

**REPUBLICAN NEWS ITEM.**

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**ROAD WORK IN ENGLAND.**

Method of Maintaining Highways and Filling Up Soft Spots.

It may interest many to learn how road maintenance is carried out in Great Britain and Ireland. All roads and bridges are under the direct charge of the county surveyor, who is in all cases a qualified civil engineer, with assistants under him to see to the detail work. He divides the roads of the county into sections, as seems best to him, for maintenance purposes. These several sections are advertised locally in the newspapers and by other means, and bids are invited for their maintenance for six or twelve months, says James Johnston of Douglas county, Neb., in the Breeder's Gazette of Chicago. These bids are opened on a certain day by a board of county commissioners, assisted by the county surveyor. The lowest bidder gets the work, but no bid is accepted until the successful bidder puts up a bond signed by two solvent sureties that the work will be performed. Should the contractor fail to do the work the county surveyor can have it done and sue the bondsmen for the work and costs. All bidders for this work have specifications of the work to be done on the several sections of road. How long the section is, how many tons of metal are to be broken and put on, cleaning, keeping the water tables clear and the grass off the road—all these are specified, so that he knows exactly what he has to do. The matter of putting on the metal is looked after very closely indeed. The contractor has to put all the material on the roadside. The surveyor or his assistant comes and measures it and then marks it with slaked lime, so that it cannot be interfered with until it is put on the road. Farmers are always the contractors for this work. The roads everywhere are always in good condition. There are many soft spots over there—bog and low lands, with rain every day and sometimes twenty-four hours at a time—but the heaviest rains can spin along the bog roads and in the rainiest weather with no damage to the road. They have no difficulty with the soft bottoms in Ireland. They simply throw in rock, and the softer the spot the bigger the rocks, until they make it a hard spot and then put the small stuff on top. A mistake will surely be made if bricks are thrown into soft spots. They are simply no good for the purpose intended. It is to be hoped that the people of the United States will stop spending time and wasting money in shoveling dirt into the soft spots, but will go to work like men of business and better roads.

**A HUSTLING GRANGER.**

L. H. Healey, Master Connecticut State Grange.

L. H. Healey, the energetic master of Connecticut state grange, is showing his capacity for work and his ability to fill his office in a most commendable way. The grange in that state is growing substantially under his management. He is a fluent and forceful speaker and is in great demand among the granges of that state. One of the points driven home by him is the fact that the grange is a farmers' organization and that the lecturer owes it to members to bring within their reach the best information obtainable concerning work upon the farm. Better methods of agriculture are needed, and cases are too rare in which farmers are receiving what they should from their soil and crops. The cost of raising crops must be reduced, says Master Healey, and it should be one of the chief functions of the grange to help farmers in this respect. Lecturers, if true to the purposes of the grange, will not fail to bring out the experiences of their best and most successful farmers on topics relating to the farm, the household and the home. Let the grange be the center toward which all the best farmers and their families look for practical assistance in their work. Connecticut has now something over 12,000 members. State Master Healey was instructed at the last state grange meeting to appoint a committee of ten from each Pomona jurisdiction to assist to develop plans for more general co-operation among the members of the Order with regard to financial matters.

Salaries of National Grange Officers. Will the editor give me some information as to salaries of the national grange officers and members of the executive committee?—E. S. P.

At the last annual meeting of the national grange the finance committee fixed the salaries as follows: State master, \$500 per year and \$3 per day and actual traveling expenses while away from his office in discharge of his official duty; worthy lecturer, \$400 a year and \$3 per day and expenses; the worthy secretary, \$1,200 a year and traveling expenses when on duty for the Order; the worthy treasurer, \$500 a year and expenses. Each member of the executive committee gets \$3 per day and expenses when engaged in the work of the grange.

When the grange solves the problem of securing farm help for the farmers they will confer upon them a very great favor.

State Lecturer Lowell of New York has devised a system of leaflets for use of subordinate lecturers, which contain brief essays and other appropriate matter.

There has been a rapid advance in the use of industrial alcohol the year past. Many grange halls are now lighted with it.

**Co-operative Business Enterprises Much Discussed.**

A Farmers' Organization in New Jersey Affords Some Excellent Suggestions For Specific Grange Co-operation In Buying and Selling.

From the reports of the various state grange meetings we learn that considerable attention was paid to the matter of co-operative buying and selling of farm products. Only in isolated cases has anything been done with more than ordinary success along these lines. Massachusetts has organized a co-operative association, with capital stock valued at \$25,000, shares \$5, issued only to members of the Order. It is probable that something along this line will be done in New York state.

Such an organization in order to be successful must be confined to members of the Order, so far as concerns the holding of stock, but the outsider must be given the privilege of purchasing supplies at the same prices as grangers where such co-operative grange stores are operated. In such an organization the stock should be held entirely by members of the Order, and they should get dividends, if declared upon it, and also a certain percentage of profits. There should be no discrimination as between members and nonmembers as to buying at these stores, however. Organized along these lines we believe that grange stores may be made a success.

There is in New Jersey a farmers' organization, though not a grange organization, which is called the Produce Exchange, with a capital of \$100,000, and it buys and sells everything the farmer uses or grows and can do business anywhere. We give the details of its plan as reported in the Rural New Yorker:

The shares are \$5 each, and no man can own more than twenty. The stockholders elect twelve directors, who elect the officers and appoint the manager and local agents. The main office is at Freehold. Seven thousand dollars of stock has been paid in. On this they have equipped their office and since the organization have done \$200,000 worth of business. As yet they have done very little buying except to buy \$30,000 worth of seed potatoes. As it is estimated that in the district in which the exchange now does business there is used annually between \$20,000 and \$30,000 worth of fertilizers and needs other than potatoes, it would seem as if here was a field well worth looking after, which the exchange is now taking hold of.

