

GOSSIP FOR THE FAIR SEX.

ITEMS OF INTEREST ON FEMININE TOPICS.

Saw Mill Run by Women—New Styles in Plaids—Girls Collect Fares—Sashes and Belts, Etc., Etc.

SAW MILL RUN BY WOMEN.
In Grandin, Mo., there is a sawmill which employs women only in its skilled labor. The engine is in charge of a woman, the room where the big saws are operated is in charge of a woman, and both lathes and saws are handled by women throughout the plant, while several young women are constantly filing away at saws, sharpening them, and keeping the other machinery in order. The mill is prosperous, too.

RICH PHARSEE WOMAN.
Not long ago there was borne to the "tower of silence" in far-off Bombay the body of her who was in her time the most enlightened, the wealthiest and the most philanthropic of Parsee women. This was the justly renowned Bai Motilal Wadia, widow of a millionaire Parsee merchant of Bombay. Bai Motilal was 101 years old when she died, and had survived her husband over thirty years. It is calculated that she had in her time given thirty lakhs, or 3,000,000 rupees (about \$1,500,000), to public charities, besides fully 2,000,000 in private almsgiving. Some years ago she presented to the City of Bombay the first Indian hospital for native women. The hospital site was also her gift, and, together with the necessary endowments, this magnificent present cost her over \$2,000,000. But so enormous was the good woman's fortune that her heirs were left several hundred lakhs of rupees.

NEW STYLES IN PLAIDS.
Plaids of gorgeous hues will be used for both trimmings and entire costumes during the fall and winter seasons. Plaided silks, velvets, satins, and wool goods are already in the market, showing richer tones and more artistic combinations than in any past season. Plaids, this year, are from Paris, not Scotland, and the color-schemes are delicate, rather than startling. A variety of shades of one rich color, invariably barred with lines of black and white, is the latest Parisian novelty. Some of the color-effects are exquisite: a dark wine-color and rose-pink taffeta are marked off in two-inch square plaids, with black and white stripes of satin. The same plaided effect is brought out in different shades of violet, blue, green, brown or bright red. All the plaids are large, say from two to four inches square, and many of the most brilliant effects are shown in the fashionable changeable silks. Women who always prefer the unusual and the difficult are sending to Edinburgh this fall for tartan blouses, made from the actual plaids famous among the Scottish clans. The Bruce and the Stuart plaids are the most popular.—Demorest's Magazine.

GIRLS COLLECT FARES.
Nine pretty girls of Atchison, Kan., showed that they were public-spirited as well as pretty the other day. Atchison was about to hold a corn carnival, and the Finance Committee needed more money than it had to go on with the work. When the nine damsels heard of this they made a "deal" with the street car company. The corporation agreed that the entire receipts of the line for one day should be given to the carnival fund, if the young women would act as conductors. The nine girls went on duty at 9 o'clock in the morning and paused not until 6 in the evening. No trolley poles flew off the wires; no casualties occurred; women were waited for, babies were helped on and off, and every loyal person in town was expected to patronize the cars, and it took two conductors on each car to take the money, so liberal was the patronage. Most of the men gave the conductors a quarter or more without expecting any change back. Admirers rode time and time again over the "run" of their favorites merely for the sake of swelling their receipts, and the result was exceedingly satisfactory to the Finance Committee.

SASHES AND BELTS.
Satin, surah, habutal and velvet made into bias sashes or belts rival the plain and fancy ribbons sold for this purpose. Cut in this fashion the belt fits snugly to the form, and no woman willingly makes her waist appear larger. For this reason black is the favorite color, and in these days such a belt is correct with any gown, even though black does not appear elsewhere. Long ends are cut on the bias and hemmed, edged with lace across the lower side or trimmed all around with a tiny puffing of chiffon. On a jet-trimmed gown a belt and long ends will be edged with a tiny jet gimp. A chiffon sash the color of the house costume with which it is worn is of the entire width of the goods, being one of the few not cut on the bias, and is edged with lace. Such ends fall from it rosette or knot which may bear a fancy buckle or button. Surah sashes have the belt bias and ends cut only 5 inches wide at the top, widening to 20 inches at the lower end, which is rounded. These are trimmed all around with lace or chiffon. Belts are worn in easy folds and shaped as best becomes the wearer. Some need a point back and front, others have the back round, the front pointed and narrower. Bones are in-

serted in the points, and some belts have a stiff lining, though this prevents a snug fit.

