

Junction City-Eugene 'Super' Highway Opened Ten Years Ago

By DAN SELLARD

It was called a "super highway," the stretch of new pavement from Eugene to Junction City that was formally opened ten years ago Sunday. It was heralded in the Register-Guard's issue of Oct. 24, 1938, as a boon to motorists, a "straight stretch."

The State Highway Department was proud as it removed barriers at each end of the new section. And that same department was surprised Saturday when, by request, it delved into its files and reported:

38 Deaths

"Records which go back to the first part of 1941," the department said, "show that there have been 38 fatal accidents on the highway between Junction City and Eugene. These accidents have resulted in 38 deaths."

The accident which took the

largest toll was a collision on Saturday night, Dec. 15, 1946, when an automobile rammed head-on into a Greyhound bus. All eight occupants of the car were killed; seven instantly and one later died in the hospital.

Expected Toll
Based on the average number of fatalities per year, the toll for the ten year period is undoubtedly more than 50.

But interested citizens had no way of knowing these things when they helped open the highway.

It was a link in the Oregon Pacific highway system and shortened the distance between the

two towns by two miles.

The work was done by the Mountain States Construction Co., which set a new record for laying concrete, "pouring as much as 2075 feet of road in one eight-hour shift." Present-day contractors concede that was good for ten years ago, but say that double that figure is routine in 1948.

With opening of the highway, a stop sign was erected at the intersection of Blair Blvd. and 6th St., W., and through traffic was routed west on Sixth.

The stop sign has since been replaced by traffic lights, and the road now seems narrow, but the new route was then a step forward, "a long straight step."

University High News

At a recent Student Council meeting rules pertaining to after-game dances were made. Dances after the UHS games which are sponsored by any organization of the school will be open to all University High students and their dates; these dances will also be open to students of the invited school providing they show their student body cards; no one can be re-admitted after they once leave the building; it is up to the sponsoring organization to check the doors in order to keep undesirables from gaining entrance. The organization must carry out these rules as made by the student council.

The first few articles of the school constitution were read and at the next meeting this will be continued in order that changes

can be made where they are needed.

A desert sale sponsored by the Pep Club was held in the auditorium Oct. 20. Bev Goheen was general chairman. Other chairmen and their committees included the following: setting up—Barbara Grim, chairman, Ethel Larson, Jo Tallman; selling—Joanne Hite, chairman, Rae Chesebro, Veda Cheney and Nona Robertson.

October 26 marks an important event for all of the local Hi-Y chapters. A Hi-Y training conference is to be held at which the local chapters are hosts. Ed French, Wade Eaton, Bob Echli, Bruce Koppe, Jim Miller, and Len Franch will represent University High.

The committee for selecting graduation announcements and the types of print for the name cards includes Susan Rogers, Jim Miller, Kenny Warren, Bob Newburn, Joan Freis, Sandra Plasm, Otto Krueger, Bob Fehly, Kitty Lou Shaw.

The senior counseling class is now studying vocations. Mary Mersdorf is chairman of the committee which planned this unit. Betsy Erb was appointed to find speakers for each vocation. Another committee will then take notes on the talk, mimeograph them and then pass them out to the students in the class. All of the class have the opportunity of taking the complete battery of tests at the University of Oregon; the same tests which are taken by all incoming students to the university. This includes a personal interview and vocational guidance.

Dale Martineau is teaching the first year Spanish students the Mexican Hat Dance, which may be used on an assembly later in the year. Both the Spanish and the French classes are going to learn Christmas carols in their respective languages. They hope to serenade the various houses on the University of Oregon campus.

Co-chairmen for the Pep Club assembly to be given Oct. 29 are Betsy Erb and Denalda Brown. Ed French is director of the Hi-Y assembly to be presented to the student body Oct. 28.

All students interested in joining the Canteen Bowling Club are asked to meet Nov. 2, at the U Bowl at 3:30 p.m.

We Weren't Scared

The onion editor received a snake from Mrs. Briley of McCredie Springs Saturday morning. It is black on top and has a bright orange underbody. The total length of the snake is about 9 inches. The University of Oregon biology department identified it as a ring neck snake, part of the grass snake family. The identifier said that they seldom grow over a foot long. They are harmless.

Alexander the Great shaved clean, and started a fashion among the Greeks and Romans that lasted for the next 500 years.

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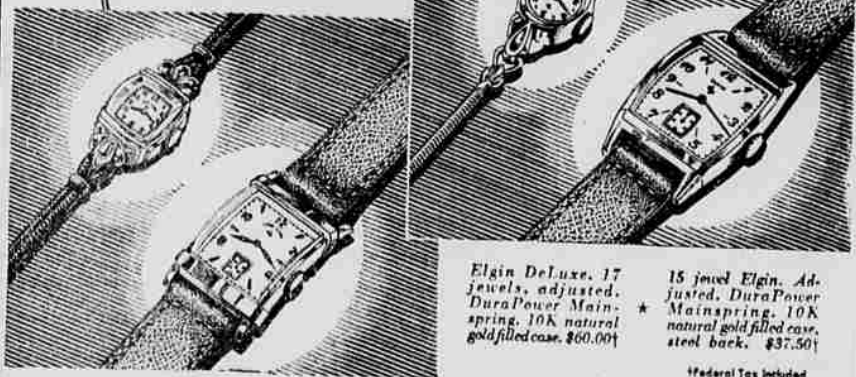
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