

U. S. SYSTEM OF HIGHWAYS OKEH

State and National Governments Give Their Final Approval

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (AP)—Approval of the final location of the United States system of highways by the federal government and by all of the states has been announced by the bureau of public roads. It includes approximately 80,000 miles of the most important roads and embraces 10 transcontinental routes east and west and as many through routes north and south.

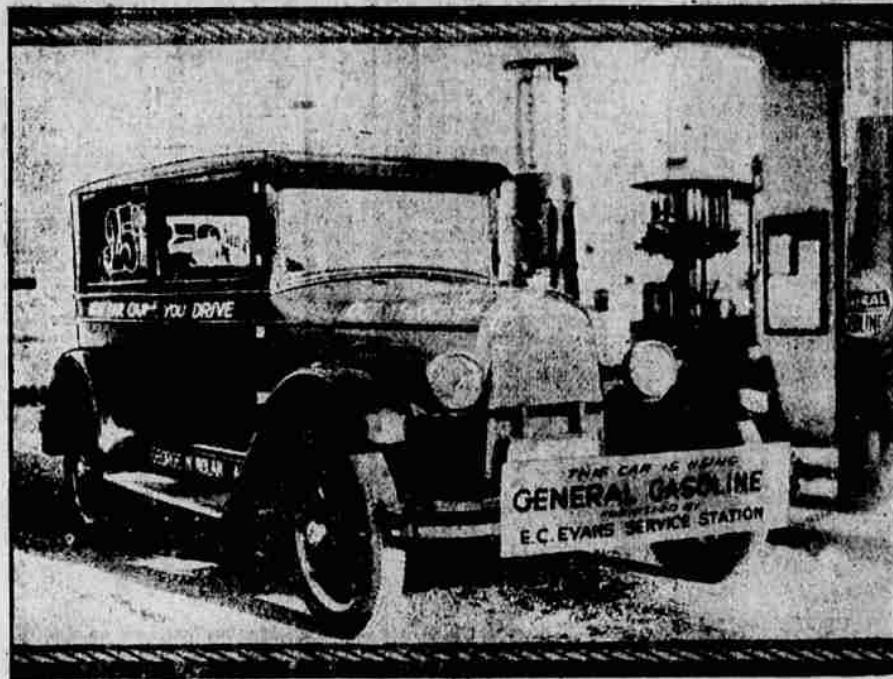
The work of designation has been under way almost a year and was finally approved by the American Association of State Highway Officials in November. The purpose of designating the final location was to establish a main system of highways for the nation, the unimproved sections of which would be given priority in improvement, and to eliminate confusion as to route designation, marking and safety signs.

A route-numbering system, by which all east and west routes bear even numbers and north and south routes odd ones, is expected to assist tourists in following through highways. Standard route-number signs, danger, caution and directional signs to add to the safety and convenience of travelers have been adopted by all the states.

22 States Ready Twenty-two states already have their United States highways completely marked, 14 have partially completed the work and six which have not yet started anticipate the work will be completed within a year.

The main highways will bear numbers in multiples of 10, the transcontinental routes being numbered 10, 20, 30, etc., and the north and south routes, 1, 11, 21, etc. These through routes have many variants and crossovers to other routes, reaching virtually all the larger cities and serving every section of the country. Officials declare the work so thoroughly done that it would be virtually impossible to designate additional through routes without making them coincident to a considerable extent with already existing routes. They state that this will not be done as it would defeat the purpose of a uniform system of highways' designation.

MAKES GASOLINE ECONOMY RECORD



Here is the automobile that recently made 141 miles on a quart of General gasoline in competition with 45 other machines of the same make. The average for the 46 cars was 34.6 miles per gallon.

American People Are Now Driving 22,342,457 Automobiles and Trucks

Motor vehicles in use in the United States now number approximately 22,342,457.

Registrations of passenger and commercial cars last year showed a gain of 2,254,909, or 11.2 per cent over 1925.

Passenger cars registered numbered 19,465,878, an increase of 1,831,793 or 10.3 per cent over the previous year.

Commercial vehicle registrations total 2,876,581, a gain of 421,633 or 17.1 per cent over 1925.

While sales in the United States in the past 12 months were the largest on record, the percentage of registration increase was the smallest ever recorded. This was due to two factors:

- 1. The unprecedentedly large number of vehicles taken out of service.
2. The fact that as the total in service increases the rate of gain decreases.

This shrinkage may be expected to continue until the number of vehicles taken out of service each year equals or exceeds the number sold.

With domestic sales of passenger cars for the year approximating 2,525,000 and with a registration gain of only about 1,850,000 it is obvious that something like 1,675,000 cars were taken out of service. It should not be assumed, however, that all of them were scrapped, for the number of used cars which have accumulated in the hands of the dealers since last January must be deducted from the total. It is probable these dealer stocks will account for 600,000 or 700,000.

Gains by States Scrutiny of the registration gains by states indicates that prosperity was more widely diffused throughout the country in 1926 than in any year since 1907, for there were few outstanding percentage increases, even in the south or in the grain states. Automotive business apparently was equally good everywhere.

New York retains its leadership with a total of 1,818,765, a gain of 197,000. It now has about half as many motor vehicles as all the rest of the world aside from the United States.