From 2 to 8 inches are the widths for ribbon belts, plain and folded, and long ends form rosettes or a knot. Others are tied in two half-long loops and hang in the centre back; the former styles hang to the side of the back, over one hip or toward the front.

Two-inch ribbons belts have long ends and loops held by a gilt buckle toward one side of the front.

A neat belt for satin or silk shirt waists worn with a black skirt is made of 1 1/2 or 1 3/4-inch double-faced satin ribbon with a gilt or Russian enamel buckle; the latter should match the studs and sleeve links.—Dry Goods Economist.

THREE FAMOUS WOMEN.
The Queen of Holland, although warm-hearted, has the defect of her qualities. Like most impulsive people she not infrequently speaks, without thought or intent, words which a moment later she would gladly recall. Some time ago she was sitting for her portrait to De Longe, the famous Dutch painter. She began to show signs of impatience, and at last petulantly exclaimed to her mother in French: "Mother, this everlasting painter is boring me to death." The artist proceeded in silence for a few moments then, putting away his palette and brushes, said in excellent French: "That will do for to-day." The young Queen turned crimson with consternation. When she was in England the Prince of Wales asked her what she thought of the English people. She answered: "I am astonished to find them so nice and amiable. I should never have thought it from the specimens I have seen in Holland."

The finest pearls in Europe are owned by the Duchess of Cumberland, sister of the Princess of Wales. About these pearls—which are valued at \$1,000,000—there is an interesting story. His Majesty George III. gave them to Queen Charlotte, who, treating them as a personal gift, left them to her son, the Duke of Cumberland, who afterwards became King of Hanover. Their extreme value and their beauty, and a very clear presumption that they were State jewels, led to a claim being made for their return to the British Crown early in the present reign. This claim was combated by the Hanoverian Government, and it was not until a special commission had sat upon the question that it was decided that the jewels had really been the personal property of Queen Charlotte, and that therefore her will was to stand.

The Duchess of Fife has followed the example of her mother and invented in a spinning-wheel. It is a very pretty one of black walnut, mounted with brass, and, although a hundred years old, still in excellent working condition. With this wheel the Duchess spins her yarn, which she afterwards knits into golf stockings for her husband. Many of the intimate friends of the Princess of Wales, like her daughters, have followed her example and started a spinning-wheel.

FASHION NOTES.
Three revers, each held by a tiny button, are of white satin on colored waists. Many of the fashionable parasols are more suggestive of over-trimmed lamp shades than of any article belonging to the toilette. Blouses on general wear gowns are finished with a tiny pocket flap on each side, which, like the collar, wrists and centre front, are often braided. Small, round yokes are finished with an attached band on either side, made of the same material and edged to match. It follows the shape of the armholes. Among the popular materials for house dresses are India silks and foulard. These fabrics will be worn until late in the autumn, and a goodly number have been ordered with an eye to indoor wear throughout the season. Gray is one of the fashionable colors, and is used in every tint and tone, as well as every imaginable fabric. It is almost always possible to make it up with some color that renders it becoming to those who could not wear it alone. The Victorian poke may become quite a popular head-covering for a certain beautifully picturesque type of women this winter, made up in velvets of various shades, to match the costume, but it is not to show itself to any extent as a fall bonnet in felt or dark straw. The double skirt is not becoming to many women. It shortens in appearance a figure to which every inch is a distinct advantage, and, worn by a taller woman, only gets at first sight the impression of a school-girl who has outgrown her petticoats. A skirt that has a second edition, which reaches to just below or is on a line with the knees, will prove decidedly more becoming, if double skirts are to become general. Among dress trimmings the season opened with a very beautiful and elaborate exhibit of silk-cord gimps, beaded galloons in new colorings in monochrome, and also tri-color effects; very handsome applique ornaments, a very few of which impart great elegance to the gown; charming sets comprising girdle, standing collar, sleeve points and Etons. There are likewise extremely fine jetted garnitures, shaped as half bodices, braces, flat and standing epaulettes, revers, oddly shaped vests and very novel ornaments for the sleeves, arranged in modified styles to suit their reduced shapes. These decorations are in every variety of design, and certainly not extravagant in price when one remembers the future use that can be made of them.

