

EVENING STAR

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City Editor and Business Manager.

WITH THE GOOD ROADS MAKERS

Yesterday afternoon was consumed by the county commissioners and delegates from counties telling all about the spirit of good roads in their section and the progress made in same along the line of building good roads. Those who spoke were H. W. Long for Marion, Mr. White for Duval, and said the convicts of the county should be used for making hard roads. That the spirit for building good roads had come to stay and Duval was now constructing a road to Pablo Beach.

J. H. Wiley, of Interchen, spoke for Putnam county and said they had just got started and the desire for good roads was growing. They built their roads on Interchen graves, which proved an excellent material. Had built five miles toward Palatka at a cost of from \$1,500 to \$1,600 a mile; would also build toward Hawthorne and from Grandin to Palatka. Much of the money used to build these roads was raised by private subscription and they proposed to build from two to five miles a year. Some of the material used by Putnam county was experimented with in Ocala on Tusculum street from Fort King avenue south to South Third street and found good. The thickness of clay put on Putnam county roads was 3 inches in the center and 4 inches on the sides.

N. C. Pettit, the up-to-date mayor of Waldo, spoke for Alachua county, and his regret was that he was the only delegate from Alachua county and a volunteer at that and knew little of the work in his county, as he had been absent the past ten years in Mexico engaged in mining enterprises, but was now home to stay and do his share in the work of pushing along the building of good roads in Alachua as they were the real need of the county.

Mr. H. H. Dickinson spoke for Orange county, where the spirit for good roads is growing right along and so is their construction with clay and marl. The question was asked him if Orange county had not experimented with oil. He said they had used two barrels, but it soon dried up. It was good to lay the dust and at present were experimenting with oil on clay roads, but time had not elapsed to see its real utility. He spoke of necessity of building shoulders on side of roads of marl, shell or clay to keep road beds from washing.

Mr. Wiley thought Bermuda grass the thing, but older heads said it would catch all the trash from the road and the sides would soon be higher than the center of the road.

J. M. Mathews, of Flemington, said he had seen the work done by Alachua in building hard roads and it was good. Was building a hard road from Gainesville to Micanopy and from Micanopy west to Central and the work was of a good substantial character.

William Lucius, county road overseer for Marion was called on and said that Marion had very little good clay, except out Martel way, which was fine and made a good road. It was less cost than lime rock. At present he was building the road from Santos to Belleview, the material was of the best and with twenty convicts and five teams was building from 130 to 140 yards a day. Mr. Lucius said to inquires that lime made an excellent road, the only trouble was that in dry weather dust accumulated and the winds would blow it away, but by adding from one to three inches of sand to the surface it would save wear and tear and break the concussion of the hoofs of animals on the hard surface, but that some drivers of vehicles and autoists did not like the sand.

Mr. Dickinson, to inquiry, said their convicts cost about 75 cents a day. Mr. Sellars, state geologist, spoke on lines of material and their test and what was most desirable for hard roads, but as his department was only recently started much work had been accomplished, but as one of the professors of the State University would do active field work in the interest of good roads, much good could be accomplished from his labors.

Then came the election of officers. Mr. Long declining to further serve as president of the association, he has held since the organization of the association, Secretary J. W. White was elected president, Mr. Dickinson was re-elected vice president and C. L. Bittinger, secretary and treasurer. The editor was elected so instantaneously that he didn't have time to decline the great honor and took work on responsibility of taking of the surplus of 95 cents in the hands of the treasurer.

Messrs. Edwards and Pyles were appointed a committee to escort the new president to the chair, which they did. White said every man that had been in the county work on the legislature for a good roads bill and the fourth Tuesday in April was named.

The new secretary returned thanks for the honor conferred and the meeting adjourned until 8 p. m., when Major Izlar, Messrs. Long, Carn and White spoke on the general work of good roads building in the land.

Mr. Long said that the question of national aid to good road building was established over 100 years ago when Jefferson and others secured government aid to build mail route roads from Washington to Wheeling, W. Va. and south to Memphis. That he had spent much time and thought to devise a measure for national aid to states, say for every dollar paid by the government state furnish a dollar, and his plan met with hearty approval but nothing came of it.

Major Izlar told of his experience in building good roads in South Carolina and as a member of the legislature of that state he framed a bill now a law whereby the state is making wonderful progress in creating good roads. He then drew a touching picture of the ante-bellum days, and the grand homes of those days and the life of the people, now gone to decay for want of good roads, by the settlement of good roads and their construction was reversing the order of things and people who flocked to the

towns and cities were now returning to the country because of good roads and the country was building up with good farmers and cultivators of the soil. The gallant major was liberally rewarded with applause.

Mr. W. D. Carn, one of Marion's nominees for the legislature, said he had enjoyed the meeting and would do all he could to promote good roads legislation.

