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SPREADING THE ROADS

More than 5,250 miles of Federal-aid highway projects were completed in the United States within just the four months from July to October, inclusive, of this year. The total cost was $115,833,521, slightly more than half was contributed by the Federal Government. These figures are from the current magazine of the American Road Builders' Association.

They indicate that the average cost of a mile of high-type main road is upward of $22,000. At the some time , the Government is also contributing on a smaller scale to construction of secondary or feeder road projects. Of these, the average cost during the same period was only about $9,750 a mile. Yet only about one-fourth as many miles were built with Federal assistance as of main highways.

Now obviously there are a great many more miles of secondary roads to be built in the Unites than of through highways. It must be clear, too, to anyone who looks at the map that the United States is pretty well supplied with arterial roads, while any traveler who gets far off these highways finds that the condition of secondary or of farm-to-market roads is far from comparable.

Over the present fiscal year as a whole, the Bureau of Public Roads has appropriations of approximately $295,000,000 available for aid to the through highway system as compared to only about $47,500,000 for aid to secondary roads. Perhaps it may be said that these feeder roads should be the responsibility of local units of government—Counties and States—rather than the Federal Government anyway, and that States could build more of them if they did not divert gasoline taxes to other non-highway purposes. Whatever the explaination there may be, it does seem, in view of the arguments for decentralization of population, that highway financing programs now ought to make larger and more proportionate provision fr secondary roads as compared to arterial routes.—The Monitor.

Inauguration of the Administration's long-heralded monopoly investigation was accomplished on Thursday in a four hour public hearing at Washington, during which the word "monopoly" was not uttered and the subject of monpoly was not discussed.

Instead, the twelve official investigators, the troupe of assistants and some 500 interested onlookers pondered Isador Lubin's elaborate set of charts and his special bit of advice to those who are searching for the way to business recovery and economic security. It was:

Pay less attention to foreign markets and the wealthier customers at home, and concentrate on the buying potentialities of the masses of American families to be found in the low-income brackets.

It's in the news that the Pea Canners of America are about to conduct an aggressive sales campaign to move 1938's record-breaking pack of 25,000,000 cans. What makes this news noteworthy is that the canners are taking the American way of solving their problem. Instead of blaming the recession, running to the Government for help or closing up their plants, the packers, large and small, have hitched up their belts, rolled up their sleeves, spat on their hands and got busy.

Getting these cans onto the grocer's shelves and from there to the pantry and the dinner table is the next move.

Now the packers are making a special effort to step up demand to meet supply. Instead of begging the housewives of America to buy peas out of sympathy, they tell them that peas were never cheaper and never better. If that doesn't turn the trick nothing will, for what woman ever intentionally overlooked a bargain?

Will the new world of order and peace men hoped to see rising phoenixlike from World War ashes be reborned in the New World? Will collective security, breaking up in Asia and Europe under war or threats of war, find sanctuary in the Western Hemisphere under the name of "continental solidarity"? Will the United States, unable to make the overseas world safe for domocracy, develop and protect the ideal of reedom in the Americas? These are some of the questions to ask as delegates to the Pan-American Conference converge on Lima.

EXPLORING AMERICAN BUSINESS

J. E. Jones

Washington, D. C., Dec. 5—The monopoly inquiry flips back into the headlines. Senator O'Mahoney's public utterances are reassuring, but the plans of the joint Adminsitration-Congressional Committee are still very vague. American business, large and small, finds reasons for apprehension. Mr. O'Mahoney says that the Committee will explore the method by which modern business is conducted and its effects upon the nation. Other members of the Committee are very critical and charge that monopoly is rampant, and must be crushed.

As a sort of curtain-raiser the Department of Justice indicts many respectable citizens who are charged with violations of existing laws that control commerce.

Senators O'Mahoney and Borah are sponsoring a bill to compel all corporations engaged in interstate business to secure Federal licenses. This is another hard-boiled Federal control bill along the same lines as other famous legislation that has been hamstringing national industries in the past few years.

After all, every offense that might be committed seems to be covered by Federal and State laws, in existing civil and criminal statutes. Apparently "enough isn't enough". Large business interetss will protest before the Committee against the endless stream of restrictions imposed upon industries that are always trying to obey the laws, and deal justly with their fellow-men.