THE FARM AND GARDEN.

ITEMS OF INTEREST ON FEMININE TOPICS.

Turnips Among Corn—Spreading Manure—Sheep and Chickens on the Farm—Better Cows Need Better Care.

TURNIPS AMONG CORN.
There is no crop grown so easily and with so little cost as late-sown turnips in a field of well-cultivated corn. The shade of the corn will keep the turnips from growing much until the corn is cut. Possibly also their growth will be checked by the demand of the corn roots for plant food. But in the Indian summer that follows the first frost the turnips will make rapid growth, as they will then have all the land for their own use. The turnip will endure a pretty heavy frost, and grow again if warm weather follows it. But in our climate turnips cannot be left in the ground all winter as they are in England.

SPREADING MANURE.
An implement in some use among high-toned farmers hereabout is a patent manure-spreader. A sort of enlarged coffee-mill is attached to a loaded wagon, the manure is pitched into the hopper and a sheet of pulverized manure as wide as the wagon falls continuously until the load is used up—a very complete tool they say. I didn't have one of these, so I took a square 30-toothed drag to work up the manure I was putting on the meadows in the fall, and if not quite so good as the patent gimcrack, it is better than leaving the manure in lumps, as we are too apt to do. Big chunks, held together by straw, and others due to more or less complete drying, are rolled and crushed under the drag timbers, the teeth scatter them and work the manure into the soil, the seed in the manure gets a better hold, etc.

I manured a piece of soil in the fall, and when I ploughed it next spring for potatoes I noticed the soil under every chunk of manure was dead. Had it been left for hay it would have been full of bare spots. A good dragging would have saved most of the grass, and the more even distribution would have been good for the hay of itself.—E. S. Gilbert, in New York Tribune.

SHEEP AND CHICKENS ON THE FARM.

Sheep are especially sensitive to the kind of soil from which they are to feed. Some are better adapted to uplands or hills, and others to lower grounds and richer pastures. Some are better adapted to produce good mutton, others to produce finer and larger fleeces of higher-priced wool. The farmer's land and his markets for mutton and wool, and the special attention he can give his flock, should determine for him the kind of sheep he should select for the beginning of a new flock. Almost any kind that can live on his farm and under his care may pay expenses; but only the best breeds and those best adapted to his circumstances will afford the most profit, and these are the kinds he should purchase for a starter.

Sheep and chickens, when once established on a farm, hold their place for a long time. The more necessary, therefore, for making good selections in the beginning. Each man should determine beforehand what he intends to try to do, and then make his choice of breed in accordance with his plans, and work toward the end in view. Sheep and chickens may seem side stock-raising to farmers who raise corn and wheat by the hundreds of acres, but they often prove that the profits from these side stock-raising add much to the pin-money of the farmer's wife and to the ready cash of the farmer himself, and that the time and expense used in furnishing a small herd of good sheep or a flock of good chickens for his wife and family to care for pay better than any other investments in time or money he has ever made on his farm. If the largest profit is to result, the best breeds must be selected and the best care must be used to accomplish what you have undertaken.

Select your sheep with care and judgment, and they will soon pay expenses.—Farm News.

BETTER COWS NEED BETTER CARE.

Many farmers think that if they only had the money to buy better cows they would then have no trouble in making money. But if the farmer's present stock is not constantly growing better it shows that it is as good as the care it gets. If he had cows that would yield much more than those he has now they would deteriorate until they reached his present standard. Care and feeding of the cow while bearing her young, and persistent milking of her during this period, have as much to do with making the calf a good milker as with the animal's pedigree. Scrub treatment of stock soon reduces it to the condition of scrubs. On the other hand, better care of the present stock will increase its capacity for producing milk and butter.—American Cultivator.

AMOUNT OF SEED PER ACRE.

The old rule for wheat seeding was two bushels of seed per acre. This was when the grain was sown by hand. After farmers began to drill wheat the amount of seed was generally decreased. One bushel and a half of wheat drilled in gave a more even and better stand than the larger amount sown by hand. But as the drill deposited the grain in hollows between ridges made by the tubes, many farmers thought that the seed was too

crowded in these narrow rows, and diminished the amount still more. This was most often done when phosphate was drilled in with the seed. Five pecks of wheat per acre of large grains, thoroughly dried, was thought by many to be equal if drilled with phosphate to two bushels sown by hand. Much depends on the character of seed. As grain is often left in bins while damp, it heats so that its vitality is impaired. Much of this heated seed wheat fails to germinate. What does grow does not make so strong and vigorous a plant as it should. This wasted seed is by far the most expensive kind of fertilizer.

