

TALES OF A PATHFINDER

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649091324

Tales of a pathfinder by A. L. Westgard

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

A. L. WESTGARD

**TALES OF A
PATHFINDER**



A. L. WESTGARD

*Field Representative, American Automobile Association,
Vice-President and Director Transcontinental Highways,
National Highways Association*

TALES
OF A
PATHFINDER

Author BY
A. L. WESTGARD 1865-

PRICE ONE DOLLAR AND A HALF

PUBLISHED BY
A. L. WESTGARD
501 FIFTH AVE. NEW YORK

F595
.W4

COPYRIGHT 1920
BY A. L. WESTGARD
Published, March 1920

PRESS OF
ANDREW B. GRAHAM CO.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

32209

Bancroft Library

To my wife, who has shared with me the hardships as well as the pleasures of the trail, ever a cheerful comrade and a trusty adviser.

Foreword

THE story of the highways is the story of mankind, whether in a state of barbarism or of civilization. The movement of primitive peoples has been by waterways and land-routes which, following lines of least resistance, often appropriated the trails made by wild animals. The movements of civilized men likewise followed the least resistive lines with the result that the great railways and the National highways coincide with the game-trails and the Indian paths of long ago.

The ascent of man has been in direct ratio to the progress that has been made in the speed, safety, comfort and convenience of the movement of men and goods from one place to another.

The wheel is the emblem of human progress. The supreme evolution of the wheel is the automobile.

Already six and a half million automobiles are daily employed in speeding a third of the population of the United States along their way with the demand increasing so rapidly that the factories are unable to meet it.

Every intelligent citizen in the United States knows that the next big job for America now that the war is over is to construct road beds as perfectly adapted to the economic operation thereon of motor vehicles as the road bed of the railway is adapted to the use thereon of its rolling stock. The two and a half million miles of roads in the United States will be made modern highways as rapidly as

the work can be financed and the men and material secured for the purpose. The strength of the States and the counties will be put forth in increasing measure until this result is secured. The Federal Government has already placed the zero milestone in Washington to designate the point from which a system of National highways will extend clear to the surf-beat of the Pacific and from lands of snow to lands of sun. The Federal Government, the States and the Counties are working out a system of National, State and County highways, the most important of which will be the first improved. The creation of such a system of highways will do more for the welfare and advancement of the people of the United States, more for the unity, security, development and glory of the Nation than could possibly be accomplished by a like expenditure of money and energy in any other line of endeavor.

If this be true, what is the measure of the debt of gratitude which the public owes to the apostles of better roads and to the men who have pioneered the ways that are now to become the great National Thoroughfares. Among the latter, chief indeed of the Pathfinders, is the author of this volume, A. L. Westgard. The year 1903 saw him driving his first car on the roads of New York. Since then he has been the constant explorer of the ways that lead from east to west, from north to south, inspecting, mapping, publishing, making men know and appreciate what a country this is; urging the delights of the open road and the life of the great out doors. Almost all of the more than forty great highways along lines of latitude and longitude follow the trail of his pathfinding car—or cars—for he has worn out eighteen cars in this

work. His services in this interest have made him a benefactor of humanity.

If, as I believe, the most important fact for Americans is America, the main part in the education of an American citizen is to know America. This book is a direct contribution to this end.

DR. S. M. JOHNSON.

March, 1920.
Roswell, New Mexico,
and Washington, D. C.