



AUTOMOBILE NEWS



BILLION IS SPENT YEARLY ON ROADS

Maintenance of American Highways Paid for by Nation's Motorists

The cost of building and maintaining roads in this country amounts to nearly one billion dollars a year and is being paid directly or indirectly by motorists who make use of the highways, according to a study made by Thomas H. Macdonald, chief of the bureau of public roads, department of agriculture.

This cost represents the money spent each year just for country

roads and does not include the expense of city streets.

"More interesting than the road development itself," said Macdonald, "are the various means employed to distribute highway costs among motorists in a just and convenient manner."

"State gasoline and registration taxes represent about half of this amount. The gasoline tax varies from one to five cents in the various states, while New Jersey, New York, Illinois and Massachusetts have no gas tax. These states depend upon the great number of automobile registrations to furnish revenue for road construction.

"Other important sources of revenue for highways are property taxes on automobiles of this country, federal excise tax on automobiles, parts and accessories and taxes collected from motorists.

"There are also the taxes on

property of the automobile manufacturer and buildings and lots devoted to motor car merchandising. The income and corporation taxes from motor business and the state, local, production, corporation or income taxes of the petroleum industry add to the road fund."

Federal aid also assists in road building, but its share is comparatively small, according to Macdonald, who says, "In the eight years from 1918 to 1925 the government has contributed \$450,000,000 to help the states build roads.

"That is considerably less than half of what the country spent on roads in either 1924 or 1925. Moreover, in the same eight years that the government was distributing \$450,000,000 in the states, it collected \$573,000,000 in internal revenue taxes on motor cars, parts and accessories, so motorists furnish the money for this contribution."

GARAGE GOSSIP

In Spokane—
Harry Treichel, of the firm of Treichel and Treichel, local Nash distributors, left Wednesday morning for Spokane on a business trip. He is expected to return tonight.

Buy "50" Sedan—
The Chrysler agency here has sold two "50" sedans, one to Carl Metzker, of Burke, Ore., and one to Herbert Pattison, of La Grande. L. W. Weeks reports.

Here From Pendleton—
A. R. White, of the General Electric company with headquarters in Pendleton, was in La Grande this week calling on local dealers.

New Sign—
The Morelock-Service Motor company is painting a new sign advertising Star and Locomobile automobiles. Mr. Morelock expects to have a Locomobile on display here in the near future.

At Medical—
L. H. Irwin, salesman for the M. J. Goss garage here, is at Medical Springs for his health.

Buy Chevrolet—
The Blue Mountain garage has sold a Chevrolet sedan to Mrs. Lena Parker.

Sales Active—
M. J. Goss, local dealer in Studebakers, reports several sales. He sold a Commander sedan to George Kumeda, a Studebaker standard coupe to Mary Neal, of Enterprise, and a standard coach to Wallace Gilmore, of Enterprise.

Logging Trailer—
Avery Harrison, of the Blue Mountain garage, returned from Portland Thursday with a three-ton logging trailer. Joe Hyton, a log hauling contractor at Walden will use it in his work.

Sells Chrysler—
Recent purchasers of Chrysler cars from the Chrysler agency here include: S. H. Weimer, of Cove, who bought a Chrysler "60" coach; Fred Davis, of North Powder, who purchased a Chrysler Imperial "38"; and Leo P. Roubet, of Elgin, who is driving a new Chrysler "30" coach.

Buy Car—
Dr. R. P. Jandt recently purchased a Chrysler "60" coupe. This is the first of the new type coupes to be delivered by L. W. Weeks.

To Kamela—
J. W. Hoss, salesman for Willys-Overland Co., Inc., spent yesterday at Kamela and Meacham on business.

At Enterprise This Week—
W. D. Hanks, local Willys-Overland dealer accompanied by E. C. Gettings of a similar firm from Elgin, spent Monday at Enterprise on business.

Good Report—
W. D. Hanks of the Willys-Overland Garage reports a good demand on used cars this week, having sold several.

Willys-Overland April Sales 49 Per Cent More

TOLEDO, Ohio, May 21—Sales of Willys-Knight and Whippet motor cars for April in the United States and Canada totaled 27,401, giving an increase of 49 per cent over sales for the same period of last year, according to a statement just given out by John N. Willys, president of Willys-Overland, Inc.

This brings the total sales of this company for the year to date, up to and including April 29, to 30,732 cars, the gain over the corresponding period of four months for last year being 27 per cent. In money value of retail sales the gain over last year is \$17,162,000.

Registrations in from 41 states for the month of March show Willys-Overland gains for the month as being 27 per cent while the industry shows a falling off of 6 per cent in this month as compared with last year for the same period.

Complete registrations for January and February combined with those for March which include all but a few states where registrations are relatively unimportant in their general influence on the total show a gain for Willys-Overland during the first quarter, of 16 per cent with the industry as a whole showing a 2.6 per cent loss.

In New York state, the March gain registered by Willys-Overland was 57 per cent compared with March of last year as against a 15 per cent gain registered by the industry as a whole.

On the Pacific coast and in the inter-mountain states, the Willys-Overland gain for the first quarter over last year, was 24 per cent while the industry as a whole showed a loss in this same territory of 13 per cent.

New York taxiners now have a perception so that the driver doesn't have to turn and behind couples kissing when he wants to ask a question. By all means, let us not subject our taxi driver to moral trials.

A young Ohio ex-sailor knows 100 different kinds of knots. Send him in China, send him to China!

Foreigners In America Amazed At Tremendous Road Building Program

Foreign visitors have frankly expressed themselves as being astonished at the tremendous road building program of the United States. These programs in every instance far surpass the rosiest expectations and plans of their home country.

"They marvel at the progressiveness shown in road construction. Their marvel is changed to understanding when they become aware of the fact that there are over 22,000,000 motor cars in the United States and these motor cars are owned and driven in a country which has a population of only 119,996,000.

"The economical life of the average American citizen is so controlled by the use of the motor car that the construction of the best of roads is a necessity rather than a luxury.

"The development of the automobile on the highway has annihilated distance and has made neighbors of communities which were formerly many miles apart. Distance is no longer measured in miles but rather in minutes and a community which was formerly ten miles distant is now only twenty minutes from its neighbor. This has built up a better understanding and a great coincidence between various towns and districts and has worked to the benefit of the country as a whole."

The above quotation is from an address delivered by Joseph E. Dunne, president of the Oregon State motor association, on the occasion of the breaking of the ground for the new building at the Multnomah county fair grounds.

Car Changes T. S. Habes
Mr. Dunne continued, drawing attention to the fact that the motor car had changed entirely the disposition habits of the nation and that the recreational facilities of the country were made available by the motor club as in no other way. Mr. Dunne also stated the motor car was the greatest single influence in the development of the northwest country as a recreational center.

According to the Reverend Dr. F. R. Stuart of New York, pastor of a Methodist church for thirty-five years, bond babies usually cry, bristles and hold-headed ones look blank while being baptised.

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savings of volume to further enrich quality; and to provide such famous Buick features as the Sealed Chassis, Triple-Sealed Engine, Torque-Tube-Drive and Vacuum Ventilator.

Because Buick's initial cost is low and it is economical to operate.

Buick value is greater today than ever before.

Examine Buick, point by point; compare it with other cars before you make your choice.

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Whippet Six

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