If even a bushel of sound, well-dried wheat is sown per acre and properly fertilized, it may be made to produce as large a crop as the greater amount of seed could do. The secret is as soon as the grain comes up to check leaf growth and encourage tillering from the root. Where only a single pair of leaves springs from the seed, either roll or harrow the surface soil, brushing and checking these leaves as they come above ground. This also stimulates root growth, sending up two or three new shoots, which have a spreading growth, falling down over the crown where the leaves join the root and protecting it from injury by the winter. Where the surface is thus cultivated, the roots make a horizontal growth which protects them from injury by freezing. It is the deep roots that are most likely to be snapped by alternate freezing and thawing of the soil which holds them. The result will be in the spring that there will be a far better stand of wheat on land thinly sowed, but cultivated so as to make it tiller, than where two bushels or more of wheat is sown per acre, and each grain is allowed to care for itself.

On very rich land in England as much as two and a half bushels and even three bushels is often sown per acre. But the English climate is so damp that probably much of its seed wheat does not germinate. Besides, seeding in England is usually done very late so that there is no chance for tillering in the fall. It is the custom there to hoe or cultivate the wheat in the spring. This probably causes the plants to tiller then, and with a favorable season very large crops are produced. Yet, if the seed be tested to show that all will grow, much less seed wheat need be used (where it is commonly sown).—American Cultivator.

THE HOG.

The hog grows cheapest on the pasture and beside the fields that grow his grains. He is most profitable as a subordinate department, because he cannot consume the coarse fodders of the farm. He furnishes the best market in which to sell the by-products of the mill and dairy. He assimilates more of the most concentrated feed-stuffs than any other animal of the farm. Quicker returns come from him than from horses, cattle or sheep. He pays the rents in European countries, lifts the mortgages in the Northern States, and in conjunction with the cow he will redeem the worn-out cotton and tobacco fields of the South.

Avoid permanent residence for the hog; move him about, so that his environments may be clean and uncommensalated by germs that develop rapidly where they have suitable media. Avoid close breeding, as it intensifies predisposition to disease. Select your breeding from good milkers, as this is the best indication of fecundity.—Prof. Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture.

POULTRY NOTES.

Get rid of all the surplus males. The profit from the hen comes after she has given you 100 eggs at the usual prices of grain and eggs. Push for the profit point.

The poultry will take care of a deal of milk sweet or sour and pay a good dividend for it, whether you wish it in eggs or in flesh.

Live of good size and condition will put the hens and chicks in poor condition. You can never fatten poultry and lice with the same feed.

If you have geese do not mind the noise they make so long as they bring profit and give a chance to rustle for forage in a good pasture, they will bring a profit.

The Farmers' Review some time ago asked its readers as to the kind of floor most serviceable in a poultry house. The majority of the replies favored a board floor.

Never market a fowl in poor condition. It is a losing business. The extra weight put on in fat is the cheapest per pound after the frame is grown and the extra price for a fat, plump fowl is all gain.

The number of spring ducks used increases each year. If you have a few on hand that will do for breeders next spring it may pay you to keep them over. Think of this before you have sold all or the best ones.

The number of eggs will not be increased by the number of males kept, so you may as well ship all cockerels while they will pass for spring chickens, except those you wish to use as breeders this winter or next spring.

Hens like a shade in hot weather but a damp dark house and run is not the best for health or egg production. Give the hens a chance to make their own selection of sun or shade, but do not compel them to choose the shade in a damp place.

Just now is when you should not lose your interest in caring for the fowls. Keep the houses clean, have a supply of gravel and lime handy, give fresh water at least twice a day and give green food as well as meat or oil meal if the stock has not free range over a good pasture.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Florida probably has a hundred or more survivors of the Seminole wars, for whom Congress has provided a yearly pension of \$50 since 1892, and the money is appropriated. Few survivors, however, can prove their cases for want of muster rolls. The State Legislature refuses to appropriate \$1700 to get copies from the War Department.

