

REPUBLICAN NEWS ITEM
 CHARLES L. WING, Editor.
 Published Every Thursday Afternoon
 By The Sullivan Publishing Co.
 At the County Seat of Sullivan County,
 LAPORTE, PA.
 W. C. MASON, President,
 THOS. J. INGHAM, Sec'y & Treas.
 Entered at the Post Office at Laporte, Pa., as
 second-class mail matter.

EARLY ROAD BUILDING.

How a Wretched Pennsylvania Turnpike Was Improved.

The desire to speculate a hundred or more years ago was apparently as great as it is today. An example of this is shown by the organization of a company in 1792 to build a turnpike from Philadelphia to Lancaster, Pa., a distance of sixty miles. The charter was secured, and in ten days 2,285 subscribers made application for stock. As this was more than the law allowed, the names were placed in a lottery wheel, and 600 were drawn. With these subscriptions the work began. The road builders of that day knew little or nothing regarding the construction of highways, and the ridiculous mistakes made on this occasion taught them some valuable lessons, says Guy Elliott Mitchell in the American Cultivator. The land was condemned, the trees felled and the roadbed prepared. The largest stones that could be found were dumped upon it for a foundation, and upon this colossal base earth and gravel were spread. Then the work was declared complete, but when the washing rains came deep holes appeared on every hand, sharp stones protruded from the surface, and the horses received scratches and broken limbs as they sank between the boulders up to their knees.

The gigantic error of the road builder was then made plain. Indignation meetings were held, at which the turnpike company was condemned and the legislature blamed for giving the charter. Had it not been for an Englishman who offered to rebuild the turnpike on the macadam plan, as he had seen roads built in the "old country," improved road construction would have received a severe blow. The Englishman's proposition was accepted by the company, and he was successful in completing the Lancaster and Philadelphia turnpike road, which was then declared to be "the best piece of highway in the United States, a master-piece of its kind."

NEW ROAD MACHINE.

Grading Attachment That Can Be Put Upon Any Traction Engine.

Streets of Holdrege, Neb., have been improved and beautified by a very unique and eminently practical road and street grading machine, the invention of Elijah A. Hollenbeck of Funk, Neb. The machine was built by Mr. Hollenbeck himself, and notwithstanding its credit of construction, owing to lack of facilities for turning out the proper kind of work, it has proved a success and a money maker from the very start, says the Omaha World-Herald. It is in fact a road grading attachment, so constructed that it can readily be put upon any ordinary make of traction engine.

The machine is very simple in its construction and seldom ever gets out of order or causes any annoyance to the operator. It consists of a frame attached to the boiler and running gear of the engine. On the left side, directly in front of the large drive wheel, is a beam carrying the plow. The furrow cut by the plow is just outside of the tread of the drive wheel of the engine, enabling the operator to cut a straight bank to any length desired. The dirt is dropped from the moldboard upon a belt conveyor passing under the boiler of the engine and deposited in the middle of the street or road to make the grade. The outer end of this conveyor can be raised or lowered to meet requirements.

Mr. Hollenbeck, the inventor, is a young farmer who has lived on a farm all his life. He has had no special training as a machinist, his only education in that line being that gleaned from practical experience in operating thrashing machines and other kinds of farm machinery.

Keep Out of Rut—Save Roads.

It is not unlikely that American farmers who have with them always the question of good roads and how to maintain them may find in the following order, which was issued by the Panama canal commission to officers and men on the isthmus, a suggestion of how carelessness contributes to making good roads bad and bad roads worse. The order says:

"Notices have been posted at the corral, and the corral foremen have instructed teamsters that the custom of wagons following in one another's tracks must be discontinued. Considerable of the maintenance work on the macadam roads, especially during the wet season, is made necessary by wagons wearing deep ruts. The teamsters have been instructed to distribute travel over the full width of the highways, and it is believed that the cost of road repairs will be much reduced as soon as compliance with these instructions becomes general."

Nothing stimulates home trade like good roads. In many parts of the country the farmers are practically shut off from the town during the wet season. The wives and daughters of the farmer find it inconvenient to make frequent trips to town during these months, so they naturally resort to the mail order catalogue for a part of their shopping. The result is that home merchants lose trade which they might get if the roads were better.

GOOD HIGHWAY HELPS

How to Solve the Problem of Clean Roadside.

DESTROY NOXIOUS WEEDS.

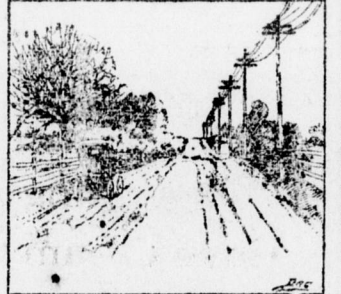
Build Good Fences In Front of Farms. Use the Drag and Harrow Until Cold Weather—Tip on Improving Sand Roads.

It is encouraging to see the attention that is being paid to good roads all through the United States. Various state organizations are taking the matter up, national conventions are being held, and an international meeting was recently called to convene in France. Everything points toward better highways, better facilities for marketing crops and better conditions for the farmer.

