

27 New Bridges, Costing Half-Million Dollars, Nearing Completion

Many Older County Spans Replaced; Locations Varied

County, Forest, State Share Building Costs

By the time construction projects started this year are complete, the county will have 27 new bridges, costing close to half a million dollars, according to figures prepared by County Engineer Paul Rynning and Rogue River National forest officials.

The new bridges, many of them already completed, are located throughout the county. Most of them replace older spans which time and increased traffic have made obsolete.

Most By County

Twenty-two of the new bridges were built completely, or in part with Jackson county funds. Three of them were built by the forest service, and two by a private timber operator under terms of a forest service timber sales contract.

Fifteen of the new county-built bridges were constructed out of concrete, with county funds. Two of them are made of steel taken from another county bridge which was dismantled and replaced some time ago. One is made of creosoted wood, and five are being built of concrete, with federal and state aid.

Probably the most impressive of the 27 new bridges, and the one costing county taxpayers the largest amount of money, is the steel span over Butte creek on Cobleigh rd., north of Butte Falls.

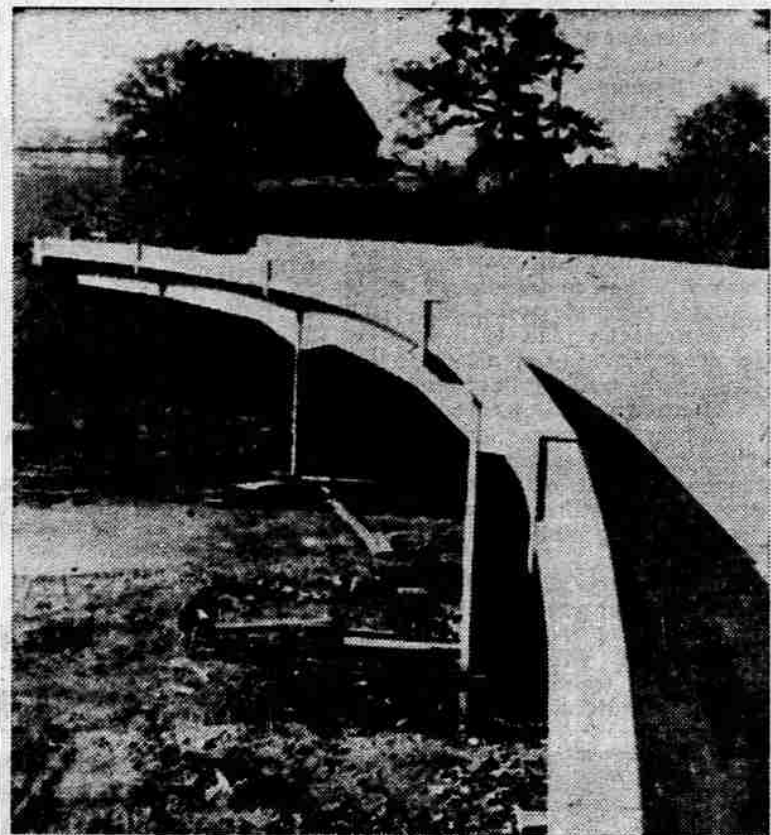
Replaces Covered Bridge

Costing approximately \$55,000, this bridge replaces an old, somewhat decrepit, covered bridge, about two or three miles east of the Butte Falls highway. In addition to the new bridge, the road west of the span has been relocated and straightened.

The new bridge goes high over Butte creek, while the old span, which has been left for private use upstream about half a mile, cleared the water by only a few feet.

Steel for the bridge came from the old Bybee bridge, across the Rogue river northeast of Medford. When the old Bybee bridge was replaced by a modern span, the steel was salvaged. One half of the old Bybee bridge went into the Cobleigh rd. bridge, while the other half is utilized in a new bridge built over Trail creek this year at a cost of \$14,150. As Rynning points out, the county would not have been able to afford steel bridges of the quality of those now crossing Butte creek and Trail creek, if it had not been for the salvaged steel from Bybee bridge.