Of the hundred replies received by the Commissioner of Labor of Nebraska from representative farmers to the question, "Does farming pay?" seventy-one gave as their opinion that farming does not pay, twenty-one say it does, four say that it pays as well as anything else, and four gave up the count.

Fashion gossips of New York are telling us that "unless all signs fall" the tendency of men's styles of dress will be backward toward the "golden time." In evidence it is said that the old-fashioned stock of black satin, a garment that swaths the neck and ends in a bosom ruffle, is now worn in London and Paris.

It is said that Secretary Alger's scheme for supplying transportation over the Yukon by steam snow sleds has been anticipated by the Klondike Transportation, Express and Commercial Company, of St. Louis, whose secretary says that the company has already arranged to run trains over the Yukon River in December.

The little town of Buxton is the home of Guy C. H. Corliss, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Dakota. Justice Corliss believes that every man should be able and willing to earn his bread by the sweat of his brow. With the view of demonstrating his own capacity in this respect, the learned Justice cast aside the robes of office and, rake in hand, followed his own reaper over his own fields, along with his "hired help," in the recent harvest.

The exhibitions of the past year seem to have been remunerative in accordance with the number of visitors. At Stuttgart Exhibition there were 500,000 visitors and a surplus of \$65,000. At Dresden there were 1,000,000 visitors and the surplus was very small. But at Nuremberg, with 2,000,000, and at Geneva, with 2,500,000, and at Budapest, with 3,500,000, there were very great deficits, while at Berlin, with nearly 7,000,000 visitors, the exhibition was financially the greatest failure of all.

The British Medical Journal, in a recent issue, sounds an alarm concerning the rapid spread of the cocaine habit in England, where it threatens to become the third scourge of humanity, alcohol and morphine being the first and second. All ranks of society are declared to be crowded with its victims—both men and women—many of whom are literary people, who take cocaine to stimulate their imagination. The Journal advises the most stringent measures be adopted to eradicate this blighting vice.

Professor Morehead, of the Ohio State University, and two other men are soon to begin a systematic hunt for a buried treasure supposed to comprise one hundred pounds of pure gold, that was hidden away by two Frenchmen on their way from the Great Lakes to New Orleans during the seventeenth century. Tradition has it that the treasure was buried at the foot of an oak tree near the site of Bucyrus, O.; that the two men died while with the Indians, and that the latter, fearing the spirits of the dead men, would never reveal the hiding place.

Some of Denver's society belles, instead of spending all their surplus pin money for fruits and candy, carefully hoard every cent and invest in cattle! The girls of the West seem ambitious to become cattle queens, and they purchase the animals from stock commission men, and pay a farmer a small sum each year to pasture them and look after their welfare. Cattle have increased in value of late, and the girls say they are going to "hold" their herds until they can turn a pretty penny on their investment. These "herds" consist of from one cow up to fifty head. The fair owner of a herd uses her own special brand and is enthusiastic over her possessions.

A sensation has been created by the discovery that both the Austrian and Italian governments are busy day and night constructing the most costly and elaborate fortifications at the points where the Empire and the Kingdom meet in the Southern Tyrol and in the neighborhood of Pontebba. This, it would appear, means that neither at Vienna nor at Rome is there much confidence on the part of the authorities in the extension of the existing Triple Alliance, since allies do not, as a rule, consider it necessary to adopt such means of defending their dominions against one another. There are no fortifications of any kind along the frontier of Germany and Austria. Why should there be any on the Austro-Italian boundary line?

Mrs. F. A. Steel, the author of "On the Face of the Waters," says: "Our standard of civilization is personal comfort—luxury, a thing absolutely unknown in native India. There is scarcely any difference in the mode of living between the rich and the poor. If you go into the house of a rajah, there is the same bare floor and only a simple platter to eat from, such as is seen in the home of the poorest. To put it crudely, there will probably not be even the luxury of a wash-basin and towel; for the rich man, like his poor brother, washes in the open and dries himself in the sun. Such is the extreme simplicity of life that wealth is still buried in India; a man may spend it on jewels for his wife, but not

on pleasure or personal comfort. This simple life, which fosters no distinctions of class, has been preserved for three thousand years by Indian civilization, but ours will destroy it in fifty years."

