

Every day many customers are finding Footwear Bargains that save them one-half at **Vaupel's**

State Commission Designates Highway

Irrespective of whether the state road bonds carry, Oregon will have a designated system of state roads. The designations were made formally by the state highway commission at its session just held. The designation was required by the government as a condition to Oregon's participation in the benefits of the Shackleford act. The government representatives were present with the commission when the designations were made, and concurred in same, subject to formal approval by the authorities in Washington.

All the roads designated in the pending road bonding act were designated by the commission and formally adopted as part of the system of state highways. In addition to those roads, such other roads were designated as were required to make the state system more complete and fair, so as to connect all the counties with through lines of travel.

Joint work by the government and the state will proceed, even if the people fail to vote the bonds. It is expected that in the event of the failure of the state bonds, many of the counties will vote their own bonds for the sake of getting the benefit of whatever government and state funds may be available.

The funds available, it is estimated, would permit improvement of the main trunk lines in the most populous parts of the state during the five years. There would not be enough money for any paving on these. The roads to the remote sections would have to wait indefinitely. They would remain on the map as designated highways until funds were available for their improvement, which might be many years, except as the counties voted the money for the principal part of the cost of improving same.

Should the bonds pass the commission will have money to use on every designated road in every county. This would mean that every designated road in every part of the state would be put in a travelable condition during the five-year period, much of it surfaced, and from 500 to 600 miles of highway paved, as against no paving and all the current funds being expended on the trunk highways to the neglect of the roads connecting with the remote sections.

Block Signals of S. P. Almost Perfect

In only one case out of 89,000 operations have the automatic block signals of the Southern Pacific on the average failed to give proper indication to the engineer in the cab. By failure is not that the engineer was not warned of danger, but rather that he was held back when the track was clear.

This remarkable record is brought in a report just prepared by Signal Engineer W. E. Boland of the company, covering a period of one year.

Boland's report reads "So faithful are the automatic block signal in their operations that during last year failures have averaged only one in eighty-nine thousand and practically

in all cases the worst that happened was to delay a train. Automatic block signals work on the principle of 'When in doubt, take the safest course,' which in this case is to stop. Their action is positive, and if anything goes wrong they will give a stop indication."

There are almost seven thousand automatic block signals in use on the Southern Pacific representing an investment of about four and a half million dollars. In 1916 they performed about seventy-one million separate operations.

Cerec to drink instead of coffee. Get it of the Ashland Trading Company, phone 122. It

SAMS VALLEY TIDINGS.

F. Rowe's house burned to the ground on the morning of Monday, March 19. The contents downstairs was saved, but everything was lost that was upstairs. Mr. Rowe was at Medford at the time. He is contemplating building up on the hill east of where the old house stood.

Mrs. Walsh is visiting her daughter, Mrs. John Holst.

S. B. Stoner was in Medford Monday, the 19th, attending to business for himself, and brought out some freight for the Table Rock and Sams valley stores.

Miss Opal Centers is helping Mrs. Max Schultz during her children's illness.

Miss Mabel Cooper is at home again after being employed in Central Point for a month or six weeks.

Grandma Holst has been quite ill the past few days, with the grip.

Mr. Pthser has been hauling hay for a few days. Feed is very scarce at this time of the year, owing to a delayed spring.

Mr. Scott, from Debenger Gap, has been in the vicinity for the last few days, circulating a petition for a newly developed irrigation system for Sams valley.

Mr. Fox and wife have been busy packing and shipping their last lot of apples, taking them to Medford.

Mr. Strathren had the misfortune to get his hand badly hurt in the wood saw while he was helping cut wood.

The children that have been sick the last two weeks are all back in school again.

Miss Bertha Abbott has been ill for the past week, but is convalescing at this writing.

Tri-State Good Road Meet for Medford

The Tri-State Good Roads Association is to hold a good roads congress in Medford on May 16 and 17. Action setting the date was taken at a mass meeting at Medford Friday, and committees are to be appointed to care for the details. It was tentatively agreed to limit the scope of the work of the congress to Benton, Lane, Douglas, Curry, Josephine, Coos, Klamath and Jackson counties.

You bet it is going to rain some more, and we now have a special sale on umbrellas. Ashland Trading Company. It

A Philadelphia firm offers \$840 a ton for long Oregon flax fibre.

Only a Few More Days Until Easter, Come Now

and select your garments for Easter. Why put it off when you can now select from such a splendid assortment of clever styles at moderate prices

COATS Distinctively New

\$7.50-\$10-\$11.50 Up

NO matter what price or what kind of a coat you want, you will be apt to find it if you come soon. Dozens of coats have already been sold, but we have kept new ones on the way. We believe you will agree as others have who have made comparisons that our styles are superior and our prices more reasonable.

A Glorious Treat Is Ready for You The New "Fitrite" Silk Petticoats Are Here

The richest silks, prettiest colors and most beautiful styles ever.