One of the principal advantages of the new Cobleigh rd.



UPTON ROAD BRIDGE—Upton road bridge, shown above, was opened to traffic about a month ago after being constructed this year at a cost of \$52,439. The new span replaces an old wooden bridge which had become outmoded because of increased traffic and age. The new bridge is located northeast of Central Point.

bridge at the present time is that it removes what had been a terrific hazard for logging trucks coming out of the area north and east of Butte creek. The county engineer estimates that several million board feet of timber will be brought over the new bridge in coming years.

Despite the beauty of the new Cobleigh rd. span, many Jackson county oldtimers may have a little regret for the passing of

the old covered bridge it replaces. Only 10 of the picturesque covered spans are left in the county and several of them are due to be replaced in the next few years.

The most expensive of the 27 new bridges is Hilton bridge, over Bear creek, on Table Rock rd. The concrete span, costing \$61,500, is constructed with federal and state aid. This means that the county and state each



SMOOTHING CONCRETE—Minshall Construction company crewmen are shown above as they smooth cement on the floor of a new bridge spanning Evans creek. The bridge is one of two built at a cost of \$23,375.

put up 20 per cent of the cost, while the federal government puts up the remaining 60 per cent.

Across Applegate

Another large concrete bridge, this one costing \$51,115, is being built in Jackson county with state and federal aid. Known as Cameron bridge, it will cross the Applegate river about midway between Ruch and McKee bridges.

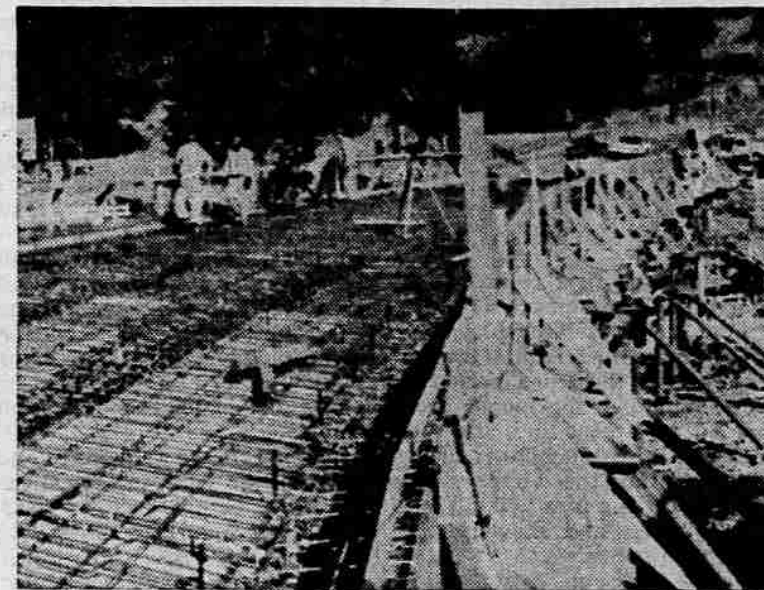
Work on Cameron bridge is being rushed to get as much of the project as possible completed before high water on the Applegate. This concrete bridge is built on a wide, sweeping curve, and plans call for relocating a short section of the highway on

the west side of the river to eliminate a sharp kink in the road. Cameron bridge, like Hilton bridge, will replace an old creosoted wood bridge which has outlived its usefulness.

Three other bridges, all of them over Thompson creek on Thompson Creek rd., have been built this year with state-federal aid. Costing a total of \$54,000, they are located southwest of Applegate.

Largest County Span

Largest of the spans being built with only county funds is northeast of Central Point. Costing a total of \$52,439, it was opened to traffic about a month ago. The contractor was Central Heating company.



NEW BRIDGE OVER APPLAGATE—Workmen are shown above preparing the new Cameron bridge, over the Applegate river, for concrete work. The new span, built on a wide, sweeping curve, will cost \$51,115, and will replace an old wooden bridge located on a sharp curve. The new bridge is approximately midway between Ruch and McKee bridge.

