

Toll Roads Not Answer to Financing of Highways

Washington (AP)—Toll roads and turnpikes will answer only a small part of the problem of financing an estimated 50 billion dollars worth of needed highway construction, a national conference on highway financing was told Thursday.

Speakers at the opening session of the two-day conference, sponsored by the United States Chamber of Commerce, said

toll roads could pay for themselves on only about 5,000 to 8,000 miles of the most heavily traveled routes in the country.

"While the possibilities of toll financing are not to be overlooked, neither should the public be deceived into the notion that here is the painless, taxless cure to our highway ills," said R. M. Cettel, University of California transportation economist. It was he who gave the 50-billion-dollar highway cost estimate.

The conference debated a proposal of the Conference of State Governors that the federal government withdraw from gasoline taxation, leaving this revenue source to the states. Federal highway aid also would be withdrawn.

This met objections from the American Assn. of State Highway Officials, on the ground that the states might not boost their gas taxes to replace the federal levy—thus leaving less money for road and highway work than now is available.

Cettel suggested what he termed an interim solution: As a state raised its gasoline tax, the government would cut the federal levy in that state by the same amount. Direct state revenues would be increased by about a billion dollars a year, with the funds being available in the states where the tax was collected.

"After a time the federal government could repeal its tax, and the state could then adjust their taxes in the light of highway conditions then existing," Cettel said.

The meeting was expected to draw about 350 representatives of the state, local and federal governments, industry representatives, and other before it closes Friday night.

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Fence Approved Around Dalles Dam

Portland (AP)—The State Highway Commission yesterday approved construction of a fence along U.S. Highway 30 around The Dalles dam. Cost will be about \$27,200 for which the state will be reimbursed by federal funds.

DRIVER INNOCENT

Albany — A jury freed Paul E. Jacobsen from a drunken driving charge on which he had been arrested September 6 on the Pacific highway near Albany by state police.

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Green Peter Next on List

Eugene (AP)—The Willamette Basin Project Committee urged congress Wednesday to appropriate money for planning of two more dams in Willamette river tributaries.

On is the Cougar Creek project on the South Fork of the McKenzie river, the other the Green Peter dam on the Santiam river.

Irrigation projects also received support. The committee urged congress to provide money for a study of Yamhill river water resources development, and called on the reclamation bureau to study the proposed Muddy Creek and Hopewell irrigation projects in Lane and Linn counties.

Rep. Walter Norblad, speaking at the annual meeting, said 40 per cent of the money voted by congress in the last civil functions appropriations bill was for projects in the Willamette and Columbia basins.

Rep. Homer Angell said in a question-and-answer session that he believed congress might well divert money from foreign expenditures to development of natural resources at home.

Gus Moore Will Be Installed Saturday

Gus Moore, general secretary of the Salem YMCA will be installed president of the Northwest area of the Y Secretaries association, Saturday night.

The installation will take place during the final session of the annual conference of the secretaries, to be held at the Menucha conference grounds east of Portland. The deliberations, scheduled for Friday and Saturday, will also be attended by Larry Woods of the local association, and a number of Willamette university students who are interested in YMCA work.



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Clear Lake

Clear Lake — Harmony Rebekah lodge No. 75 and Gervais lodge No. 121, IOOF, will meet for a joint Christmas party at Quinby hall at 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14.

An exchange of gifts and treats for the children followed by a short program will be features of the evening. All members, their families and their friends are invited to attend. Members are asked to bring cake, cookies, candies or sandwiches for a no-host lunch.

On the committee are Mrs. Frank Adams, Mrs. Harvey Lea, Mrs. Hal Veerstep, Mrs. Charles Rogers, Mrs. Dale Boyd, T. C. Mason, Hal Veerstep, and Vernon Windsor.

CHARGE DISMISSED
Albany — A charge of possessing untagged venison that had been filed against Robert Olaf Bradley in district court here has been dismissed on motion of the district attorney. Bradley was arrested Oct. 11 at the Santiam highway junction by a state police officer.

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