* * *

The Mexico Land Settlement

Mexico confesses its inability to pay promptly the 10 million dollars it owes Americans who have suffered from seizures of their farms, and during the time of delay one representative of the United States and one from Mexico will pass upon all claims for losses sustained by the land-holders through the confiscation of their properties. The initial payment of the first million is to be due next spring and annually thereafter for ten years until the total 10 millions, or so much thereof as may be agreed to by the commissioners, is paid.

In view of the records showing that valid claims of American citizens against the Mexican Government were scaled down by the Claims Commissions from 200 million dollars to less than 3 million dollars, it seems that the Mexican Government is slipping over another funny-money transaction on Too-Good Neighbor Uncle Sam.

* * *

The Swing For Pensions

An old-age pension system looks like a political certainty. Under the present method the Federal contribution for this is $15 a month, which the state must match. This figure is on the upward grade, and the Towsendite varieities of ideas indicate the probability of a much higher "ante" to coax higher wages in saving the old folks.

Indications are that Democrats and Republicans will contest for the credit of putting such legislation across.

* * *

The Poor Are Always With Us

A good deal of attention is being given of late to the views of Harry Hopkins, who has been repeating the statement for two years that government relief should be accepted as a permanent public responsibility. The Good Book is called upon, as a reminder that "The poor always ye have with you".

The only difference anyone has with Mr. Hopkins' opinion on this matter is the question of administration by the Federal Government, or by local officials. In the past the poor have been a responsibility of neighbors, friends and village boards, or city administrations. Local Units used to assume the responsibility of caring for the poor and most people would like to think that the time will come when they will do it again, instead of side-saddling off the responsibilities onto the government which has plenty of things to do outside of relieving local people and authorities of their obligations towards their unfortunate neighbors.

Kate Smith's Creed As An American

More and more, those who have the attention of millions are keenly realizing their responsibility to the society which has made this opportunity possible. A good citizen anxious to do her part in these troubled days, Kate Smith had this to say on one of her noonday broadcasts:

"Briefly, my creed as an Amercian is this: I am proud to be an American...I believe in the constitution of the United States... I believe in our Democratic form of Government.

"I never cease thanking God that I was born and brought up...in the finest country in the world—where we enjoy freedom from tyranny, freedom of thought, and freedom to follow whatever form of religious worship means most to us individuals. I believe that the scrap of paper guarded so carefully down in the Library of Congress at Washington is more precious to the men, women, and children of the United States than anything else on earth. To rich and poor; high and low; Protestant, Jew, and Catholic—to the people of all creeds and races who are citizens of this country—it means everything. It is the only document of its kind in the world—THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES."

THE OYSTER—THE TRUE SYMBOL OF GOOD EATING

The Oyster Institute of N. America, Dr. Lewis Radcliffe, Director Washington, D. C

Social Customs

Writings are replete with references to Social Customs in which oysters had an important part. "Oyster and Parched Pea Club" of Preston in Lancashire, England (1771 to 1841) included among its club rules "That a barrel of oysters be provided every Monday night during the winter season at the equal expnese of the members, to be opened exactly at seven o'clock." "The Natives" a club at Jesus College, Cambridge, founded in 1877 had a rule which provided that "there be an oyster supper every fortnight." At oyster suppers in the midland counties at Christmas, an oyster barrel completely covered with white cloth stood in the middle of the table. On either side of the barrel were vases of holly with plates of butter pats, halved lemons, salt, pepper, vinegar cruets with loaves of oyster bread baked for the occasion. Ale, porter, light wine, English gin and Irish or Scotch whiskey were served.

The gentleman, armed with an oyster knife and a coarse towel, opened the oysters for his lady and himself.

A century ago in old New England and New York a bowl of piping hot oyster stew formed the traditional Christmas Eve supper, now practiced only by a few families who have preserved the tradition along with grandmother's Chippendale and pewter. Coming from the Merrie England of their ancesters, the custom of serving oysters on Christmas Eve was quite natural in a country which had an abundance of fat, delicately flavored oysters. While the oyster stew was the favorite method of serving them, scalloped oysters also had their devotees. The homemakers of today would do well to revive this custom for the oyster has a happy way of inducing sleep of the deep and restful kind. Then too, it is easy to prepare, requires no expensive ingredients, no left-overs striving for a corner in a refrigerator filled with Christmas foods. And then too, the ease with which the stew is digested may well prepare you to do justice to the Christmas dinner.