Rich, plain and bright changeable Taffetas—sport stripes and Persian effects, too, in endless designs of the very newest Crimpings, Tuckings, Scollops, Fine Pleating and Tier Ruffles.

American Lady and Gossard Corsets \$1.25 to \$10.00

Silk Dresses

Splendid new styles in Silk Dresses. You cannot buy the goods, trimmings and the making for any less than you will pay for these handsome garments all ready for instant use. We make all necessary alterations on these garments without charge.

Special 28c

for Fibre Silk Hose with high spliced heel; white and pink only in stock now 28c



SUITS

Fetching and Smart

\$20-\$25-\$27.50 to \$35

ONE of the best lines of suits shown in Southern Oregon this spring is to be found at this store. Correct in every style detail, and perfect in fit and makeup, they are unquestionably better values than you will find elsewhere at the same prices.

Come and compare before buying. They will stand close inspection.

QUITE the prettiest assortment we have ever gathered. See them tomorrow. "Fitrite"



petticoats, you know, have that patented adjustment feature, free from buckles, hooks and eyes, elastic bands, etc. They're the best to buy. Prices \$3 to \$6.50.

Ladies' Hose 25c—Good supply in white and black, good quality, 25c

New Blouses

Right from the center of fashion come these chic and charming examples of smart new Blouses of crepe de chine and Georgette crepe, and bought before the rise.

Crepe de Chine Blouses \$3.50 up Georgette Crepe Blouses \$5.00 up

Waists \$1.00, \$1.19, \$1.50

Of plain and colored striped voiles, exceptionally clever styles for so little money



McGee's DRY GOODS

Anti-Bond Men Would Increase Taxes

Instead of bonding the state for road construction, the opponents of the bond issue are favoring what was known as the Pierce bill, providing for a millage tax of $\frac{1}{4}$ mills a year to take the place of the present quarter mill state highway tax.

Representatives of the opposition are acting in concert in praising this bill as the correct solution of Oregon's problem of state road finance.

The bill was introduced during the closing days of the legislature by Senator Walter Pierce of Union county, president of the State Taxpayers' league. It passed the state senate but was defeated in the house of representatives on the ground that an increase of taxes would be received with such disfavor by the people that the whole roads program would go down to defeat at the special election at which it was proposed to submit the increase in connection with the bonding act.

Opponents of the bonding act express openly their purpose to defeat the act so as to make way for instituting the direct tax increase to be voted upon by the people at the general election in the fall of 1918.

This makes the issue squarely one of increased taxes as against a bonding program which involves no tax increase. The tax burden in Oregon is so intolerably heavy that it is believed most of the taxpayers will prefer to bond at the expense of the auto license fees, as contemplated in the road bonding act, rather than vote a big increase of direct taxes to accomplish the same end.

The people insist upon having the roads built, and the whole controversy is as to methods of financing—direct taxation or bonds based on auto license fees.

Certificate of Award For Non-Tardy Pupils

As a reward to those boys and girls of Oregon who can establish records of having been neither absent nor tardy during the school year, J. A. Churchill, superintendent of public instruction, is preparing a beautifully lithographed certificate of award. This certificate will be signed by the teacher, the county school superintendent, and the superintendent of public instruction. A number of the county school superintendents have expressed a desire for such certificates to present to their pupils, and it is the belief of Superintendent Churchill that the presenting of these certificates will do much to stimulate perfect attendance among the boys and girls of the state. Any teacher who wishes to secure these certi-

ificates for her pupils may do so by applying to her county school superintendent.

Fifty cents will now buy a \$1.25 corset in odd sizes. We are overloaded on corsets and must reduce our stock at special prices. Ashland Trading Company. It

The Southern Pacific Company wishes to make improvements to the value of \$60,000 at Corvallis. Franchise is pending.

Forty pounds of ambergris has been found on the beach near Port Orford. Part has been sold at \$14 an ounce. It

Give Your Eyes an Easter Present

In the shape of a pair of new eye-glasses fitted with our expertly selected lenses and mounted so as to harmonize with your features. Your eyes are your most precious possession. So in this season of Easter giving don't fail to remember their needs. Why not have us examine them today?

H. L. WHITED, Optometrist Ashland



A Bit of History

THE management of this financial institution is largely made up of men who for 32 years have faithfully rendered banking service to Industries, Households and Individuals of this community. First, through the Bank of Ashland; next the U. S. National Bank, and now the First National Bank.

This record of past performance stands as more than a promise for that of the future

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

ASHLAND OREGON
 E. V. CARTER, PRESIDENT C. H. VAUPEL, VICE PRES.
 J. W. MCGOY, CASHIER CLARK BUSH, ASST. CASH.

Big Musical Treat for Rogue River Valley

DAMROSCH and ZIMBALIST

with the **NEW YORK SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

Ninety Musicians Musical Event of the Season

At Medford Natatorium, Tuesday, April 17

SEATS ON SALE AT THE BOOT SHOP, ASHLAND