A good road brings one nearer to his neighbors, nearer to his church and school and nearer to his market. The time will soon come when one will speak of a farm as being ten minutes distant from town rather than two miles. The popularity which the automobile is rapidly acquiring among farmers will promote this good roads movement.

In line with this movement the following suggestions on the improvement of roads are of value:

There is a splendid opportunity for the individual to help the good work along by taking care of the roads in



HOW WEEDS DESTROY THE APPEARANCE OF A ROAD.

front of his own farm. There is no surer method than to take pride in the road that goes past your door. D. Ward King began his successful road drag campaign in this way. It has spread from a little Missouri town to all parts of the world.

There is one line of road improvement that is more easily carried on than any other and consequently is more frequently overlooked. Every roadway can be kept free from noxious weeds with comparatively little labor if the matter is taken up promptly. Each weed that matures bears a more prolific crop of seed than its predecessor. If the fence corners and the roadside are kept free it will be an easy matter to exterminate the undesirable weed pests which are coming to be a decided problem. If you cannot drag your road you can at least have regard for your adjacent field to keep the weeds from growing along the roadside.

When time, labor and money have been expended upon the beds of country roads and highways there is the hope of compensation in the way of improvement.

If the farmer west of the Mississippi is blessed with a good road leading to and from his farm, why shouldn't he pay some attention to the roadside?

There are instances where he has an excuse. A rank growth of weeds and briars may be more pleasing to look at than the fence they hide, but where land is worth \$50 or more per acre he forfeits that excuse. A good, well constructed fence along the highway will arouse a certain amount of pride, which acts as an incentive to get busy with the scythe and ax and clean up.

Many county supervisors and members of the Iowa Good Roads association are advocating the building of a good highway fence, one which will be an effectual guard against trespass and add beauty to the landscape as the real solution of the clean roadside problem.

Most of the road tax has been worked out. Presumably country roads will need no further attention until next summer, but they do just the same. They must be harrowed, dragged and leveled continuously until frozen solid. This is easy; this is important. Neglect it and the vast amount of work and money expended will be largely wasted. This is the weakness of the present system of road management in the middle west. The work is not economically done. There has been some improvement of late years, but not much. Let the farmers help by dragging and harrowing newly made or repaired roads until cold weather.

A good way to improve a sand road is to spread a coating of clay over it with a manure spreader.

Short Talks on Advertising
 By Charles Austin Bates.
 No. 19.

People generally read advertisements more than they did a few years ago. The reason is to be found in the advertisements themselves. Advertisers are more careful than they used to be. They make the advertisements more readable. Some of them even become, in a way, a department of the paper, and people look for them every day with as much zest and pleasure as they turn to any other feature.

This is true of many department stores all over the country.

In many cities there is just one man who appreciates the value of such interest.

He breaks away from the old set style. He tells something interesting in his space every day.

There are lots of interesting things in business. Look over the miscellany page of any paper—look at its local news columns, and its telegraph news, for that matter, and you'll see that the majority of the items are more or less closely related to some business fact.

Dress these facts up in a becoming garb of words, and they will find readers, even though they be in a "mere advertisement."

Let the merchant come down off his pedestal and talk in his ads.

He needn't be flippant—far from it, but let him not write as if he were addressing somebody afar off, and telling him about something at even a greater distance.

The newspaper goes right into its reader's house—goes in and sits down with him.

It is on the table when he eats, and in his hands while he is smoking after the meal. It reaches him when he is in an approachable condition.

That's the time to tell him about your business—clearly, plainly, convincingly—as one man talks to another.

"Let the merchant come down off his pedestal." Copyright, Charles Austin Bates, New York.

J. M. WIGHTON,
MUNCY VALLEY, PA.

Never Before Have We Received so many praises and heard so many flattering remarks as we have had this Season.

Were you one of the vast throngs that crowded our store during the past week? Did you get your share of the articles advertised? If not you should

COME HERE NOW

We are making new friends fast: selling more goods than ever before

But we still want more friends, want to sell our stock faster, yet we are spurred on to deeper price cutting. People wonder how we can do it. To this we can answer, that no other store in this section has the wholesale buying facilities enjoyed by this establishment. We can buy lower, we can sell lower.

Sweater Coats

- Men's or Boys' Sweater Coats .38
- Mens sweater coats .75
- Mens sweater coats 1.25
- Mens sweater coats 1.50
- Mens sweater coats 2.00
- Mens V neck sweaters 25 and 46c
- Mens cardigan jackets 1.25

Underwear

- Boys Shirts or Drawers 20 and 26c
- Men's ribbed underwear all colors 39c
- Men's fleeced lined underwear all colors 39c

Boys Corduroy Pants.

- Boys' corduroy knee pants, lined throughout, fine ribbed quality worth regular 75c Special 39c

Men's Suits

- Men's Suits 4.65
- Men's Suits 6.75
- Mens Suits 8.50
- Mens Suits 9.65
- Mens Suits 11.75
- Mens Suits 15.50

Specials Men's Corduroy Pants

- From 1.19 to 2.50

CHILDRENS' SUITS

- From 93c to .50 and 5.50

MEN'S TROUSERS

- From 69c to \$4.75.

