





# Ferguson Forum Good Roads Campaign

## Good Roads Putting New Life Into Rural Sections!

Texas faces the biggest real estate boom of her history.

Newspaper men in the larger cities who have studied the situation declare that this is undoubted fact. They base their statements on the remarks of men who make real estate booming more or less of a profession.

Texas is caught—almost midway—between the California rage and the Florida fashion.

Men who cannot find what they want in Florida or California, men who have decided that new and greener fields hold more promise, men who are looking for what they call Big Money say that Texas is the next land of promise.

That's fine news.

Not that Texas wants a false boom, not that Texas wants transient population, not that Texas wants a boom that might blow up—but that Texas has room for hundreds of thousands more citizens. We have the land, and we want the opportunities that they may bring to us. There are some of us who can still remember the slim days in this beloved old state—and we are glad that we have lived to see a brighter future dawning on us.

We believe that when Texas' boom comes it will not blow up; that people will never say that it will blow up; that what Texas gets as a boom she can keep as a steady growth.

Maybe there are folks near any boom who believe that. But we just have the faith of those who have lived where the winds sweep over our boundless prairies,

the faith that refuses to be submerged in discouraging talk.

We can point to the boom that hit north Texas when the oil fever first arose there. Thousands of men with money to spend on permanent improvements came with the oil boom. The oil boom settled down to steady development—and some of the men with money and ambition drifted on to new fields. But thousands of them stayed; the buildings they erected are still standing, the improvements are not falling into decay.

Texas had a lot to give those people besides oil—and they stayed to keep what they had of this state.

The real estate boom that we are promised may not be so feverish as the oil boom. For one thing a great deal of it is going to depend on the good roads that we have to offer these people.

Texas needs roads for these new tourists that follow every real estate activity. They come in their Fords and their camping equipment, a lot of them, spending their money after they get here. And they must have the means to get into the state—means in this instance being roads.

Texas has more call for development of roads, because Texas has so much more ground to cover than other states have. We proudly say we can take care of three real estate booms like those Florida and California have had—look at the virgin soil in this state, we shout.

That's true—but look at the roads on that virgin soil.

It's not very hard for Rhode Island to

have good roads—she can build enough in her limited space in a short while.

But a highway that will span the spaces between El Paso and Orange—that's another thing again.

And a highway from Bonham to Galveston—that's another thing, too.

You know there might be some disadvantage in having that much space to offer these land hungry hordes they say will descend upon us—yes there might, if it were not for the abiding faith that the real Texans have in their state.

The problem is before us right now—there is not so much time as we would like to have to talk about what we may do when that boom hits us—it may hit us any day. And the road problem is not one that can wait indefinitely.

Roads take time to build—if they are to be built with the permanence that our state and its glorious future deserve.

The building should have the support of every thinking man and woman. The sentiment for those roads should be arising day by day, until the tide of it will force this whole state into an awakened desire to be ready for that tide of travel that will flow to us from east and west.

A general once said: "England expects every man to do his duty."

The outside world is saying that same thing to the road builders of Texas.

Road builders? Who are they?

You. Me. Our neighbors. Our friends. Our casual acquaintances.

The problem—we repeat it—is of the burning present.

## AMERICAN HIGHWAYS

The building of permanent highways throughout Italy contributed in no small measure to the military supremacy of the Roman empire, and incidentally to her commercial supremacy in the Old World.

The permanent highways in America are being built primarily for the promotion of business and pleasure, but if in the future we should be so unfortunate as to again be drawn into war they will prove

invaluable as military roads. From ocean to ocean and from the Canadian border to the Gulf of Mexico and the Rio Grande we have a system of graveled and concrete highways that tie the whole country together. In case of war armies and war materials can now more easily and quickly be mobilized than ever before. The value of our highways from a military standpoint alone can scarcely be estimated.

But the benefits they afford to business and the traveling public are more generally appreciated. Business and travel have been greatly speeded up by good roads and automobiles. The criss-crossing of good roads has brought formerly obscure communities in touch with the outside world and afford lovers of nature opportunities to see and enjoy our beautiful America.