There are 40 members. For these were sold last year 1,000 carloads of potatoes, besides other produce, earning, it is estimated, to its members not less than \$50,000. They have received on an average for the potato crop \$1.75 per barrel, which has been sold in eleven different states and fifty different cities. They were so fortunate as to secure as manager a business man who has been for eleven years engaged in the trade. He is in direct telegraph and telephone communication with all shipping points as well as the local stations. When produce is brought in it is inspected, graded and sent where the market reports for the day indicate to be the best shipping points and sold direct to large dealers. Sometimes the different markets will vary on a day's sale from 10 to 25 cents a barrel. This price is averaged for all of the same grade and the price announced the day following and the farmers paid on presentation of their shipping receipts. For this service, where the exchange does the selling, a charge is made of 10 cents per barrel. Small lots of produce of various sorts are sometimes sent to commission houses, of which the exchange has a select list, and the goods are sent, as above, where the price and demand seem best, according to the direct daily reports received. The farmer pays the regular 10 per cent commission. The exchange does all the business and for this receives its pay by a reduction from the commission houses to 3 per cent when sent to store and 5 per cent when sold on pier, the latter saving cartage. Today the exchange could pay for all equipment and expense, return all money paid in and have a surplus left as a dividend in stock.

Patrons' Fire Relief Association. The eleventh annual report of Dutchess and Columbia Patrons' Fire Relief association shows a strong financial standing—on Jan. 1, 2,701 policies, carrying risks to the amount of \$6,705,750. The total receipts for the year, including the amount on hand at the beginning of the year, were \$14,483.81. The balance on hand the first of this year was about \$2,000. The average annual assessment for eleven years was about \$1.55 per thousand. The cost per thousand for three years for losses, premiums and expenses was \$5.26 per thousand.

In the fifty-one granges in the state of New York there are 121 co-operative fire insurance companies, including the grange companies. The amount of risks carried is \$381,591,325, and the average per thousand for these companies for the year 1907 (the 1908 figures not yet given) was \$2.77, and the average for the grange companies was \$1.80.

The West Waking Up.

The last quarterly reports of the new granges organized show that the state of Washington had twenty-one and Idaho seventeen, following forty-three in Washington and ten in Idaho the previous quarter. The organizing of sixty-four new granges in six months in the state of Washington shows what the farmers think of the Order in that state. This is done under the admirable leadership of C. B. Kegley, master of Washington state grange.

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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.

Copyright, Charles Austin Bates, New York.



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

**J. M. WIGHTON, MUNCY VALLEY, PA.**

50 and 75 Boys' Knee Pants Heavy weight Assorted style Special.

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, 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**

- Mens 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 25c
- ribbed or fleeced 20 and 26c
- Mens ribbed underwear all colors 39c
- Mens 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**

- Mens Suits 4.65
- Mens Suits 6.75
- Mens Suits 8.50
- Mens Suits 9.65
- Mens Suits 10.50
- Mens Suits 11.75
- Mens Suits 14.50
- Mens Suits 15.50
- Mens Suits 16.25

**Specials Men's Corduroy Pants**

From 1.19 to 2.50

**CHILDRENS' SUITS**

From 99c to 3.50 and 5 50

**MEN'S TROUSERS**

From 69c to \$4 75.

**MEN'S OVERALLS.**

From 39c to 75c

**MEN'S ODD COATS**

All Prices All Prices

Duch and Corduroy 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-weeklys 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 transpires 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. Are fire and waterproof. Get the genuine.  
WINCHESTER REPEATING ARMS CO. New Haven, Conn.

**"The Jewel Shop."**

Where your repair work receives special attention and you are sure to be pleased.

Where you can get glasses correctly fitted, that make your eyes see like young eyes.

Where you can get high grade Watches, Clocks and all kinds of jewelry at the bargain prices you have long looked for.

**L.J. Voorhees, SONESTOWN.**

**Administrators' Notice.**

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Administration upon the estate of Francis W. Gallagher, late of Laporte Borough, Sullivan County, Penna., deceased, have been granted to the undersigned. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment, and those having claims or demands against the same will make them known without delay to  
MRS. THERESA GALLAGHER, Administratrix.  
January 4, 1909.

**COURT PROCLAMATION.**

WHEREAS, HON. CHAS. F. TERRY, President Judge, Honorable Henry Richlin and R. C. R. Rskitka, Assoc. Judges of the Courts of Oyer and Terminer and General Jail Delivery, Quarter Sessions of the Peace, Orphans' Court and Common Pleas for the County of Sullivan, have issued their precept, bearing date the 14 day of Mar. 1909, to me, directed, for holding the several courts in the Borough of Laporte, on Monday the 17 day of May 1909, at 2 o'clock p. m. Therefore, notice is hereby given to the Coroner, Justices of the Peace and Constables within the county, that they be then and there in their proper person at 2 o'clock p. m. of said day, with their rolls, records, inquisitions examinations and other remembrances to those things to which their offices appertain to be done. And to those who are bound by their recognizance to prosecute against prisoners who are or shall be in the jail of the said county of Sullivan, are hereby notified to be then and there to prosecute against them as will be just.  
JUDSON BROWN, Sheriff.  
Sheriff's Office, Laporte Pa., 9, Jan 1909.

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  
**GASNOW & CO.**  
Opposite U. S. Patent Office WASHINGTON, D. C.  
Educate Your Bowels With Cascara. Candy Cathartic, cure constipation forever. 2c. 25c. If C. C. C. fail, druggists refund money.

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.