

# Freeways 3 Times as Safe as 2-Lane Roads

By PAUL W. HARVEY JR.  
The highway engineers didn't decide to build freeways just because they are faster. A major reason is that they are safer. The Oregon Highway Commission recently received a report from the federal Bureau of Public Roads which summarizes an investigation made in 19 states.

It shows that on freeways, such as the R. H. Baldock Freeway between Portland and Salem, the traffic death rate is 2.8 per 100 million miles. On expressways, where access is only partly controlled and there are crossings at grade, the rate soars to 8.6, making this the most dangerous type of construction as far as fatalities are concerned. The rate on the old two-lane convention highways is 8.0.

There are 171 injuries per 100 million miles on freeways, 240 on expressways or partly-controlled access roads, and 408 on other highways.

Oregon won't have any expressway construction. It will be all freeways from here on out.

Another study shows the same results for freeways and expressways inside metropolitan areas.

If the Baldock Freeway is to be a pattern, the speed limit on Oregon's new freeways will be 70 miles an hour. This will apply on Routes 99 and 30.

Access to highways is limited by purchasing the access rights from abutting property owners. The Highway Commission can change present highways into freeways as long as there aren't more than 10 business establishments per mile. The commission will ask the Legislature to remove that restriction.

It's usually too expensive, however, to pay for access rights on existing roads. So the commission generally builds over entirely new routes.

In 1947, the Highway Commission asked the Legislature for permission to change existing highways into freeways. The Legislature did, but put that "10 or more" restriction in.

That's when the commission first decided to build the freeway between Portland and Salem. It couldn't possibly have changed Pacific Highway East into a freeway with that restriction in the law.

There was a big legislative fight over that law in 1947, with the motel owners vigorously opposing it. There will be another one in 1957.

The commission says it needs to have the restriction removed in order to comply with federal regulations that will apply to reconstruction of U. S. 99 and 30. Some parts of those present routes will have to be made into freeways.

The commission adds that if the

Legislature doesn't take action, then the federal government will come in and do the job. However, the commission isn't just asking for unlimited rights to restrict access on those two routes. It wants to do it over the whole highway system.

The commission reports that

## Doane's Poll Shows 21.2 Pct. Drop in Ike Farm Popularity

ST. LOUIS (UP)—The Doane Agricultural Service Inc., reported today a poll conducted by its countrywide farm panel shows that President Eisenhower's popularity among the nation's farmers has dropped 21.2 per cent since 1952.

The Doane organization, a private farm research and manage-

## Benson Plans Barnstorming To 111 Towns

CHICAGO (UP)—Secretary of Agriculture Benson Thursday said he will "join battle" with his Democratic critics in a barnstorming blitz of the nation's farm areas.

He announced that he will travel by small plane and even by ranch wagon on a tour that will take him to as many as 10 communities a day and to 111 farm towns in three weeks.

Benson made known his revised campaign plans in a statement of fighting tenor he read at a news conference. He said "both candidates of the opposition party" had made him a campaign issue, and he added:

"I welcome the fight. I am eager to personally and aggressively join battle with them."

"If political enemies want to make me personally an issue in this campaign, it is fine with me," the Benson statement said. "I'll meet them where it counts, right at the country crossroads of America."

"I plan on using ranch wagons and small airplanes to make speeches in as many as 10 communities a day. So far we have developed a new schedule to visit 111 farm communities in Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, California, Idaho, Montana, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan in the next three weeks."

Benson said he had cancelled all but "certain unbreakable" engagements to plan a trip that will carry him to as many farm towns and county seats as possible before the Nov. 6 election.

nearly everybody thinks the Baldock Freeway is wonderful, but there are some complaints.

For instance, one state official complains that the commission is failing to put the mileage on highway direction signs. A sign points to Portland, for instance, but doesn't say how far it is.

The commission answers that it can't put the mileage on the signs until the construction program is completed. With new construction projects constantly shortening distances, the commission would be constantly changing the mileage figures, too.

The survey showed that, by regions, defections from the Eisenhower camp were greatest in the south central states where 36.6 per cent switched to Stevenson, 27.7 per cent in the west north central states, 24.2 per cent in east north central states, 27 per cent in the western states and 11.9 per cent in the north Atlantic states.

The survey showed that, of the farm families polled, only 73 per cent of President Eisenhower's backers in 1952 have remained loyal to his candidacy while 90.2 per cent of Stevenson's supporters four years ago plan to vote for him again.

