal elevator, and 57 nominal f. o. b. afloat; No. 2 yellow, 57½ nominal; No. 2 white, 58 nominal.

OATS—Receipts, 117,000 bushels; exports, 3,175 bushels; spot steady; mixed oats, 26@32 pounds, 38½@39; natural white, 30@33 pounds, 39½@40; clipped white, 38@40 pounds, 40@42.

Live Stock.

New York.—BEEES—Bologna cows firm to 10c. higher; fair to good lower; steers, 4.90@6.00; bulls, 3.60@4.25; cows, 2.35@4.30.

CALES—Firm; veals, 4.50@6.80; extra, 7.00; dressed calves steady; city-dressed veals, 7½@10½c. per pound; country-dressed, 6½@9c.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—Sheep nominal; prime handy; lambs full steady; others weak; no spring lambs; good to choice clipped lambs, 6.75@6.20; common to fair quotable at 5.75@6.50.

HOGS—Good to choice. State hogs, 6.95@7.10.

Chicago.—CATTLE—Market steady; common to prime steers, 4.00@6.30; cows, 3.25@5.00; heifers, 2.75@5.35; bulls, 3.00@4.25; calves, 2.75@6.40; stockers and feeders, 2.75@5.10.

HOGS—Choice to prime heavy, 6.55@6.60; medium to good heavy, 6.50@6.00@6.35; lambs, 5.75@7.75.

SHEEP—Sheep, 5.00@6.35; yearlings, 6.60; butchers' weight, 6.55@6.60; good to choice heavy mixed, 6.50@6.55; packing, 6.00@6.52½.

MUCH IN LITTLE.

Chicago deaconesses made 19,000 missionary and parish calls in their work last year.

J. E. Chilberg, a prominent citizen of Seattle, will be president of the Alaska-Yukon Exposition.

The Xaverian College, in Louisville, gives 32 free scholarships each year to churches in the city.

Mayor Fitzgerald, of Boston, intends to establish a bureau of publicity to make Boston's attractiveness better known.