KENTUCKY LEADS SOUTHERN STATES

FIGURES OF U. S. PUBLIC ROADS DEPARTMENT SHOW BLUE GRASS STATE AT TOP.

MILEAGE OF IMPROVED ROADS

States of South, However, Have Made Great Gains in the, Past Few Years.

(Special Procatcher Correspondence.)

Frankfort,—Kentucky, an analysis of the recently issued by the United States Office of Public Roads for 1914, still ranks the South-ares considered—in the mileage of improved highways. Its advancement since 1904, however, has not been as rapid as other southern states, and even in 1911, with the great renaissance of interest in highway building, there were nine southern states that were leading in the total amount expended for improved highways and not that led it in amount expended for each square mile of area, says the Board of Trade Journal.

The government figures show that Kentucky's mileage of improved road, exclusive of streets, was 1,840 miles in 1914, 1,400 miles in 1911, and 1,200 miles in 1904. However, if the gravel area of Texas be taken into consideration and a comparison be made on that basis, it will be found that the Lone Star State has but little over four and a half miles of improved road for each square mile of territory, which is but one-seventh as much as Kentucky.

Kentucky, as stated, however, since 1904 has not been making as rapid progress in highway improvement as most of the other southern states. Take the case of Georgia, for instance. In 1904 Georgia was credited with but 1,834 miles of improved highway, while Kentucky was credited with 9,450 miles. Ten years later Georgia and Kentucky are tied with 11,000 miles. Then, of course, a parity due to the fact that Kentucky in 1904 was far and away ahead of the other southern state in good roads, while Georgia was but a few miles ahead of two or three of the other southern states, and had no southern competitor. Other Southern states having no less progress made at that time were also certain to make large gains.

Special Session Probable.

Gov Stanley is spending considerable time around the revenue bill prepared by the tax commission appointed by the last legislature. At the last general assembly, and has not made up his mind what he can make of his mind to call a special session, but it is generally understood that one will be called. The governor will confer with the commission before the contents of the revenue bill is made public. If it is not done November or the holiday season approaching, the session will be called over until 1917 without consideration of the tax question, it seems probable that a special session will be called. In that event the bill will have been published long enough for consideration by the legislature and the governor will have had time to study it and get the views of their constituents and prepare any amendments that they may consider wise.

Woman Sheriff in State.

In several counties women have been elected to the State Legislature, and one time a woman to the governorship, but Kentucky has a woman sheriff at present and she has been duly sworn in as a sheriff. She is Mrs. Thomas D. Lewis, wife of the sheriff of Knox county. When her husband was first elected in the bar-raising scores of the county rallied to his support at the time with desperadoes, Mrs. Lewis is fulfilling the requirements of her office by handing escaped prisoners.

Convict Labor Contracts Home.

The court of appeals affirmed Judge Moore of the chancery court in overruling a demurrer to the petition of a local contractor to restrain convict wages from the Confederate Home for prisoners thereon in behalf of the court. The court said to allow execution of such contracts would be to say that would be equivalent to permitting the commissioners to be sold.

Official Returns Filed.

Official returns of the November election from six counties of Kentucky have been received by Secretary of State Lewis. To date 115 counties have reported returns in Secretary Lewis' office. The Election Commissioners will meet soon to canvass the returns. The indications that just reported Jeffersontown, Winton 10,462; Hustee 7,307; Carr, Winton 5,407; Hustee 5,307; Laurel, Winton 1,371; Hustee 1,236; Fulton, Winton 1,102; Hustee 1,062; Pulaski, Winton 1,121; Hustee 1,125; Whitley, Winton 1,251; Hustee 1,251.

Light On Compensation.

Workmen's compensation, under section 49 of the workmen's compensation act, may commence paying compensation as soon as it is due without waiting for the board's formal approval of the terms of the agreement, Chairman R. T. Caldwell of the board wrote to the Corpuscilation Coal company in response to an inquiry. This practice, he said, is quite authorized. Should, however, the final settlement of agreement, under decision 45 of the board's formal approval