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## 655 New Polio Cases Reported

WASHINGTON (UP)—There were 655 new polio cases reported by 47 states last week. No report was received from Rhode Island.

The total is 110 less than all the states reported in the week ended Sept. 22, and a Public Health Service spokesman said Friday "we can expect a continuous decline now."

The spokesman also said present indications are that the 1956 total of cases will be approximately half the 1955 number.

Last week's total of 655 compared with 1,259 in the comparable 1955 week.

Up through Sept. 29 there had been 12,153 cases this year, compared with 23,010 a year ago. For this disease year, which started April 1, there had been 11,088 as compared with 21,947 for the 1955 span.

## Retail Sales Records Eyed

NEW YORK (UP)—Fall retailing will set new all-time records for the fourth quarter, both in dollar volume and unit sales, it was pre-

dicted Thursday by Sales Management magazine. The selling boom, the magazine said, comes after a comparative lull in the third quarter, reflecting effects of the steel strike and the low point in automobile sales. The magazine noted a downward progression for the past three quarters in retailing gains over 1955. For the first quarter, the 1956 gain over 1955 was 6.4

per cent; for the second quarter, 2.5 per cent; and for the third, about 1.6 per cent. September sales, the magazine said, barely exceeded those of 1955. Among states expected to show a better than average performance this October over the same month a year ago are: Alabama, Arizona, Connecticut, Florida, Montana, Oregon and Vermont.

Winning Pictures At Stayton High STAYTON (Special)—On display this week and next week until Oct. 12 are 50 winning exhibits of the National High School Photography awards, under sponsorship of the Eastman Kodak Co., in Stayton Union high school cafeteria.

The display is being shown in schools which have had winners. One of Stayton's students received an honorable mention award last year; for that reason the exhibit is being shown here. Aluminum ingot exports from Taiwan in China to the U. S. in the first six months of 1956 were 630 tons.

JUST ARRIVED! ANOTHER SPECIAL SHIPMENT!

# SEARS ROEBUCK AND CO. coat sale

brand-new winter coats priced below wholesale now's the time to buy a winter coat and save!

- all-wool fabrics... fleeces and suedes
- smart silhouettes, good this season and next
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You'd never expect to find coats like these for the ridiculously low price of \$16, yet here they are! The result of a special purchase! Coats with fashion... new details... deep, deep turn-back cuffs, distinctive stitching. Coats in rich all-wool fabrics... clear or smoky fleeces, tweed checks. All warmly interlined and beautifully lined. The season's loveliest colors.

values to \$29<sup>98</sup>

# \$16

"CHARGE IT" ON SRC

hurry in! these coats won't last long!

- luxury tweeds... fleeces, boucles, suedes
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- many exclusive Sears maker-to-wearer styles

For those who demand the tops in styling and a luxury look... but won't pay high-flown prices. Here are coats that rate high in style and workmanship but are priced way down-to-earth. Take advantage of this sale and get a coat you'll enjoy right now and next winter, too. They're all lined with iridescent acetate and rayon taffeta. Come in many flattering colors.

values to \$39<sup>98</sup>

# \$21

"CHARGE IT" ON SRC

WOMEN'S WEAR—MAIN FLOOR

## Statement of Condition

SEPTEMBER 26, 1956

### The United States National Bank OF PORTLAND

RESOURCES	
Cash on Hand and Due from Banks	\$ 162,160,103.16
United States Government Bonds	251,953,570.34
Municipal and Other Bonds	72,157,952.13
Loans and Discounts—Net	346,316,898.69
Stock in Federal Reserve Bank	1,200,000.00
Bank Premises (Including Branches)	11,371,444.33
Customers' Liability on Acceptances	180,991.80
Interest Earned	2,677,586.46
Other Resources	379,008.22
	<b>\$ 848,397,555.13</b>
LIABILITIES	
Capital	\$ 20,000,000.00
Surplus	20,000,000.00
Undivided Profits	19,388,034.25
	<b>59,388,034.25</b>
Reserves for Interest, Taxes, etc.	5,509,171.53
Acceptances	180,991.80
Dividends Declared	1,300,000.00
Deposits	771,842,344.75
Interest Collected Not Earned	4,803,009.51
Other Liabilities	5,374,002.29
	<b>\$ 848,397,555.13</b>

This statement includes 62 branches in Oregon  
HEAD OFFICE, PORTLAND, OREGON



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Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

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- NORTH SALEM BRANCH: 1990 Fairgrounds Rd.
- UNIVERSITY BRANCH: 1310 State St.
- WEST SALEM BRANCH: 1117 Edgewater

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