*This page is part of a series to promote the building of MORE GOOD ROADS in Texas, and is contributed by the undersigned public spirited citizens who have at heart the best interests of this great State.*

Amiesite Asphalt Co., Dallas

Austin Bridge Co., Dalas

Brammer & Wilder, Houston

Colglazier & Hoff, San Antonio

Adam Cone, Palestine

Julian C. Feilds, Denison

Franklin Construction Co., Giddings

Freeport Asphalt Co., Houston

Fuller Construction Co., Dallas

Chas. K. Horton, Houston

Houston Construction Co., Houston

C. M. Kelley, San Antonio

F. P. McElrath, Corsicana

Old River Construction Co., College Station

Holland Page, Lockhart

W. L. Pierson, Houston

D. H. Purvis & Son, Fort Worth

Sherman & Youmans' Houston

South Texas Construction Co., Houston

Texas Willite Road Construction, Houston

Thurber Brick Co., Fort Worth

Tibbetts Construction Co., Fort Worth

Uvalde Rock Asphalt Co., San Antonio

Washington Construction Co., Somerville







# Ferguson Forum "Builders of Texas" Campaign

## What the State of Texas Does For the Farmer!

The state of Texas, since it is primarily an agricultural state, does not fail in its duty to its former citizens, but provides a very carefully planned system, which sees to the needs of those who are engaged in agricultural pursuits, and provides means whereby they may be aided and encouraged as well as benefited financially if they take advantage of these facilities. Every farmer in Texas should keep in touch with the work of this system, and know just what bulletins it is preparing and what lines of work its experts are doing for the benefit of the agricultural interests of Texas.

One of the organizations for carrying on this work is the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College which is located at College Station, near Bryan. Its activities, however, are not limited to its campus. There are thirteen substations which are located in different parts of the state and which are studying conditions and working out problems for the section covered by their interest. If they make a discovery which is of value to the farmers of that section or any other part of the state, it is at once given to the people through

bulletins, or other means, and their experiments may save many a farmer very valuable time and energy which he may spend in increasing his own values in either crops or land. In addition to this, this college, with the aid of the State and Federal Governments will maintain in any county an agent for the demonstration of scientific and profitable methods of agricultural activity whose duty it is to look into the problems of the individual farmer and aid and advise him concerning the best solution of it. Does this interest extend to the Farmer's wife? By all means. From the same source and under the same management any county may procure the services of an expert who will bring to the women in the agricultural work great need and assistance. She will have spent years in the study of their problems, and will give the results of her efforts to them through clubs and demonstration work. Every county in the State could and should be supplied with these two valuable members of a community, who would more than pay for their maintenance in the service they would render to the people. This service is indeed the most important,

because it is constructive, and actually builds success for many farmers, but there is another very valuable and necessary side to the work of the State of Texas along agricultural lines, without which there would be a great many more difficulties for the average farmer.

This work is carried on by the State department of agriculture which is occupied largely with the enforcement of laws relating to the dangers to which the agriculture of the state is subject. There are many diseases of both plants and animals which are a great menace, and which must of necessity be controlled as best they may be by those in authority to do so. What would have happened to the cattle of Texas during the past year if no efforts had been made to stop the hoof and mouth disease? Where would our great wealth-producing cotton crop be if the boll weevil, pink boll worm, army worm, and other pests were allowed to breed and commit their depredations without any effort being made to stop them? We shudder to even try to think what might happen in either case.

### *Other Instruments Which Work In This and Similar Manners for the Benefit of the State of Texas Agriculturally, Are:*

(1) State Warehouse and Markets Department at Austin, (2) Texas State Live Stock Sanitary Commission at Fort Worth, (3) three colleges which are

branches of the Texas A. & M. College, (4) the College of Industrial Arts at Denton, all of which are instrumental in training the youth of the land for bet-

ter service, or doing experimental work which will be of benefit to the State as a whole, as well as great value to the individual farmer in his daily activity.

The article here published is part of a series to advertise the Resources and Industries of Texas; and are contributed by "Builders of Texas," who made possible the Growth and Development of Texas. Other articles in this campaign will deal with the varied industrial, agricultural and mineral interests and their progress and development in Texas. Read each article of this series. It will be worth your while.