Upton bridge not only removes a traffic hazard created by the old creosoted wood bridge, but also ends a stream-flow problem that plagued county road crews for many years. The old bridge was so near the water, and had so many supports, that it acted as a trap for all drift wood coming down Bear creek. The problem has been removed by a higher bridge, with fewer supports.

Three concrete box-culvert type bridges have been constructed over the Copco canal and Red Blanket creek, in the Prospect area, at a cost of \$34,300, and five small concrete box-culverts have been built over Jackson creek and Griffin creek at a cost of \$32,310. Contractor

for the Prospect area bridges was H. Barnhart, while Lowe and Beeson built the Jackson creek-Griffin creek spans. All eight of the bridges are being built with only county money.

Concrete bridges over Beaver creek and Forest creek, tributaries to the Applegate river, have been built by C. M. Patterson at a cost of \$28,780 in county funds. Minshall Construction company is contractor for two bridges over Evans creek, built for \$23,375 in county money.

Concrete spans over Jackson creek and Neil creek were built at a cost of \$15,340, and a creosoted wood bridge has been built over Foothills creek at a cost of \$15,000.

Three bridges were built this

year by the forest service with federal funds, and two were built by a private timber operator, using his own funds, under terms of a national forest timber sale contract.

Largest of the bridges built by the forest service is a \$40,000 span over Rogue river at Woodruff meadows. Built of reinforced concrete, it is 170 feet long and 26 feet, or two lanes, wide.

The other two forest service bridges, each costing about \$10,000, are on Hutton rd. over Elliott creek, and on Buzzard Mine rd. over Elk creek. Both are built of creosoted wood and concrete foundations.

The two privately built bridges, both of which are open to the public, were constructed by Steve Wilson. The largest, which is 70 feet long by 14 feet wide, is on Abbott Creek rd. over Woodruff creek, and is built of creosoted wood with creosoted wood piling.

The second, 55 feet long by 14 feet wide, is on Sunshine rd. over Abbott creek, and is built of untreated wood on treated piling.

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Portland Man Held In Washington on Two Rape Charges

Chehalis, Wash. — (U.P.) — A young Portland, Ore., man was being held by sheriff's officers here Saturday after he admitted to deputies he raped one woman and attempted to rape another after forcing them at gunpoint to disrobe.

Merlin C. Long, 21, admitted in a signed statement after his capture here two hours after the assaults Friday that he forced the women to take off their clothes in a brushy area near McCleary, 40 miles northwest of here.

Radio Pick-Up Order

The tall, slender youth was arrested on a radio pick-up order broadcast by authorities in McCleary.

The youth said he picked up the two women, one about 35 and the other somewhat younger, while he was having his car gassed at a Portland service station. He said he told them he was driving to Bremerton. The women accepted a ride, he said.

Bought Ammunition

Driving north, Long said he stopped here to buy some shells for his .32 caliber pistol, which deputies said they found in the glove compartment of Long's car. Then he drove to McCleary.

Near the small lumber town, he ordered the women at gunpoint to get out of the car and disrobe. He tied their hands behind their backs. Long said when he left, the women still were nude, their hands still tied. However, he left his jackknife and it was with that the women cut themselves loose.

Deputies said the women dressed and went for help, giving a description of Long's car to deputies in McCleary.

Oregon's Employment Keeps on Even Keel

Salem — (U.P.) — Food processing, construction and trade declined seasonally last month, but gains in lumber and logging, and governmental activities, kept employment on a fairly even keel in most parts of Oregon, the State Unemployment Compensation Commission said Saturday.

Non-farm jobs were estimated at 471,700 compared with 483,000 a month before and 475,100 a year ago.

'Caveman' Denies Slayings Of Five Los Angeles People

Los Angeles — (U.P.) — A 23, spotted Perovich last Sunday drinking from a bottle of vodka as he slouched on the side of a hill in Elysian Park.

