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The Tillamook Headlight
Fred C. Baker, Publisher.

The Greatest Enemy of Good Roads.

Among the elements and forces of nature there are several enemies of good roads, but the greatest of them is water. It washes away the material of the road. It soaks into the road and softens it so that the wagon wheels cut into the surface making ruts and holes. It permeates and softens the foundation so that the surface of the road sinks or breaks up. In the winter the water that is in road freezes, expands, and loosens and disintegrates the road material.

The most important thing in the building of roads is to lesson or prevent the ravages of water; yet no feature of the work is so neglected as this. Many local road supervisors seem to give no consideration to the question of drainage and the result is a general mud blockade during several weeks or months of the year.

The following are a few simple rules the observance of which would go far to bettering the roads of this country:

First—The road should be so located and constructed as to avoid steep grades down which the water rushes during the heavy rains tearing up and washing away the road material.

Second—The foundation of the road should be thoroughly drained by open side ditches which will carry off the water, and where necessary tile drains should be laid in the foundation itself.

Third—The surface of the road should be hard and smooth and have sufficient slope toward the sides to shed the surface water.

Fourth—Ruts and holes on the surface of the finished road should be filled as fast as made so that no water can lie on the surface to be worked up in into mud.

These rules are simple and easy to follow, and any one who gives any serious thought to the matter can see the wisdom of following them. Still they are almost universally ignored, as the condition of our roads abundantly proves.

What this country needs is a radical change, a new era in road building. The people have been moving in ruts in more senses than one, and if each local community is left to work out the road problem alone they will continue to move in the same ruts, and every year millions of dollars will be thrown into the mud, to say nothing of the losses resulting from bad roads. Lectures on road improvement seem to do very little good. Books and bulletins on road building appear to have little effect.

What the local communities need is practical object lessons and actual assistance, and these can come only from the state government and the federal government. It is for this reason that road reformers everywhere are turning toward state and national aid as the only solution of the road problem.

The bad roads of the United States are a blight, a curse, a disgrace, and all patriotic, progressive citizens should make a grand, united effort to wipe them out and put our nation on a level with the advanced nations of Europe in the matter of roads.

Seeing the Dark Side of Things.

There are two ways of seeing the dark side. The one is destructive, the other builds safely. Some men there are whose glasses are so deeply dyed in indigo blue that they see nothing but impending calamity and unconsciously do all they can to help it on. These are the men who dolefully predict a slump in the money market; they predict a stridency in the money market and withdraw their money and refuse to loan; they predict that their sons will never amount to much and then deprive them of education, of encouragement and hope. The world is cursed by men who thus look upon the dark side of things.

The Breckers Gazette says we know a farm where all things seem to prosper. Field stand in orderly array and brave luxuriance. Cattle feed in profitable content; they ripen grandly and sell for top of the market. The story is repeated all over the farm. One would expect to see the managers of this place round, rosy and care-free, yet they are pessimists, but wise pessimists. "I am afraid those cattle are not ripening fast enough; I will give them a larger and more varied ration. I am afraid that field is getting poor; I will try the manure spreader on it. Those weeds worry me, they will overrun the farm; I will take them out before they get larger." That is the ruling spirit. Their wise pessimism make them plan wisely, execute safely and things "come out" better than they expect. It is well enough to see the dark side of this fashion. Such pessimism is far better than an optimism that takes it for granted that all things will go well without effort. But the stark pessimism that abandons hope and effort, that reigns itself to supposed impending calamity without a struggle to avert it, is among the most hurtful mental attitudes that humanity acquires.

Personal Notes.

The German societies of Cleveland have met and arranged for a celebration on May 9, next year, in honor of the centennial anniversary of the death of Schiller, the German poet.

Although the name of General Joe Wheeler is always identified with the south, he is descended from old New England stock, and is a cousin of James Freeman Clark, who was early identified with the abolition movement against the institution of slavery.

John Gilbert Meiggs, the railroad builder, has just died in London. He was born in New England seventy seven years ago, but had lived for the last thirty years in London. With his birth he built the famous Oroya railroad in Peru, which is still regarded as one of the greatest feats of engineering.

Mrs. Rose Hawthorn Lathrop, daughter of Nathaniel Hawthorne, who has devoted her life for some years now to the relief of cancer sufferers—work in which her father took a lively interest—hopes that the Hawthorne centennial anniversary will be observed by raising a fund for use in this charitable work.

A letter received from Johannesberg gives a painful picture of Lord Milner. It declares that since his return from England he has aged considerably. The stress of the last few months has, in fact, told upon him more than did all the anxieties of the war time. His shoulders are bent, his hair silvered and his general appearance careworn. He has been sought by his friends to relax the strain which he persistently places upon himself, but this he refuses to do.

Sermons Boiled Down.

A cloudy religion brings no rain. A sour religion never improves with age.

Love is always in the market, but never on sale. Self conceit throws salt into the wounds of pride.

When faith prays it goes out to work for an answer. A little practice proves more than a lot of polemics.

A mosquito calls for more patience than a balking elephant. The June bug always thinks he is helping out the meeting.

Grace does not grow in a child's heart on a gloomy Sunday. The biggest brain is the one that can think most of others.

The end seat hog is not a lamb because he sits in a church. There is no way to save men except by suffering with him.

Too many expect to conquer the devil by concurring with him. No man holds a principle unless it is the principal thing he holds.

It's no use talking about loving God when your children are afraid of you. The grave danger of business is that a man shall place his soul on the counter.

It is a good deal easier to talk about feeling good than it is to walk about doing good. Most men would rather be an electric sign for themselves than a light for the world.

