



CHARLES A. PROUTY OF THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION.

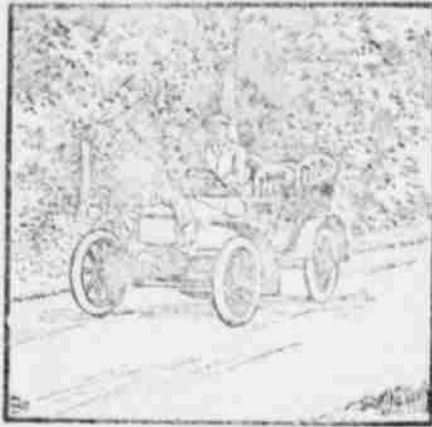
In a speech at Boston Commissioner Prouty, who is himself a New England man, recently criticised New England senators for their stand on the rate bill. This led Senator Lodge to make a spirited reply. Mr. Prouty is a lawyer by profession, though he taught for several years, and for a year was an assistant at an astronomical observatory. He was also a member of congress and a reporter of the state supreme court. He has been on the commission ten years.

ATTRACT THE TOURISTS.

Good Roads Being Summer Visitors to a State.

The question of good roads in Vermont has been agitated more or less of late by the press and public all over the state, and it is apparent that both are waking up to a realization that both are prominent factors in Vermont's prosperity will be permanent roads, which, along with fish, game and forest protection and promotion, will bring wealthy city visitors to the state for summer homes and country residences. The Barre Times thus speaks of the roads question:

"An automobilist talking on the subject of roads might be considered prejudiced in favor of good roads, but what the automobilist says about the condition of thoroughfares in Vermont is undoubtedly true. Here is what a motor car enthusiast from New York



A GOOD ROAD FOR TOURISTS.

state thinks of the conditions and the possibilities, speaking particularly of the roads on the western side of the state: 'It is a beautiful country and a delightful place to summer in, but there are many unimproved roads which would hesitate to come here because of the roads, whereas, if they were improved to a considerable extent, the influx of summer visitors would soon grow to enormous proportions, and the hotel keepers, merchants and other business men would accordingly prosper to the same extent. It takes a little to make good roads. The material is all there, and it does not require a very heavy outlay. The people of Vermont are asleep to their opportunities. They see about forty weeks in the year in which to work, and in that time the state could do wonders, and improve its roads.'

"From the standpoint of the automobilist or even whatever standpoint, smooth, hard roads are an asset which any community or state should well labor to possess. It seems that the automobile must be the lever to start a general effort toward the betterment of the thoroughfares."

"Laura" said Mr. Ferguson, "wake up!" "What's the matter, George?" "You are talking in your sleep. That's carrying it a little too far!"—Chicago Tribune.

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was a common club there might become a parking, but this is the Tax on Spring Lamb. I believe it was DUE who founded it, and Darwin was not the sort of man to stand up in a chair and crow or caw."

Left For the Club. Ten minutes later he got away in good shape, and Mrs. Bowser settled herself down for the evening. The hours passed, and midnight came, and she was nodding over her book when she heard a scrambling of feet on the front steps. She passed down the hall and opened the door, to find Mr. Bowser sitting on the sill and two men running away. She helped him to his feet and into the house, and as she got his hat and overcoat off and walked him to a chair in the sitting room he began to cry. She gave him five minutes in which to exhaust his tears and then asked:

"Well, tell me all about it." "I was going to the club. The Tender Spring Lambs were very nice to me very nice; said I was a great man; said they were proud of me; said they just loved baldheaded men." "I see." "Tender Spring Lambs took me in to be fattened. They first rubbed lard on my scalp." "Yes, I see it's all grease. Didn't you object?" "I was going to, but they said all Tender Spring Lambs greased their heads so that lightning would slip off. Shay, when I think of how I let 'em grease my head, I want to kill some one!" "And then what happened?" asked Mrs. Bowser.

Put Snuff on His Feet. "Then I had to take my shoes and stockings off, and they rubbed kerosene and snuff on my feet. Said it was to make me frolic like a lamb. Think of me frolicking like a lamb! Mrs. Bowser—think of it!" His speech began to thicken up and his tears to fall, and though Mrs. Bowser patted him on the knee, it was several minutes before he could go on.

"I didn't want to frolic. I'm too heavy. Got too much dignity to frolic. Haven't frolicked since I was a boy. They said that Darwin and Huxley frolicked and that I couldn't get out of it. Then two of 'em took me by the arms and ran me around the room—ran me a million times around. Oh, Mrs. Bowser, I thought I should die." "Of course you did, you poor man, you," she replied as she patted him some more. "What did they do next?" "Made me climb up a long ladder after a piece of meat tied at the top. Said I must climb for my mutton. When I came down they made me sit on a lump of ice. They said it was cold storage for Tender Spring Lambs. Oh, how cold that ice was! Mrs. Bowser, can you ever forgive me? You shall they would give me, and—and they did. I called you a liar, didn't I?" "I don't think so. After the ice, what then?"

Rolled Him in the Sawdust. "They put tar on my nose and then stuck pieces of wood on it. Said it was the fleece of a Tender Spring Lamb. Then somebody cried: 'Wolf! Wolf!' and about twenty fellows grabbed me and rolled me in the sawdust. Said they was roasting a Tender Spring Lamb from danger. Think of rolling me, Mrs. Bowser, in the sawdust!" "I can see a picture of it," smiled Mrs. Bowser. "Was that the end of the performance?" "No; they made me swear to eat nothing but grass and to frolic all day. Then I had to drink some mutton broth. Then I had to sing 'Mary's Little Lamb.' Then they made me bleat like a lamb. Think of that, Mrs. Bowser! Think of your husband bleating like a lamb!" "And then you came home?" "Yesh, I guess I did. I guess two old rams brought me home." "But don't you know whether they did or not?" "No; all I remember is that the two old rams made me frolic and climb trees and that you are my darling and the best wife in all this whole world. Mrs. Bowser, I love you. Yesh, your husband loves you to the bottom of his heart, and from this time on you"—"Come, my limb—my Tender Spring Lamb," she interrupted, and, taking him by the arm, she led him down the hall and upstairs and let him fall upon the bed and begin snoring, while she set to work to remove the evidences that he had had the shears and been shorn.

In Embryo. The Bud—How did you get your first start in life, senator? The Senator—Why—er—I haven't really got started yet, you know. I am only worth \$10,000,000 as yet.—Judge.

Just Out. The Duck—Your ma is looking everywhere for you. The Chick—Tell her I'm out.

The Hog Didn't Like It. Benham—A hog couldn't eat this dinner. Mrs. Benham—That's too bad. I thought it would just suit you.—Detroit Free Press.



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