Watched Through Brush

The couple said Perovich was "such a weird looking character" they peered at him through some brush until they heard a shot, and then ran away.

Four more shots sounded as they hurried downhill, the couple said, and the man came lunging down the incline as if after them, a pistol in hand.

Police officer Jack Klepper, summoned by the couple, seized Perovich, but while Klepper was questioning the suspect, Perovich broke loose and escaped into the brush.

Klepper, however, had Perovich's .22-caliber pistol and his wallet containing identification. Police records showed Perovich had been arrested previously for carrying concealed weapons and once had been committed to the state hospital at Camarillo, Calif., as an alcoholic.

Police said the sniper suspect had been living like an animal in caves, under bridges and behind bushes.

The five murder victims in the mountainous areas to the north and northwest of Los Angeles since 1952 were Fred C. Bayha, 34, Van Nuys; Gaston Valcourt, 40, Hollywood actor; Albino Avila, 55, Los Angeles; and two transients, Sherman Coughran and Gordie L. Janoe, both 35.

The 10-man court found Anderson guilty of six counts of murdering his men, four of conduct unbecoming an officer and one of conduct prejudicial to good order. He was acquitted of six other counts.

Not Imprisoned While he was spared the possible year of imprisonment for each count of guilt, the sentence amounted virtually to a dishonorable discharge for the 24-year-old veteran of Korean battle.

Anderson was the second officer in modern U.S. military history to be convicted of abusing his men. Carne said Anderson's case was "unique" in that it involved "over aggressiveness in training."

"Most other cases involve prosecution for lack of aggressiveness," Carne said.

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CONCERT SOLOIST — Keith Mirick, son of Medford Band Director I. A. Mirick and a senior at Willamette university, will be guest soloist Dec. 5 at the annual band benefit concert of the Medford High school band.

Tickets for the concert, which will raise funds for the band's trip to the Shrine East-West game in San Francisco, are available from any member of the band or at the high school. Young Mirick is well-known here for his trumpet work, and has played at a number of university affairs. He worked at the Rogue Valley Country club as entertainer last summer.

Arson Suspected in Blaze at Lewiston

Lewiston, Ida. — (U.P.) — The rainsoaked wooden grandstand at the Lewiston roundup grounds burned to the ground Friday night and firemen suspected an arsonist was responsible.

The fire was the sixth major blaze here in the past six months. Damage was estimated at more than \$500,000.

DOWN AND UP

Portland, Me. — (U.P.) — They talk about "compensating hurricanes" along Higgins Beach. Residents say Hurricane Carol knocked over a tree near the beach and that Hurricane Edna, 11 days later, blew it erect again.

Claims by Jobless Show Decrease as Layoffs Ceasing

Washington — (U.P.) — New unemployment insurance claims declined last week, partly because of a further drop in job layoffs in some industries.

The Labor Department reported Friday night that a decline of 19,300 in new claims to a total of 547,100 filed during the week ended Nov. 13.

Comparison Given

This total compares with 274,000 new claims filed during the same week a year ago and a 1954 low of 241,000 filed during the week ended Oct. 2.

The department also reported that continuing unemployment insurance claims declined by 56,500 to total 1,389,500 during the week ended Nov. 6. This compares to 982,900 such claims filed during the corresponding week a year ago.

The department said the decline in continuing claims resulted from recalls of workers in the automobile industry and exhaustion of benefit rights by still-unemployed persons as well as a rescheduling of claimant reporting because of the Veteran's Day holiday.

The department said 35 states reported decreases in new claims and 21 reported decreases in continuing claims.

Uraninite, pitchblende and caronotite are the more important uranium minerals.

Portland Police Have Busy Night

Portland — (U.P.) — Portland police Friday night had one of their busiest nights in months. They arrested at least 40 persons on a variety of charges, most of them drunkenness.

A stabbing at First and Jefferson and numerous brawls and street fights resulted in the arrests of several on after hours charges. Others were held on suspicion of robbery.

Friday night's arrests were not part of a planned raid such as that staged by police a week ago.

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