

White Paint to Be Used in Road Centerlines Soon

Plans to use white paint to mark centerlines, lane lines and edge stripes of Oregon's highways were announced today by W. C. Williams, state highway engineer, with the state highway department.

Williams said that the highway department intends to "take formal action in adjusting the color of traffic lane markings in the near future and to request all cities and counties in the state to bear this in mind regarding future traffic lane markings within their respective jurisdictions."

Dashed centerlines, dashed lane lines, and solid edge stripes will be white and all other markings will be yellow.

This means that yellow will be used for double centerlines, curb markings, to show parking prohibitions, no passing zone markings, joggle bars, and face and top of curb and raised islands.

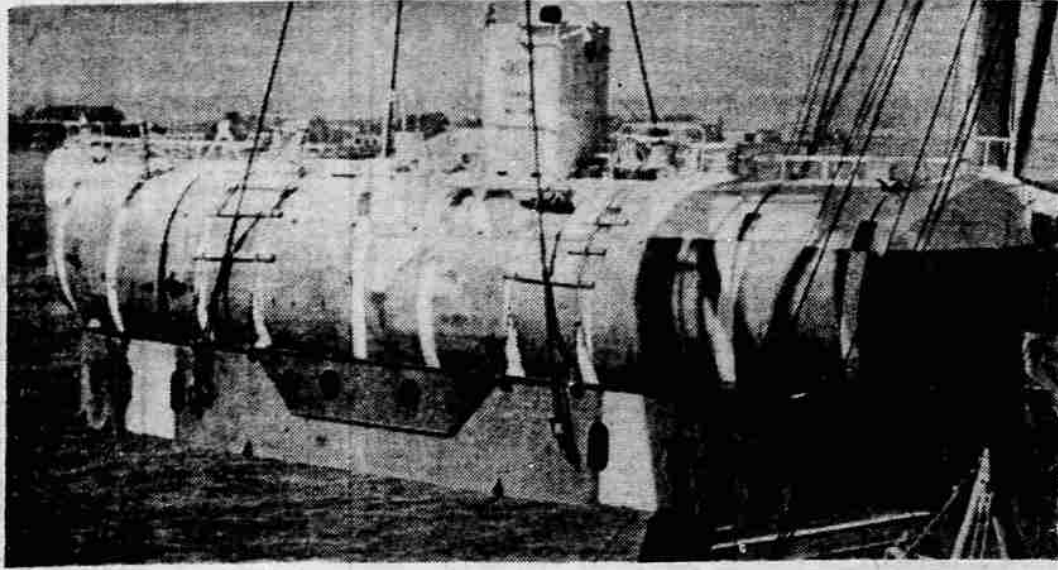
"Although the commission has taken no formal action in this direction," Williams stated, "it is their intent to do so and to make these adjustments on its system during 1960. It is hoped that cities and counties in Oregon will conform either during 1960 or no later than 1961."

It was understood that federal legislation makes white markings necessary for interstate highways built with federal funds.

Vernon Thorpe, Medford director of public works, said the city expects to conform with the new state style beginning with next summer's painting program. The change will affect only the center and lane lines on local streets, since all other markings are already yellow.

County Engineer Paul Rynning said about 350 miles of county roads will be changed with the new color beginning next summer.

Portland —UPI— A gunman Thursday night robbed a Safeway store here of an undetermined amount of money and made a clean getaway.



LOADING BATHYSCAPH aboard freighter Santa Mariana at San Diego, Calif., for shipment to West Pacific. U. S. Navy announces craft will probe ocean depths to 20,000 feet beneath surface near Marianas Islands during next few months.



Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins

Watkins Disproves Old Superstition

Horsehair ropes proved to be in rather short supply. No one I contacted had one, but I found several people who knew what they were; some even that had made and used them. All, however, assured me of the effectiveness of this material in preventing the close approach of venomous snakes. A couple of my informants elaborated on the horsehair rope legend by informing me that "a man sleeping on the ground, inside a circle made by a horsehair rope, was as safe from snakes as if he was locked inside a steel cylinder."

"The idea," these informed folks told me, was "a snake would never allow its tender and sensitive stomach to be pricked by hundreds of sharp horsehair ends, inasmuch as a horsehair rope was exceedingly prickly, due to the countless hair ends sticking out in every direction." A couple of old-timers recalled instances where "with our own eyes we have seen rattlesnakes going round and round outside the horsehair circle,

trying to get in to where the person was peacefully and safely slumbering."

These people further enlightened me by observing, "that snakes, being cold-blooded sought the warmth they knew they could find by curling up beside a sleeping human." This gave the snake a knowledge I could hardly believe; it seemed as impossible as thinking the reptile's scale covered undersides, were sensitive to the prick of bristles.

