

Oregon Builds Better Highways for Travelers

By JAMES D. OLSON

Tourists entering Oregon during the 1953 season will witness a gigantic state-wide highway construction program in progress, and yet will encounter but few detours and slow progress on but few stretches of road under construction.

Present U. S. Highways 99 extending north and south from the Washington state line to the California boundary and U. S. Highway 30 extending along the Columbia river from Portland through Eastern Oregon are being replaced by freeways.

These two freeways will

have access control, insuring rapid and safe driving from one end of the state to the other. Property has been and is being acquired by the state highway commission to provide from 300 to 500 foot right-ways to preserve the natural beauty along the highways and prevent bill boards from marring the beauty.

At present the state highway commission is in the beginning of the third year of a five-year program, during which time in addition to the federal aid funds, its normal income, proceeds from \$32,000,000 of bonds will be expended on the primary highway system in the state.

At the end of the five year period, Ben R. Chandler, chairman of the state highway commission, predicts that 400 miles of Highway 99 will be replaced by freeways.

Grade separation structures are planned at many points on the two freeways to enable traffic to enter or leave the freeways; overhead and underground crossings are being constructed to by-pass present highways and county roads as well as rivers and railroads.

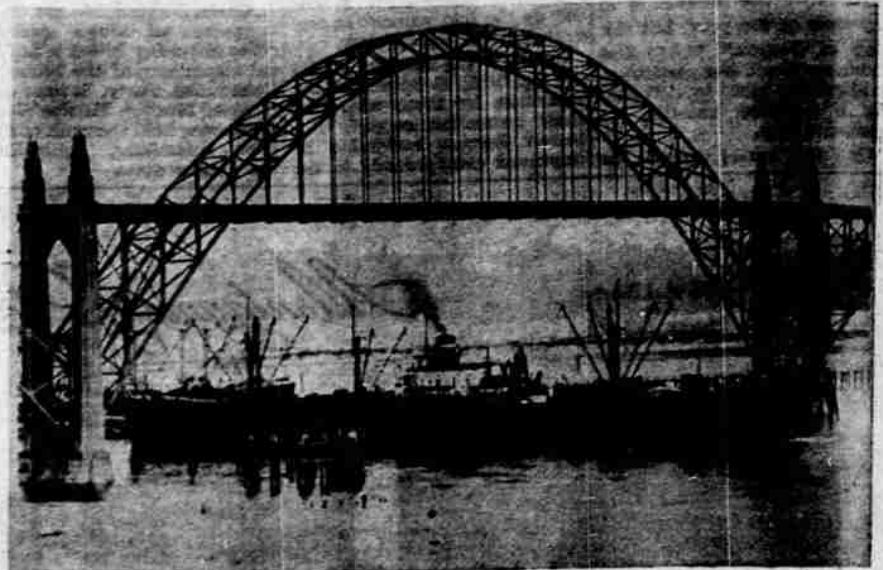
In national forests in the state the highway commission in its road program by furnishing allocated funds to the U. S. Bureau of roads for construction of highways with the limits of the forest. Such roads are designed in alignment to join the new highways under construction by the state.

On U. S. Highway 99 from Brookings to Elbow Lake, considerable work is in progress. While not designed as a freeway many miles of newly located highway, designed to eliminate many of the sharp curves on the coast highway, is being built.

In mountainous areas both the state and the U. S. Bureau of roads are constructing highways with a passing lane. This extra lane will enable heavy trucks to pull to one side on the third lane and allow traffic free passage.

It is believed that the passing lanes were originated in Oregon after it was found that truck drivers frequently pulled to one side on grades to allow passenger cars to move on. The state highway department made some widenings and soon the passing lane was developed. It is now a part of the

FREIGHTER GOES UNDER NEWPORT BRIDGE



The lumber carrier North Beacon is shown passing under the bridge across Yaquina bay, Newport, on the famed Oregon coastal highway. The five bridges on this highway have won nationwide acclaim for their beauty.

Silver Falls Draws Top Park Attendance

Attendance in state parks increased considerably in 1952 with an estimated 5,390,421 people visiting the parks as compared with 4,312,318 in 1951 and 3,648,455 in 1950, according to C. H. Armstrong, superintendent of state parks.

Silver Falls park drew the largest attendance during the year, 242,724 persons having registered in the guest book in 1952. Attendance at other major parks was as follows: Wallowa Lake, 231,093 persons; Sunset Bay, 191,910; Armitage, 181,992; Honeyman, 175,947 and 134,460 persons at Ecola state park.

Tracts Donated to Oregon State Parks

Several gifts of land for existing state park areas were made during 1952. These include: 7.02 acres given by Multnomah county for Crown Point state park on the old Columbia river highway; 0.90 acre deeded by Caroline Leadbetter, Ralph B. Jones and others at Devil's Punch Bowl state park on the Oregon coast and one acre at Hilgard Junction state park donated by the Mount Emille Lumber company, eight miles west of La Grande.

New water systems were installed in 1951 at Silver Falls and Sarah Helmich state park in the Willamette valley; at Hilgard state park in Eastern Oregon and at Harris Beach and Boiler Bay state parks on the coast.

interstate highway specifications used throughout the United States in new highway construction on long grades.

Oregon highways are being rapidly modernized, to care for the ever increasing traffic utilizing highways in every sec-

tion of the state. This highway modernization program, designed by the state highway department and approved by

the highway commission, will in but a few years, give Oregon the finest highway system in the country.



Vacation Time
Is

FUN TIME

Make this vacation your most carefree with a gay new coiffure by

Erich of New York

With a fresh, sparkling, new permanent wave by Erich you can kiss your hair problems goodbye. Relax during this vacation... Don't fret about straight, straggly hair that never seems to look right... Make an appointment with beauty... maybe today... for sure tomorrow!

Phone 3-3921

ERICH of New York

251 N. LIBERTY

Camp Blankets

100% Virgin Wool
Greys, Blues, Kahki, Greens

5⁹⁵ to 7⁹⁵

Use them after vacation for children's beds, extra rooms, etc. Open all day Saturday.

Kay Woolen Mill Store

260 So. 12th
"THE STREET THE TRAINS RUN ON"