The following reports were then submitted and adopted and the meeting adjourned sine die at 10 o'clock. Committee on legislation recommended the adoption of the bill submitted at the meeting in Jacksonville in May, with this change, viz: Section one shall provide that the state road commission shall consist of three members whose salaries shall not exceed fifteen hundred dollars per year, with such necessary expenses as they shall incur in attending the meetings. That the first commission shall be appointed by the governor and approved by the senate, one member to be appointed for two years, one for four years. Said section reads as follows:

Section 1. A board to be known as State Road Commissioners of the state of Florida is hereby created, consisting of the board of state institutions, whose duties shall be prescribed in section 4 of this act.

Report of Committee on County Poor Farms

To the Good Roads Convention of the State of Florida: We are of the opinion that county poor farms for the indigent of the counties, when properly arranged and carefully kept, are indispensable institutions, and should be indulged in by each of the several counties of the state. We are advised that only about 25% of the counties of the state have provided such conveniences for their poor.

There has been called our attention three systems for caring for the poor, one of which is by giving to them monthly certain sums of money in their homes; secondly, by carrying for those who have no homes by means of a poor farm; thirdly, by caring for all in the poor farm and contributing to none outside of the poor farm.

We learn in some instances that county commissioners have been imposed on by false representations in the efforts to secure aid of the poor while in their own homes.

We are advised that there are two systems of managing county poor farms. One is by letting out to the lowest bidder to physician and superintendent. The other is by county commissioners fixing salaries of both, and we recommend the latter.

We further recommend that in case of county commissioners controlling the situation that special care be given to the location as regards health and convenience to the county seat, etc.

Respectfully, S. R. Pyles, Chairman, J. H. Lee, Jr.

Report of Committee on Good Roads

To the Officers and Members County Commissioners and State Good Roads Association of Florida: Gentlemen: Your committee on good roads, encouraged by the results of the past year and renewed efforts on the part of the advocates of good roads in the future, feel that the prospects are brighter now than at any time in the whole history of this great movement.

The subject of improved highways is commanding more active and practical consideration at this time than any other question before the people of Florida. State, county and city officials, as well as the great mass of the people of the state, are aroused to the importance of good roads and reports received from various sections of the state indicate that the number of miles built each year is greater and of a better quality. We are also pleased to note that a study of the materials used is resulting in reducing the cost of roads.

Proper legislation and the use of convicts will in our opinion do much to solve the problem and we urge active support by influence and vote of all measures calculated to produce the desired results. We are confident that the association is working along the right lines and we ask that county commissioners throughout the state unite for improved highways for the state.

We further urge that county associations be organized. Realizing the power of the press we invite the cooperation of all newspaper men and extend to the editors of Florida a cordial invitation to become members of this association.

A word of praise is due our president, Hon. H. W. Long, for his long and active service and we feel that the state at large owes him a debt that can never be fully paid.

Respectfully submitted, J. W. White, N. C. Pettit, C. L. Bittinger, Committee.

Resolved, by the state convention of County Commissioners and Good Roads Association, in convention assembled, at Ocala, Fla., June 23rd, 1908, requests and urges Hon. A. S. Mann to use his utmost efforts to have inserted into the platform of the democratic party a provision whereby the party to secure national aid to improved roads.

The transportation committee, consisting of Messrs. Frank A. Teague, Tom Sexton and Frank Harris, was appointed by the president of the Ocala Board of Trade to procure conveyances to transport the delegates to visit the Belleview hard road south of Santos to see how Marion county constructed hard roads.

GOOD THINGS TO EAT

- EVILED CRABS
JOFT SHELL CRABS
LOBSTERS
SHRIMP
CODFISH BALLS
FINDON HADDOCKS
HERRING IN TOMATO SAUCE
BROOK TROUT IN TOMATO SAUCE
BROILED MACKEREL
KIPPED HERRING
CLAM CHOWDER
SMOKED SARDINES IN TOMATO SAUCE

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constructed hard roads. The committee succeeded in getting automobiles from Messrs. R. S. Hall, Ed Carmichael, E. C. Smith, J. M. Meffert and John D. Robertson, who took from the Ocala House the following delegates: Messrs. J. W. Lee, H. H. Dickson, Mr. Chappell, of Orange county; Wiley and Salona of Putnam; A. L. Russell and I. N. Withers, of Lake; E. H. Sellars, state geologist with H. W. Long, John L. Edwards, S. R. Pyles, Will Lucius and Tom Sexton, of the board of trade, Col. J. H. Livingston and the editor of the Star.

The run was quickly made to where work was being done some nine miles south of Ocala. We found five teams and twenty men at work bringing lime rock out of a pit at the base of a hill several miles this side of Belleview and dumping it into the roadway which is scooped out some eight inches deep and this amount of material constitutes the hard roadbed, which is quickly packed by the teams hauling over it, and as stated before, is building at the rate of 140 yards a day.

The pit is a solid bed of lime with little overburden to be removed and the teams are on a constant go. By the roadside a drive well has been driven that provides an abundance of water for the men and animals employed. It is the purpose of the county commissioners to leave this well and pump for the use of the public, providing it with a drinking trough.

