

# GOOD ROADS APOSTLE RETURNS TO THE CITY

THATCHER'S IDEAS OF GREAT  
NATIONAL BOULEVARDS.

## TALKS AT COMMERCIAL CLUB

Charles W. Thatcher, the good roads apostle, who was in Indianapolis eighteen months ago, when he was headed from Chicago down the south to the gulf, came into the city again this morning behind two Spanish mules that can go longer without water than an automobile without gas-

They were the same ones that he was driving to the same spring wagon, filled with camping equipment and guns, when he came into Indianapolis a year and a half ago, and the same Rocky mountain turkey trailed along behind, as faithful as the two dogs that complete the outfit.

Thatcher, still under a sombrero and with a big revolver holster decorated with a carriage belt, was as tall and well-bred and as full of eloquence and enthusiasm for good roads as he was when here last. The whole outfit, from Thatcher to the trailing burro, looked not a day older or worn, though they have covered the south since last here, and had just landed in Indianapolis, 250 miles from Cleveland, the distance covered in ten days. Thatcher is due to address a big good roads convention in Louisville next Wednesday night, and his stay in Indianapolis will therefore be limited.

Addresses Commercial Club.



value commensurately  
as a source of water  
farmers should not  
for he is an expert  
being a great work  
discussed for





an mile from Cleve  
covered in ten days  
to address a big good  
in Louisville next  
and his stay in Indi-  
-more he failed.

Commercial Club.  
ed by the Commercial  
and gives privileges of  
to all its members at  
-ing meeting may be  
roads and national  
for tomorrow. They  
-arouse sentiment in

the go all of the time  
Indiana and have  
-ed. "And the result is  
-ave advanced the im-  
-ovement roads. Indi-  
-one goes in my plan,  
-e government build at  
-ual highways. Two  
- through Indianapolis,  
- - - - - for these  
- - - - - foundation for a  
- - - - - convention  
- - - - - either in Indiana  
- - - - - year. At that meet-  
- - - - - the sentiment crystal-

partly by trip working  
-ent national boulevard  
- - - - - to the gulf, and I  
- - - - - that I have not only  
- - - - - sentiment in the south  
- - - - - wants to speak with  
- - - - - centers at big meetings  
- - - - - as this fall but have  
- - - - - road started and under  
- - - - - out and Toledo. The  
- - - - - way, which I hope to  
- - - - - to build by creating  
- - - - - to start at Detroit.  
- - - - - who then follow the  
- - - - - east Ft. Wayne, come  
- - - - - a trail from Ft. Wayne  
- - - - - street to Indianapolis,  
- - - - - and thence via Buf-  
- - - - - the outskirts of the  
- - - - - the farmstead and  
- - - - - follow the old Natchez  
- - - - - a distance of 1,000

ty Five Feet Wide.  
- - - - - foot right-of-way  
- - - - - feet wide, of a  
- - - - - type of construction  
- - - - - at its road building. We

value commercially and strategically and  
as a source of uplift for our people. The  
farmer should not fight the automobilist,  
for he is an apostle of good roads, and is  
doing a great work in creating national  
sentiment for such roads, to be  
built by the government. The day is  
coming when the farmer's wagon will be  
geared to mature energy, and he will  
market his produce thirty, forty or fifty  
miles distant over good roads. Such roads  
would make it possible for the shop girl  
to get on her gasoline propelled cycle and  
get out of her narrow environment with  
little cost."

### Traveled 25,000 Miles.

Thatcher has traveled 25,000 miles in the  
last six years by pack train and wagon  
and his present outfit has served him  
three years and covered eleven thousand  
miles. In Cleveland, where it seems he  
made a decided impression, he was of-  
fered an automobile, but he refused to  
part with his queer outfit. His idea is that  
if the apostle of good roads were to get  
into an auto and wear a silk hat he could  
not get in touch with the farmers, and  
they are the people that he wishes to  
reach. He has clothes in keeping with  
his early environment, his general intel-  
ligent appearance and his speech, but he  
prefers the sombrero, the corduroy trous-  
ers and the cartridge belt.

They all play their part, together with  
the strong wagon and the Spanish mulca  
and the dog and the burro, in his mission  
to arouse sentiment for great national  
highways. Thatcher is the son of a  
Methodist minister who filled pulpits in  
Wheeling and he was educated as a civil  
engineer and was, for a while, at Ohio  
Western university at Delaware, which  
has a distinguished alumni, including  
Charles W. Fairbanks. But the artificial  
life of the east did not satisfy him and he  
became a roamer in the Rockies and  
there the good roads and national boulev-  
ard movement formulated. Six years  
ago he started out to do what he could  
for good roads in the country and to urge  
a few great national boulevards and he  
thinks he is meeting with signal success.  
He has forsaken his outfit for the train  
but still

### is Well Educated.

Thatcher, notwithstanding his eccentric  
outfit, has a fine face and he has only to  
open his mouth to convince people that

# SUPREM AGAINST

Contin

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### Ame

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1895, the s  
Governor. \*

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