CIVILIZATION HAS PROGRESSED ON THE ROADS OF THE WORLD

The "Roads of the World" shown at the Ford Exposition range from the earliest Roman to the modern types. They have been faithfully reproduced according to the most accurate information available.

The Romans generally are given credit for being the earliest road builders, but the Egyptians had paved roads at the time the great pyramids were built, thousands of years before. The road from Antioch, Syria, to Bagdad, Iraq, is believed to have been built by the Romans. The historic Appian Way was begun by Appius Claudius about 312 B.C.

The Chinese road from Tieping to Western Hills was paved about 1708 A.D. It was made of large stone blocks.

The roads of India were mostly of beaten earth and were used only in the dry season. In 2000 B.C., the road from Calcutta to Afghanistan via Kyber Pass was being used. The Great Caravan Route through the sands of Sahara to Darkest Africa was in use before the dawn of history. Watling Street, Dover through London and north into Scotland, was in use 1000 B.C.

Russia is believed to have been the first to have paved with cylindrical blocks of wood. Chicago had a pine block pavement (Wells St.) in 1856; cedar blocks were substituted in 1873. About 1835, Lord Sydenham, who had long lived in Russia, introduced the plank road at Toronto, Ontario. "Kleinplaster" pavement, common in Germany, is of hard tough rock, broken into cubes and placed in a light cushion of sand with concrete or old macadam base as a foundation. The road from Darmstadt to Heidelberg was paved about 1835. France was first to use rock asphalt in 1854, on the Route de Quarante Sous, Paris to Havre. The Nice to Mentore road, built in 1898, is also reproduced. The "Diamond Rush Road," Port Elizabeth to Kimberley, built in 1870, is one of the best known gravel roads of Africa. The most durable of all paviing is stone setts, Belgian blocks. The Lierre-Aerschot road was paved with these blocks in 1890.

The oldest type of American road reproduced is the Mexican Highway from Ixtilan to LaQuemada constructed by the Spanish Conquistadores about 1550 A.D. A specimen of the old North American Wilderness Trail, blazed by Daniel Boone in 1775, shows what our ancestors endured. The Lancaster turnpike from Philadelphia to Lancaster was the country's first stone road and was constructed in 1792. The first brick road in the United States, between Cleveland and East Liverpool, was laid down about 1808, U.S. 66—St. Louis to Springfield—is constructed of modern, heavy-duty bricks. The Lincoln Highway from New York to San Francisco is represented by a modern concrete pavement.