Work on the Morgantown-Kingwood Road, State Route No. 7 (Annual Report, State Road Commission, 1925-1926)

On September 11, 1924, the Terra Alta-Kingwood Road, now part of State Route 7, was officially opened.

CSO: SS.8.13

Investigate the Document: (Preston Republican, September 18, 1924)

1. In which county is the Terra Alta-Kingwood highway located? The county borders this state that lies to the North, separated by the Mason-Dixon Line.

2. What did the Hon. Frank L. Bowman plead for during his speech with the crowd?

Think Critically: Analyze the impact of West Virginia’s geography on transportation. Think about the development process as well as travel. What hindrances does West Virginia have that make both difficult?
OPENING OF TERRA ALTA-KINGWOOD ROAD

The formal opening of the Cadell pike was celebrated the 11th inst., by a ceremony at Cadell bridge followed by a basket picnic at the near-by State Rifle Range, and was a big success.

There had been cold rainy weather for several days previous and it looked as if such an outdoor meeting could not be held; but on the day appointed the sun appeared on the scene and quickly warmed the air to the satisfaction of all and dried the roads and grounds. Long before the hour set the automobiles began to pour across the bridge and fill all the parking room in the vicinity. The ceremony was held at the West end of the bridge where Mayor O. W. Ringer of Terra Alta had the high way snugly closed by a great rosette of bunting and ribbon.

Judge Hughes called the crowd to order and after a series of his happy remarks introduced E. E. Cuppitt who spoke of the roads from the point of view of the State Road Commission of which he is an employee; then followed short talks by C. E. Tremblay from Portland District, J. V. Gibson from Kingwood District, A. A. Pickering from the County Court and P. J. Crogan of Kingwood who made the principal address of the occasion. Mr. Crogan was in an eloquent mood and impressed the audience with the importance of this celebration of the opening of a section of state highway in Preston County. He traced the development of civilization from the first and greatest invention man ever made, the wheel, to the perfection of mechanisms today represented by the series of automobiles parked near by and the two air planes of Scotty Scotty which were wheeling overhead. He predicted that before he was finished the majority of our roads would be hard surfaced and the people of distant sections of the County would be near neighbors.