From Law to Grace.

TO THE EDITOR TILLAMOOK HEADLIGHT: I stand for salvation by grace, through faith and that not by ourselves, for it is the gift of God, against salvation by works, through the deeds of the law. Fear God and keep the commandments was the foundation of the law. Love God and trust his son is the foundation of grace. As modern worship resolves into preaching, praying and singing. I claim that the only thing to preach is "Christ and him crucified," that secret prayer was authorized by Christ as the only way to pray. And as music is based on natural laws, it is impossible to build a keyed instrument that is even approximately correct. As there is no organization that stands for these principles. I have to stand alone.

J. C. GOVE.

Dissolution of Partnership.

Notice is hereby given that we, the undersigned, doing business under the firm name of Smith & Jenkins, in Tillamook City, Oregon, have this day dissolved partnership; and that all debts outstanding against said firm will be paid by Sollie Smith, and that all accounts due, owing, or unpaid to said firm are now payable to said Sollie Smith.

Dated at Tillamook, Oregon, this 22nd day of June, 1904.

SOLLIE SMITH,
EMMITT JENKINS.

Notice.

Purchasers of Chittin Bark will be held responsible for Bark taken from lands belonging to Blodgett Company, Limited, the Wilson River Lumber Co., N. P. Wheeler and J. H. Cook.

P. S. BRUMBY,
Agent for Owners.

Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the Directors of School District No. 2, of Tillamook County, Oregon, will, up to July 18, 1904, receive bids for the painting of the School House in said district.

The Directors reserve the right to reject any and all bids.

For further particulars inquire of
T. W. Lyster,
School Clerk.

PRIEST'S STORY OF OREGON LAND FRAUD.

Father Schell Credited With Declaring Himself the First to Reveal that Dishonesty.

Homer Neb, Correspondence New York Herald.

In getting himself disliked by the speculators who, he says, are ruthlessly robbing the Winnebago Indians—one of the richest but most debauched tribes on this continent—Father Schell fears no violence at their hands.

"I never carried a revolver and would not. If I am attacked I will defend myself the best I can," said the priest, smiling in a confident way. "If my assailant has a gun and misses me the first shot, he will not do me any damage. I care not for five of them coming at me at once if they have not guns."

This security comes from Father Schell's knowledge of his physique and athletic prowess.

"In southern France I trained three years for the ring," declared Father Schell. "Then I began to study, and I decided to give up prize fighting for the priesthood. When in school in Paris I turned my attention to fencing. Maybe there were better swordsmen in France; I never saw any. The army officers sent to train us proved unequal to my sturdy strength and I may say skill."

Fighting with the stick, an Irish trick, is the only art still practiced by Father Schell in the school of self defense. In St. Mary's academy, in Cleveland, and in St. Mary's, in Cincinnati, where he was for several years before his ordination to the priesthood, Father Schell was the champion handball player in the state.

"When I was assigned to a parish, the west being my choice, I obtained in writing a promise from Archbishop Christie, of Oregon, that I should not be placed in a large town or city," said Father Schell. "I cannot stand the hard sidewalks and the rich people. The open and uncontaminated air and a chance to help the poor are demands made by nature and religion."

Archbishop Christie even permitted Father Schell to select his own parish. A year of travel over Oregon determined the priest to locate in Tillamook county, an uninhabited place. "It was the only county which had the four things I required," explained Father Schell. "These were good climate, good soil, facilities for reaching market and a good market. My friends said I was the biggest fool in the state. I proved to them different. Later and for another reason Governor Chamberlain told me I was the biggest fool in the state. I proved to him he was mistaken."

The settlement of Tillamook county through the hard work and thorough work of this priest is a long story. The farmers came from all over the United States on recommendations personally made by Father Schell.

But the greatest work in the career of this remarkable priest was in connection with the timber frauds of Oregon. It took him two years to stir the Interior department from its lethargy. He got letters from a dozen senators representing, not only of Oregon but other western states.

"I meant to make them help me or to make them harmless. They all professed it was not of their business," said Father Schell, with a smile of recollection. "Governor Chamberlain said it was a hopeless task. The railroads were settling those timber lands with spurious settlers by the thousands of acres. The plan was to control the lumber of the country as the coal barons control the anthracite output. It would have been a more harmful and far reaching trust. The northern lumber is about exhausted. The country must soon turn to the west."

"I was offered a fortune to remain neutral, and politicians were opposing me everywhere. Under clerks in the Interior department gave little heed, so I went to Washington. I told Secretary Hitchcock of frauds and gave him evidence. I told President Roosevelt of them. It was, after all, the president who helped me. But Secretary Hitchcock, once started, moved like a man. He went west himself."

"Inspectors by the score were sent into the forests, not only of Oregon, but Washington, Idaho, Wyoming and California. Indictment followed fast, and the frauds which were winked at by politicians and threatened to cause the gravest injury to the economic life of the country were stopped. It was for starting these investigations that Governor Chamberlain called me the greatest fool in the state to try a hopeless job of that kind. After President Roosevelt visited Oregon Governor Chamberlain sent for me and shook my hand and said: 'I have just had a three hour talk with President Roosevelt; it was all about the timber frauds and about you. I want to withdraw my remark about your foolish undertaking and congratulate you.'"

Father Schell, becoming known as a priest of force, was commissioned by "Mother" Drexel, who has long been interested in the Winnebagoes, to go to Homer to investigate conditions and report on the possibilities of reclaiming the race. He has found the speculators the chief obstacles in the way of reform and has set about to squelch them.

Oregon State Normal School, Monmouth.



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