That this traditional custom still exists was revealed by replies recently received from the food editors of the nation's largest newspapers, magazines and farm papers.

From the editor of a magazine published in San Francisco came the report that "it happens that in my family oyster stew has been the traditional Christmas Eve Supper—big bowls of it, with toast and hard rolls, as well as crisp crackers and celery and radishes."

The food editor of a Boston paper referred to the tradition of serving oyster stew on New Year's Eve and added "In small communities and among simpler folk it is still customary to hold watch night services at which oyster stew is usually served, either during the evening or after midnight." She points out that the oyster stew and scalloped oysters have a firm hold on the New England appetite for Sunday night supper throughtout the winter.

" I do know from family tradition" writes the food editor of a Providence, R. I., paper, "that I was brought up to believe that neither Thanksgiving nor Christmas would be properly celebrated unless oyster stew was served the night before. I cannot say, but I think the idea grew right here in this state and in that section known as South County.

"Sometimes the family has escalloped oysters instead of stew that night, but that never went over so big."

Then too, what a variety of oyster stews there are—Colonial, Dutch, Philadelphia, Grand Central Oyster Bar and many others. And be certain to use plenty of cream and butter if you want a tasty dish. A savory oyster stew is an ideal dish for that fourth meal, which many person now enjoy.

Yes, Roland, feminine beauty is the rock on which masculine intelligence is often wrecked.

Bring Xmas Cheer

ALL THROUGH THE YEAR!

Sewing Machine ☆ Free Westinghouse DeLuxe Rotary Electric model with many improvements at $114.50 cash. FOR LIMITED TIME ONLY, MANUFACTURER OFFERS $20 TRADE-IN ALLOWANCE ON YOUR OLD MACHINE.

Lamps ☆ See our complete line of I.E.S. table, bridge and floor lamps ranging in price from $4.95 to $14.95 cash. Many equipped with silk pleated shades — choice of gold, tan, rust or eggshell. All lamps and other items costing $10 and over can be purchased on liberal terms.

Cleaners ☆ Eureka Vacuums with famous motor-driven brush insuring strong suction range in price from $44.75 cash to $68.75 cash.

Clocks ☆ Here are three unusual values in Telechron clocks. Occasional model in gold metal frame at $6.75 (equipped with alarm it's $7.95). Alarm clock in walnut finish, plastic case, at $2.95. Kitchen clock in ivory, green or black trim at $4.95. Others at $3.50.

Space Heaters ☆ Portable and constructed to give quick, intense heat, we recommend Westinghouse at $7.45 and Wesix at $9.95 cash.

Heating Pad ☆ Among many is Hewitt model with removable blue fabric cover; bears Insurance Underwriters' approval for safety. Price — $4.95.

Prices subject to change without notice

CONOWINGO POWER COMPANY

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Read The Bible, Read The Bible

Evangelist John Moses Baker
Baltimore, Md.

Search the Scriptures for in them ye think ye have eternal life, and they are they which testify of Me.—St. John 5:39.

Would you know about the shepherds
On the plains of Bethlehem,
Read the Bible, the Bible, read the Bible.
And the appearance of the Angel;
How it frightened all of them;
Read the Bible, the Bible, read the Bible.

Would you know about the body,
That in the manger lie,
Read the Bible, the Bible, read the Bible.
And the star that shone so brightly
In that early morning sky,
Read the Bible, the Bible, read the Bible.

Would you know about the empty tomb;
How the stone was rolled away;
Read the Bible, the Bible, read the Bible.
Our blessed Lord had risen,
On that glorious Easter Day.
Read the Bible, the Bible, read the Bible.

Would you know about the kingdom,
That will soon be coming down,
Read the Bible, the Bible, read the Bible.
And the blowing of the trumpet,
That will sound out all around,
Read the Bible, the Bible, read the Bible.

