

CLIPPED EDITORIALS

Ferguson Revenue.

As this seems to be open season for thrusts at the Fergusons and while an almost 100 per cent populace is boiling over with rage and bitter denunciation of the affairs of the State Highway Department, it is not amiss at this stage of the game to give the Ferguson mouthpiece, the Ferguson Forum, the once over.

Whatever has been the ups and downs of the Ferguson official paper heretofore, since the inception of Mrs. Ferguson as governor, the weekly informer has stepped to the front as a bread winner.

For many months a full page advertisement has been carried in each issue of the Ferguson Forum under the caption "Ferguson Forum Good Roads Campaign."

The entire page is taken up with a lot of bull about "Making Travel Over Highways Safer" and "Protecting Investments in Roads," explaining that maintaining Texas highways means the protecting of the investment the people of Texas have in the system. Across the bottom of the page this information is given in bold type:

"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."

Amlesite Asphalt Co., Dallas.
Austin Bridge Co., Dallas.
Brammer & Wilder, Houston.
Colglazier & Hoff, San Antonio.
Adame Cone, Palestine.
Julian C. Fields, Denison.
Franklin Construction Co., Giddings.
Freeport Asphalt Co., Houston.
Houston Construction Co., Houston.
C. M. Kelley, San Antonio.
F. 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.
Washington Construction Company, Sommerville.
Uvalde Rock Asphalt Co., San Antonio.

We ask that you study carefully the list of "Public Spirited Citizens Who Have at Heart the Best Interests of this Great State." It looks very much like all of them were either sellers of good road building equipment or material, or followed the business of building or maintaining roads.

We are informed that one concern not now appearing on the page was charged \$1,000 per year, \$83.34 per month, or figured by a newspaper's scale of \$3.30 per inch per issue.

If this price prevails throughout the list, we believe this one page would figure \$24,000 per year, which is no mean sum to be sneezed at by the general run of publishers of weekly papers in Texas. We see in the list our own South Texas Construction Co., or as we understand it, Dew Brothers, who have the contract for the maintenance of the state highways in Brazoria county, for which they pull down, according to the contract, \$55,000 per year.

No wonder it costs the county so much!

Don't you think the \$1,000 contributed to the Forum to be public spirited would lay many a yard of shell on our roads or pay for several weeks' work to the man pulling and riding the drag? As a single-handed advertising solicitor, we hand it to the editor of the Forum, Jas. E. Ferguson.

But now we ask, how long do you think these "public spirited citizens" would continue their contributions should the reins of the state government be taken from the present holder? Atta Jim!--Alvin Sun.