Beyond the pit and to the east of the pump on a beautiful shaded knoll is located the camp and sleeping quarters of the men. A railroad car has been utilized for this purpose and is provided with bunks, well ventilated and kept in a cleanly condition. Here also the cooking department is presided over by a dusky and husky Andrew Miller, who is reputed to be a chef of ability and his sweetbread and bread made of corn meal and flour properly proportioned with Florida cane syrup is mighty tasting to any hungry mortal, as we can attest, having sampled the same. On a stove cooking was a twenty gallon can of pork and beans, which makes a dish the minor gods would not dispense with, while the coffee supplied is good enough for any person.

Adjoining the camp is a large tent for the use of the day and night guards and the white men in charge of the road work. The hand laundry was in active operation and a son of Ham was doing the act under the grateful shade of a hickory to perfection, his work rivaling the work of Ocala's famous laundry.

Every visitor was pleased with the methodical and thorough work done by Road Overseer Lucius and were free to admit that no county in the state had superior material than has Marion and no where in Florida, do they get better material than the roads that we are making, which is indeed a high compliment, from Sir Rupert H. H. Dickinson, of Orlando, who is somewhat of a road builder with a decade of experience.

The ride home was quickly made, with only one or two slight mishaps, such as getting stuck in several parts of unfinished road, where the wheels of the autos refused to work and notably Messrs. Tom Sexton and C. L. Bittinger did some pulling and shoving that by their acts of prowess would make them dangerous competitors in any race. They won no medals and wore their honors very modestly.

The board of trade committee desires the Star to return their sincere thanks to the automobile owners who so generously loaned their machines to make this trip, an act of loyalty to Ocala's hospitality that will not be soon forgotten. The delegates took the noon trains for home, pleased with Ocala, which they paid many compliments and the interest awakened and the information they take home on how to build good roads, the hope of the state, all of which we are pleased to know.

Major, L. T. Izlar has just made a very gratifying discovery. It is nothing less than that he has a well of water on his place in the first ward that has no equal in the city for its medicinal qualities. Its purity suggested the thought that it would be worth analyzing, so he sent a jug to State Chemist R. E. Rose, who returned an analysis that was a surprise to the major. The well is about thirty feet deep. It is bricked and cemented and the water is wonderfully soft and palatable. The major showed the analysis to a local druggist and he said it was certainly pure.

Mr. Chappell is a representative at the good roads convention from the enterprising town of Sanford, at the head of the waters of the St. Johns, a town that during the last six years has grown into prominence as the celery growing city of the state. Mr. Chappell is one of the successful celery growers of that thriving and progressive town and this year he harvested fifteen acres, which netted him \$400 an acre. Others did better and several realized over \$1,000 an acre, which is making money with a vengeance. He is now shipping eggsplants at a handsome profit. Mr. C. lives on a road south of Sanford two miles of which forwarded 1,000 cars of celery that went to every section of the union. This year the growers sent twenty cars of celery to Canada with a gratifying result. The Sanford association has a man at Washington that see that every car of celery that arrives at that point is in condition and received for cities to east, west and north for distribution. Mr. C. also informed the Star reporter that he has discovered a sure cure for rust and Johnson grass. If people whose plants are covered with the pest will see that the grasses are cut just before blooming, if followed up a few times it will surely die. The remedy is so simple that a farmer troubled with the pest can easily kill it. Mr. C. also said the celery land of Sanford is a big proposition towards solving the hay problem. The ground makes splendid hay and in abundance for all celery land is sub-irrigated. He has already made one crop of hay off his celery field and will now it again in the course of a month or six weeks.

Captain Haskell, of South Lake Weir, tells a good one on himself. He said for several years he had a black man in his employ who proved a valuable servant, faithful and trustworthy, and the captain placed every confidence in him. The other week the captain accompanied him to see about some work. The captain had a fine team of grays and up to that trip had never pulled the lines on them, the darkey always doing the driving. But on this occasion he took the reins and proved an admirable jehu. But it seemed to so humiliate the darkey, whose authority over the lines had never been broken, that he almost broke his heart and depressed his spirits to that extent that desperation seized him and he appropriated a bottle of the captain's incomparable

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MAYS IS THE ...AN

Unofficial returns in, the third district show that Dannelte H. Mays is nominated for Congress over J. Walter Kehoe.

HARRY LYLES HUNG

Harry E. Lyles, the Georgia wife murderer, was hung at Waycross, yesterday. He died protesting his innocence.

A QUEER PROPOSITION

Dispatches from Teheran, capital of Persia, telling of a great riot breaking out and Cossacks shooting down the people. As Cossacks are Russian soldiers, and as a Russian protectorate hasn't been declared over Persia, it is more than suspected that the Cape St. Nicholas and Shanghai liars have met in Teheran.

GEORGIA FOR JOHNSON

The State Democratic Convention of Georgia has instructed delegates to the National Convention to vote for Johnson for the presidential nomination.

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