WE READ ONLY THE TOPS OF PRINTED WORDS

Strange as it seems, we really read only the tops of words, discloses the Better Vision Institute. A simple experiment will porve this fact. If the top portion of a line of reading matter is covered, so that only the lower half of the letters shows, the exposed part of the lines is unreadable. However, if the upper part of the type is left visible, the whole sentence can be read just as though no portion of the line were covered up.

Recent studies have uncovered the fact that the eye mechanism is adjusted to read print in a series of jerks or leaps, jumping across the heads of words or groups of words, according to the set-up of each individual's eyes. This is because the tops of the letters of the alphabet are more distinct from one another than the lower portions.

And incidentally, adds the institute, the eyes are real travelers, covering daily half a mile of the day's news, in hops of a sixteenth of an inch.

Some men are forever mistaking notoriety for fame.

Although the average life of a butterfly is about four or five weeks, some species have been known to live as long as ten months.

John L. Lewis has been unanimously re-elected president of the CIO. A short time before that, William Green was unanimously re-elected president of the AF of L. News accounts of the two conventions said that there were "tumultuous demonstrations" on both occasions. The National Administration has been calling upon both groups to bury the hatchet, and while awaiting for this Utopian result most of the Government agencies have been partisan to the Lewis group. The Green group claims that it has not been treated fairly.

COLLECTION OF CHRISTMAS DISHES

Every housewife will want to try these splendid suggestions for Yuletide goodies. Don't miss the Housewife's Food Almanack in the December 18th issue of The American Weekly, the big magazine distributed every Sunday with the Baltimore American.

Italy has been somewhat hesitant about anti-Semitism, if judged by the pace set by the other partner on the Rome-Berlin axis. Almost weekly, however, reports of new measures against Jews in Italy stress a growing similarity of outlook being cultivated by the governments at Rome and Berlin.

CHEVROLET GENERAL SALES MANAGER

Chevrolet's facilities for growth in the important Eastern region to which this territory belongs have been increased by the creation of a new post, that of assistant regional manager in charge of new car operations, it was announced this week. C. L. Milliken, former manager of the Buffalo zone has been named by W. E. Holler, general sales manager, to the new position.

Milliken will assume duties connected with the supervision of new car and truck operations throughout this territory, acting as aide to R. F. Hicks, manager of the Eastern region. His appointment rounds out the region's executive personnel, which was augment two years ago by creat on of a national used car department, with specially-trained personnel in each of the company's regions and zones.

Twelve years' experience in the automotive industry qualify Milliken for the post to which he has been advanced. He joined Chevrolet March 15, 1926, as a representative in the Pittsburgh zone, and worked up through the positions of the city sales manager and assistant zone his appointment to that position manager to the manager to the management of the zone, receiving Nov. 1, 1929. After four years in that office, he was named Buffalo zone manager on Nov. 1, 1933, and he has occupied the latter post up to his present advance.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES

"God the Preserver of Man" will be the subject of the Lesson-Sermon in all Churches of Christ, Scientist, on Sunday, December 11.

The Golden Text will be from Psa. 40:11: "Withhold not thou thy tender mercies from me, O Lord; let thy loving kindness and thy truth continually preserve me."

Among the citations comprising the Lesson-Sermon will be the following from the Bible, Acts 26:8: "Why should it be thought a thing incredible with you that God should raise the dead?"

The Lesson-Sermon also will include passages from the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures." by Mary Baker Eddy, among which is the following, page 151: 'The divine Mind that made man maintains His own image and likeness.'

DAIRY CONFERENCE

The dairy industry's present surplus problem will be the subject of a talk by John Brandt, president of Land O'Lakes Creameries, Minneapolis, at a conference of dairy leaders to be held during the American Farm Bureau Federation convention in New Orleans. The dairy conference is one of 11 group conferences which will be held on December 12, the opening day of the convention.

Another feature of the dairy conference will be a discussion of the general problems of the dairy industry by Fred Sexauer, president of the New York Dairymen's League. E. W. Gaumnitz, chief of the dairy section, AAA, will outline the possibilities of marketing agreements in solving dairy marketing problems. Disease and its economic relation to dairy producers will be discussed by A. E. Wight of the Bureau of Animal Industry, U. S. D. A.

Even busy men are never too busy to stop and look at a dog fight.