Since it is no longer disputed that other countries will require from the United States a vast quantity of grain of some kind during the current crop year, the estimate of Mr. Snow, of the Department of Agriculture, as to corn has rather more than ordinary interest. He endeavors to reach some idea of the domestic consumption by comparing the crops reported by the Government each year since 1891 with the quantities exported and the Government report of quantities remaining in farmers' hands March 1st, with the conclusion that about 1,000,000 bushels are required for domestic consumption before March 1st and about 700,000,000 bushels after that date prior to the maturity of another crop. The quantity remaining after exports for the entire year are deducted and the stock in farmers' hands and visible supply March 1st has varied for five years remarkably little—between 630,000,000 and 650,000,000 bushels from the crops of 1892 and 1893, and between 600,000,000 and 1,000,000,000 bushels from the crops of 1894 and 1895, and about 700,000,000 bushels smaller in the year 1894-95 only because the Government report of yield in 1894 is supposed to be as much too small. If this reasoning be correct the consumption required from about September 1st to March 1st for winter feeding, grinding into meal and other manufacturing would be about 300,000,000 bushels more than the quantity required during the remaining half-year.

Agricultural statistics, according to the New York Tribune, show some interesting industrial movements in the United Kingdom, which are mostly uniform in Great Britain and Ireland. In both the present year shows an increase over last year in wheat acreage and a decrease in barley, oats and potatoes. The increase in wheat is more than 200,000 acres. That still leaves the total far less, however, than it was a few years ago. The total in the whole United Kingdom is now 1,935,041 acres, while in 1892 in England alone it was 2,102,969 acres. The increase at present recorded is promising. It is greater than the decrease in all other grains put together, indicating that some potato-land, grass-land or other is being devoted to wheat. There is reported a considerable decrease, in both parts of the Kingdom, in permanent grass-land, while the acreage of clover and rotation-grass has increased in Great Britain and diminished in Ireland. Turning to live stock, an increase in the number of cattle is seen, but it is vastly greater in Ireland than in Great Britain. In fact, Ireland is getting ahead of Great Britain as a cattle country; is far ahead now, proportionately. She has fully 40 per cent. of all the cattle in the United Kingdom. In sheep a decrease is noted in Great Britain and an increase in Ireland; which is strange, for the former is certainly better adapted to sheep culture than the latter. The revival of Irish woolen manufactures has, no doubt, much to do with it. In swine a considerable decrease is reported all around, and it is to be observed that Great Britain is more given to hog-raising than Ireland, she having 64 per cent. of the whole number to Ireland's 36 per cent. The general showing seems to indicate that Ireland is making better agricultural progress than Great Britain. She is making her products more varied than they used to be, and of a more profitable and trustworthy character. The shortage of crops from which the island is said to be suffering this year is probably not serious, and at worst will prove only temporary. The clearest indications are that a good measure of permanent prosperity is returning to the Emerald Isle.

Antiquity of the Rose.
The antiquity of the rose is so great that all accounts of its origin has been lost. It is not mentioned in the Biblical writings earlier than the reign of Solomon, but the allusion to it there made is such as to indicate that the flower had already long been known for the essence of roses was extensively used in Jerusalem and Judea during the reign of the luxurious and much-married king. In Egypt the rose is depicted on a number of very early monuments, believed to date from 3,000 to 3,500 years B. C., and in the tomb of an Egyptian prince, disinterred a year ago, in Southern Egypt, several hermetically sealed vials were found, which, when opened, contained genuine attar roses, so that the modern claims for the discovery of this delicious perfume are vain. Rose water, or the essence of roses, is mentioned by Homer in the "Iliad." Homer and Solomon were nearly contemporaneous. Both the Greeks and Hebrews probably borrowed the idea of its manufacture from the Egyptian, and these, for aught anybody can tell, may have had it from the Indians or from the Chinese, for the latter claim for each of their discoveries and inventions a most marvelous, not to say incredible, antiquity.

All wild roses are not of the same kind, for there are over 1,000 species of the wild rose known to botanists, and the varieties are innumerable.

Great Britain has seventeen miles of railroad to each 100 square miles of territory. In the United States there are six miles of rail line to every 100 square miles. In Great Britain there are 1,980 people to support every mile of road. In this country there are only 380 people to each mile of railroad. The United Kingdom had 21,277 miles of road at the end of 1896. There has been very little new road construction in Great Britain in several years.

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