PREFACE

Apparently, the Eleventh Annual Purdue Road School held during the week of January 19-23, 1925, has been the most successful ever held at Purdue, not only in total registration, but also in the merit of the program and the interest displayed by those attending. This success is due in great part to the very fine spirit of co-operation shown by practically every one connected in any way with the activities of the Road School. The classified registration was as follows:

State Highway Commission............................................... 53
County Highway Superintendents............................................ 77
Assistant County Highway Superintendents............................... 49
County Surveyors and Engineers............................................. 30
Assistant County Surveyors and Engineers................................. 3
County Commissioners.................................................................. 19
City Street Commissioners......................................................... 15
City Engineers.............................................................................. 9
Assistant City Engineers.............................................................. 2
Township Trustees......................................................................... 2
Road and Street Contractors......................................................... 35
Material and Equipment Men....................................................... 91
Miscellaneous ............................................................................ 48

Total ......................................................................................... 433

This total registration of 433 is 129 more than registered last year, and exceeds by 68 the record attendance of 1922. The attendance on the part of County Surveyors, City Street Commissioners, County Commissioners and Contractors, was greater this year than in former years.

It is very gratifying to note the increased attendance on the part of County Commissioners. There were 19 representatives of this group present this year and they were very much interested in the accomplishments and value of the Road School. It is hoped that attendance on the part of County Commissioners will be greatly increased in the future. The County Highway Superintendent is a four year appointee of the Board of County Commissioners and his work is under its direct supervision. Unless the Commissioners of a county are thoroughly “sold” on the value to the community of adequate road maintenance, the County Highway Superintendent will be greatly handicapped in his efforts to improve road conditions. Since the highway
problem is one of the most important confronting County Commissioners, I believe it would be of very great benefit to the taxpayers of the State, if the Commissioners from each county would regularly attend the annual Purdue Road School.

Mr. W. O. Jones, President of the County Highway Superintendents’ Association, started a splendid innovation this year by having the Secretary call the roll of the 92 County Highway Superintendents at the opening of each session of the school. This resulted in a full attendance of this group at practically every session.

Fifteen County Highway Superintendents failed to attend the school this year. Of this number, about five sent in reasonable excuses. These fifteen counties are as follows:

Bartholomew  Elkhart  Jennings  Ohio  Spencer
Blackford  Floyd  Marshall!  Owen  Vigo
Brown  Franklin  Monroe  Ripley  Wells

The State Highway Commission was represented by a total of 53 men at different times during the week. Mr. A. B. Burch, vice-chairman of the Commission from Evansville, spoke on the plans of the State Highway Commission for 1925 at the first session of the Road School. Mr. A. H. Hinkle, Superintendent of Maintenance, was present with practically his entire maintenance force down to and including the grade of Sub-District Superintendent. Mr. C. Gray, Chief Engineer, and Mr. W. J. Titus, Bridge Engineer, were also present and took part in the program.

The County Surveyors and Engineers had a total of 30 men present and were deeply interested in the proceedings. This Association is presenting a bill to the present legislature somewhat similar to the bill of the Highway Superintendents, which will authorize their attendance at the Annual Road School with the expenses paid by their respective counties. Our County Surveyors are charged with the duties of making surveys and locations for county road construction, drawing up specifications and plans and supervising the construction. These are vital matters in the county highway program and unless they are in the hands of a competent engineer, will, in many cases, result in the loss of thousands of dollars to the taxpayers of the county. I believe that a compulsory attendance of County Surveyors at the Annual Road School would result in greatly improved county road construction and produce a great saving to the taxpayers.

An innovation this year was the Dinner-Smoker held in the new Purdue Memorial Union Building on Monday evening. Mr. Dick Miller, President of the City Trust Company of Indianapolis, was the principal speaker. The Annual Banquet on Thursday night was attended by about 300 men. Addresses were made
The County Highway Superintendents elect their officers for terms of two years. This being the mid-year, the old officers will hold over for another year. These officers are as follows:

W. O. Jones, Richmond.........................President
Matt Foster, Evansville...........................Vice-President
Clyde Piper, Connersville......................Secretary-Treasurer

The newly elected officers of the Indiana County Surveyors' and Engineers' Association are:

Don Heaton, Fowler..............................President
George Schmidt, Indianapolis....................Vice-President
C. K. Wallace, Hammond.......................Secretary-Treasurer

The City Street Commissioners' Association re-elected the officers of last year, as follows:

A. A. Girton, Shelbyville.........................President
Charles Buck, Madison............................Vice-President
R. W. Carrettee, East Chicago....................Secretary
W. M. Williams, Newcastle......................Treasurer

The papers, as printed in this volume, have been considerably condensed from the original form in which they were presented at the Road School due to the fact that the funds available for publishing the proceedings are limited. The Editor has endeavored also to eliminate repetition where the speakers discussed similar subjects.

The Annual Road School is under the direction of the School of Civil Engineering and is one of the activities of the Engineering Extension Service of Purdue.

Lafayette, Indiana.
March, 1925.