California still is the Empire state's nearest rival, with 1,614,479. Ohio is third with 1,597,500; Pennsylvania fourth with 1,482,047; Illinois fifth with 1,379,500; Michigan sixth with 1,243,989 and Texas seventh with 1,063,600. Michigan and Texas are newcomers in the more than a million class.

Northwest Figures In the state of Washington there are 516,371 cars, 55,997 trucks, a total of 572,378. In 1925 in this state there were 581,452 cars and 46,900 trucks, a total of 628,442. The per cent gain of 1926 over 1925 was 11.1 per cent.

In Oregon there are now 216,211 cars and 18,300 trucks, a total of 234,511. The gain of 1926 over 1925 is 4.3 per cent, while the gain of 1925 over 1924 was 12.1 per cent. Oregon therefore has gained less than Washington.

In Idaho there are now 87,000 cars and 9,000 trucks, a total of 96,000. In 1925 there were 75,826 cars and 7,610 trucks, a total of 83,436. The gain in 1925 over 1924 was 17.7 per cent and the gain of 1925 over 1924 is the same, 17.7 per cent.

While these figures make estimates necessary for the closing weeks of the year, a similar comparison made a year ago by Motor shows a margin of error of slightly less than 1 per cent on the total and only 1/2 of 1 per cent on cars.

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Management of Two Stations Here Changed

Two service stations in La Grande have changed management within the past week. J. F. Heasty taking in Frank George as his partner in the Heasty filling station at the corner of Adams avenue and Second street, and W. H. Coffey taking over the management of Bill's place on the opposite corner of Adams and Second. George has purchased half interest in the Heasty station. He has been with the Union oil company for the past four years and previous to that time worked with the Standard oil company. The firm will be known as Heasty and George.

Bill's place is owned by the Fletcher Oil company and has been under the management of William Watson, since it started operating last spring, until this week when Coffey became the new manager. Coffey came here from Heppner and his family will join him here about Jan. 20. All Veltex products are handled at this station.

LATIFIE HANOUK SECLUDED CONSTANTINOPLE (AP)—Latifie Hanouk, divorced wife of President Kemal, is living in a complete and even mysterious seclusion, reminiscent of the bygone seclusion of Turkish women. During the year since the divorce, she has remained invisible in the Constantinople home of her father, a wealthy merchant. She has not only refused to speak one word for publication but has even consistently denied admittance to family friends and members of Turkish society.

"Main street of Mayfair" is the new nickname for Bond street, fashionable London shopping thoroughfare.

Figureheads On Auto Radiators Are Expressive

By ED FRIEDMAN (NEA Service Writer)

The automobile's latest compromise with art comes in the form of a tiny figure mounted on the radiator cap of the machine and used to express the personality of the automobile, the driver, or whatever other excuse seems necessary to explain presence.

There are Greek goddesses, bathing beauties (with or without suits), wings and Indian chiefs. Only an animated caricature of Napoleon heading a rapid retreat from Russia or a graphic illustration of Washington crossing the Delaware is needed by the new school of expression to complete the cycle of beauty, grace and speed.

The Bally-Boyce has a figure which the owners affectionately call "Mascott," the symbol of ecstasy. The tiny figure appears to be leaning forward as if trying to peek around the corner to see if any traffic cops are waiting in ambush.

Then there is the Studebaker with Atalanta, the goddess of speed, sprinting forward at a dangerous angle, setting the pace for the machine to follow.

No Such Luck Today The driver usually sits nonchalantly unconcerned about a Hippomenes who may drop golden apples to lure Atlanta from the race. However, the motorist would probably make a quick stop and pick up the golden apple before Atlanta had a chance to remove herself from the metal casting.

The Buick has a figurehead similar to those pictured on the bows of ancient ships which, according to those that know, represents speed and stamina. There appears a wistful eagerness in the goddess' expression as though she were waiting for a traffic cop to blow his whistle and quit holding up a long line of traffic.

The Jewett uses a "Fighting Jay," which is appropriate, especially if the car has just completed a side-slip and is sailing off the road to a ditch 10 feet below.

Chief Pontiac takes a dignified position in front of the car which bears his name. His expression is almost as pleasant as that of a traffic cop who has chased a speeder five miles before catching him.

"Fishing" Roadsters A bathing girl who appears to be either ready for a dive or trying to get a running start on her long walk home is seen on many of the sporty roadsters.

Wings probably are most popular. Their significance obviously is fleetness and not an expression of reverence for the spread eagle on the American dollar.

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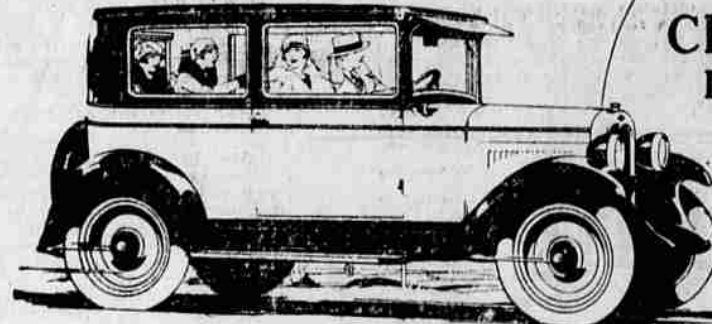
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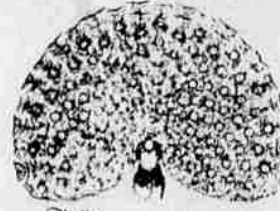
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