MEN'S OVERALLS.

- From 39c to 75c

MEN'S ODD COATS

- All Prices 85c to 2.25

SHOES

Also big line of Shoes at saving prices \$1.65 for 2.50 Dress Shoe. Ladies' 1.65 Shoes for 1.09 Men's Working Shoes 1.65 W. L. Douglas Shoes at reduced prices.

Big Line of Men's and Children's Overcoats at reduced prices.

THE TRI-WEEKLY GAZETTE and BULLETIN
 Tells all the general news of the world, particularly that of our State, all the time and tells it impartially. Comes to subscribers every other day. It is in fact almost a daily newspaper, and you cannot afford to be without it. We offer this unequalled paper and the NEWS ITEM together one year for \$1.50

THE LAPORTE REPUBLICAN NEWS ITEM
 Best dressed and most respected newspaper in Sullivan county. Pre-eminently a home newspaper. The only Republican paper in county and comes from the seat of justice with new news from the county offices, clean news from all sections of the county and political news you want to read. This with Tri-weekly at \$1.50

The REPUBLICAN NEWS ITEM and Tri-Weekly GAZETTE AND BULLETIN.

In every city there is one best paper, and in Williamsport it is the Gazette and Bulletin. It is the most important, progressive and widely circulated paper in that city. The first to hold the fort journalistically. Order of the News Item.

If you want to keep in touch with the Republican party organization and be informed on all real estate transfers or legal matters in general that transpire at the county seat you must necessarily take the NEWS ITEM.

WINCHESTER
 "NEW RIVAL"
 FACTORY LOADED SHOTGUN SHELLS
 No black powder shells on the market compare with the "NEW RIVAL" in uniformity and strong shooting qualities. Safe fire and waterproof. Get the genuine.
 WINCHESTER REPEATING ARMS CO. New Haven, Conn.

DROPS
 TRADE MARK
CURES RHEUMATISM, LUMBAGO, SCIATICA, NEURALGIA and KIDNEY TROUBLE
 "DROPS" taken internally, rids the blood of the poisonous matter and acids which are the direct causes of these diseases. Applied externally it affords almost instant relief from pain, while a permanent cure is being effected by purifying the blood, dissolving the poisonous substance and removing it from the system.
DR. S. D. BLAND
 Of Brewton, Ga., writes:
 "I had been a sufferer for a number of years with Lumbago and Rheumatism in my arms and legs and tried all the remedies that I could gather from medical works, and also consulted with a number of the best physicians, but found nothing that gave the relief obtained from "DROPS." I shall prescribe it in my practice for rheumatism and kindred diseases."
FREE
 If you are suffering with Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Kidney Trouble or any kindred disease, write to us for a trial bottle of "DROPS," and test it yourself.
 "DROPS" can be used any length of time without acquiring a "drug habit," as it is entirely free of opium, cocaine, alcohol, iodoform, and other similar ingredients.
 Large Size Bottle, "DROPS" (500 Doses) 61.00. For Sale by Druggists.
SWANSON RHEUMATISM CURE COMPANY,
 Dept. 50, 100 Lake Street, Chicago.

Men's Shirts

- Men's Neglige Shirts 39c
- Men's Work Shirts 39c
- Men's Flannel Shirts 85c
- Richy Flannel overshirts 1.39
- Men's extra heavy cotton mixed socks 08c
- Men's all wool socks 19c
- Boys and Girls Stockings 09c
- Ladies' Hose 09c
- Ladies' Facinators 19c

Also big line men's lumbermen rubbers—Lambertville and Ball Band. A big saving for you.

- Men's Caps 19c
- Boys' Caps 19c
- Ladies' FURS at great reduction.
- BED BLANKETS from 75c up.
- TRUNKS all sizes from 1.50 up.

Ladies' Sweaters

- Ladies' Sweaters all colors 99c
- Ladies' Waists, blue, black, 39c

Ladies' Coats

- Ladies' Coats from 3.50 to 12.00

PATENTS
 CAVEATS, TRADE MARKS, COPYRIGHTS AND DESIGNS.
 Send your business direct to Washington, saving time, money loss, better service.
 My office close to U. S. Patent Office. FREE preliminary consultation made. Act's for not due until patent is secured. PRACTICAL ATTENTION GIVEN—19 YEARS ACTUAL EXPERIENCE. Book "How to Obtain Patents," etc. sent free. Patents procured through E. G. Siggers receive special notice, without charge, in the INVENTIVE AGE illustrated monthly journal, terms, 50c a year. Late of C. A. Snow & Co., 918 F ST., N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.
 We promptly obtain U. S. and Foreign
PATENTS
 Send model, sketch or photo of invention for free report on patentability. For free book How to Secure TRADE-MARKS write to
CASNOW & CO.
 Opposite U. S. Patent Office WASHINGTON D. C.

So Come to J. M. Wighton's to satisfy your wants. Remember sale only lasts this month. Railroad fare from Laporte and Nordmont for purchase of \$10.00 or over.