

OUTLOOK BRIGHT IN MOTOR INDUSTRY

COUNTY HAS FIRST CLASS ROAD SYSTEM

Stands Among Leaders in This State—\$574,407 Has Been Spent

COSTS ARE LOW; GOOD EQUIPMENT

State Highway Commission Praises Local Roads—Of 169 Miles Less Than Half Improved.

Road building has been a feature of Oregon's progress in the last several years and Union county stands near the top of the county ladder in point of new highway construction.

Of the total amount \$296,571.17 was from county market road levies and \$255,652.61 was from the state market road appropriation.

Complete Major Project During 1927 and 1928 the major project was the completion of the grade and surface on the Albee-Lower Cove and the Becker Cor-

Motor Vehicle Registration Is 6 Per Cent More

Total of 24,493,124 Cars in United States During 1928 — Oregon Registered 248,118.

WASHINGTON, Apr. 20 — The total registration of motor vehicles in the United States during 1928 was 24,493,124, a gain of 1,259,883, or 5.3 per cent over the number registered in 1927, according to reports received by the bureau of public roads, United States department of agriculture, from state registration authorities.

New York heads the list for 1928 with 2,083,942 vehicles registered, California is second with 7,799,899; Ohio is third with 1,649,699; Pennsylvania is fourth with 1,642,297; Illinois is fifth with 1,594,359; Michigan sixth with 1,249,221; Texas seventh with 1,214,297; Indiana eighth with 823,896; New Jersey ninth with 758,430; and Wisconsin tenth with 742,135.

Arizona Gains Big In percentage gain, Arizona ranks first with 16 per cent. The District of Columbia is second with 13 per cent. Mississippi and South Dakota each report a gain of 12 per cent; New Mexico, Alabama and Connecticut report 10 per cent; Tennessee and Texas report 9 per cent; and South Carolina, Vermont, Wyoming, North Dakota, Michigan and Delaware report 8 per cent.

Comparison of the registration total with the 1928 estimated population of 129,013,000 indicates that there is now one motor vehicle for every 5 persons in the United States, or one for every family.

From the owners of the 24,493,124 motor vehicles, the states and the District of Columbia collected

HIGHWAYS OF STATE BRINGS PRAISE FROM ALL PARTS OF U. S.

System, However, Is Not Completed and Much New Construction Is Underway at Present; Resurfacing and Re-Oiling to Be Done This Season; Building Sixth Structure at La Grande

Oregon often is pointed to from other states in the union as one that features beautiful scenery and good roads whereby all who come may view the scenery in comfort and security.

Much of this is the result of the work of the state highway commission, which has expended enormous sums of money in the betterment of the road system of this state, which has resulted in corresponding benefits.

The work, however, is far from finished.

For example, take the Eastern Oregon division of which La Grande is headquarters. In this section during this year the following work is being done and will be done:

New Construction 1. Harper to Burrall ranch in Malheur county west of Vale on the Central Oregon highway to Burns. Fifteen and one-half miles grading to be finished about the middle of May. This may be surfaced later in the year.

2. La Zinka ranch to Albee on the Pendleton-John Day highway south of Pilot Rock. Eleven and one-half miles surfacing. Will open up rich Ukiah country. This road crosses over scenic Blue mountains at high elevation. The commission has secured 500 acres of timber along the road for park purposes and to preserve the beauty of the highway.

3. West of Burns to Sage Hen hills. Fifteen and one-half miles of surfacing. This road goes by the

new mill of the Hines Lumber company.

4. Resurfacing jobs from Baker to Pleasant Valley, and along the Snake river.

Local Job of Resurfacing 5. Resurfacing of Enterprise to Lostine stretch of eight miles.

6. Regrading and resurfacing of Morrow Line-Umatilla just west of Umatilla.

7. Building of new patrol headquarters building in division shops in La Grande. It is also expected that a patrol building will be constructed at Ontario.

8. The usual amount of re-oiling will be done, including the Old Oregon Trail from Baker to Pendleton. The Blue mountain sector will be re-oiled during June, it is said. At present there is a crew busy near Pendleton.

The extent of the work of the state commission is shown by the fact that during the last two years alone the expenditures of the commission have amounted to \$29,531,687.15, of which sum the state has contributed \$17,449,814.79; the federal government \$1,493,351.84; the various counties of the state \$1,302,355.17; and railroad companies and other cooperators have contributed \$85,605.47. Of this amount, after subtracting funds expended in payment of interest and maturities of bonds, etc., a total of \$19,850,537.84 was spent on actual construction and maintenance operations. The sum contributed by the government does not include any of the money expended by the federal government in forest road work.

Two Highways Here Of the great Oregon system of highways, two large ones traverse

VIEWS OF LA GRANDE HIGHWAY SHOPS



Here are three views of the equipment warehouses and shops erected at La Grande during 1928. The upper picture is of the main building, in which the machine shops, etc., are located. In the center is a view along East Adams avenue. The bottom picture shows one of the warehouse buildings. A sixth structure is now being erected at the plant.

AUTO SALES IN QUARTER SET RECORDS

Local Dealers Optimistic of Possibilities of Present Year

NEW MODELS ARE BEING EXHIBITED

Registration of New Cars in State During March Showed Increase of 59 Per Cent.

The automotive industry, barely started in a new year, finds 1929 one of great promise and a healthy spirit of optimism rules the automobile activities, not only nationally but in La Grande as well.

"The outlook is wonderful. We have sold more cars this first quarter than during the first half year of 1928," one dealer says and another points out that his March business this year was more than \$1,000 above last March. And the real buying season is still more or less in the future.

All Expect Good Year

Throughout the list of dealers, all are firmly convinced that this season will be one of the best in many years, in spite of the fact that the winter was a long, hard and in some places, financially difficult one.

Last year's records are confidently expected to be thrown into the discard—in fact many are already being broken.

General Motors, one of the largest organizations in the motor industry today, has just issued a report showing that during the month of March their dealers delivered to consumers 205,118 cars, compared with 188,704 for the cor-

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ESSEX

The Challenger \$885 to \$1125

Delivered

The Greater

HUDSON

\$1365 to \$1950

Delivered

Two Super Sixes

Reaching New Peaks in Performance and Sales

Special Challenge Week

Starting Today and Continuing

Until April 27

Locally and nationally, both Essex The Challenger and the greater Hudson have been setting entirely new standards of performance-speed-power-economy-riding qualities—gasoline economy—and quick get-a-way. The Super Six principal, long an exclusive feature in Hudson, has been further developed and improved and is now also available in Essex.

New bodies, in a wide variety of colors, and high grade appointments throughout give these cars a striking appearance on city streets or on any highway.

And now this outstanding performance and appearance has made sales go up by leaps and bounds. Large production has cut the cost of manufacture to a point that places Hudson-Essex within the reach of anyone who can buy a motor car. Compare prices—then challenge us to show performance.

We will have the different models ready for you to drive—just come to our showroom or phone for an appointment—we'll turn the car over to you—take it out on the road and give it any test, for your own information—do not let this challenge go unanswered—you will be amazed—you would never dream that such automobiles could be bought for so little money.

A Drive Will Surprise You

Blue Mountain Garage

Opposite Post Office

M. A. Harrison, Mgr.

Phone Maine 726