But some of the stories sounded reasonable up to a point, but proof seemed to be needed. We wanted to prove it; the only way this could be done was to get a snake, and a horsehair rope. It seemed simple. But there entered the bothersome old law of "supply and demand"; it nearly tripped us.

Due to extreme shortage of horsehair it was impossible to make a rope over ten feet in length. Laid on the ground, we just had room enough inside to place the snake. Finding the snake was no trouble. Carefully we arranged the

rope on the ground, one end overlapping the other end, in a sort of loop-sided circle, being careful that the rope touched the earth at all points.

The Acid Test

Picturing in our minds the discomfiture of what was to be a frustrated reptile, we placed it within the circle made by the horsehair rope. Here was the acid test; the snake would have to cross the horsehair, or spend the rest of its life within the hairy enclosure. The snake made up its mind; it straightened out, and slithered away, right over the horsehair rope, without a twitch or a twinge, or a second's hesitation.

We changed snakes. Perhaps it had to be a venomous one, so we placed a rattlesnake inside the circle. The result was the same; the snake crawled over the horsehair rope without a qualm. Evidently these snakes had never heard about avoiding such a thing as a horsehair rope. As a snake repellent, the rope was as weak as the superstition, or maybe today's snakes have less ticklish undersides than their ancestors.

Eugene —UPI— Rep. Charles O. Porter (D-Ore.) said Friday he was satisfied that "the governor will use his great powers" to help draft legislation for a National Park in the Oregon dunes area between Florence and Reedsport.

Family Council

Leona S. — I want the children home.

Jack S. — She isn't well enough to care for them.

Leona S. — I have been married seven years and have been very unhappy because of the interference of my sister-in-law.

After I had my second child I was very ill. My husband took our little boy to his sister Edna's home. Edna is childless and very well off. She was able to give him many advantages. Every time I asked to have him back, my husband said we should let him stay a little longer. I had to insist. Recently I had a third child. My husband took both of the older ones to his sister's. Edna has had them two months now and I want them home, but she and my husband keep saying they are better off with her.

I am not well, but I want the children home.

Jack S. — Leona is not well — either physically or emotionally. The doctor says she is the most nervous woman he has ever met. Edna is very calm, has servants, and can devote her full time to the children.

Leona seems to think Edna wants to steal the children away because she has none of her own. That isn't true. She'll send the children home as soon as Leona is well enough to care for them. I feel more at ease when Edna is taking care of them.

Ever since we've been married Leona has had this obsession that my sister wants to break up our marriage. She says I care more for my sister than for her. Of course this is ridiculous.

The Council: From these accounts, we think it very likely that both the husband and the sister-in-law in this case have contributed to Leona's illness — possibly both physical and emotional.

Leona cannot possibly recuperate normally if she cannot feel secure in her husband's loyalty — if her husband considers his sister a better mother for his children than his wife. She cannot feel reasonably happy if she can't bring up her own children.

We think the doctor in this case ought to be advised of all the facts. If he finds that

Neuberger, Porter Rapped by Appling

Salem —UPI— Secretary of State Howell Appling Friday accused Sen. Richard Neuberger (D-Ore.) and Rep. Charles Porter (D-Ore.) of an "overbearing attitude and shocking conduct... distastefully reminiscent of McCarthyism" in their handling of hearings on bills to create a national park on the Oregon coast.

Appling said the hearings at Reedsport and Eugene were not objective. "They have been conducted in such a way as to merely insure support of the position already taken by the bill's sponsor."

Neuberger and Porter are sponsors of legislation creating the Dunes Park between Florence and Reedsport.

Leona is not strong enough to care for the three children, some other solution should be sought. Perhaps Leona can get a paid helper in her home. Even if this puts the family into debt or if they have to make great sacrifices, it would be worth it for the long-run welfare and happiness of both mother and children.

We think Jack has a very distorted way of looking at this problem. It may not be due entirely to his sister's influence, but this is certainly a factor. Edna has obviously set herself up as the best judge of what is good for these children and for her brother and his wife. Jack obviously goes along with her ideas — even when he sees his wife is suffering because of it.

The children, who may now appear to be doing nicely in their fancy home, eventually will suffer the most from the ugly split in this family. Jack should be aware that he is at least as disturbed emotionally as his wife, although it may take a different form in him. He and his wife could probably profit from some guidance from a family service clinic.

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Miller to Study Request for Park

Jackson County Judge Earl M. Miller Friday indicated he planned to follow up a recommendation from the county parks and recreation commission on a proposed state park east of Rogue River.

The commission, meeting in the courthouse Wednesday, had recommended approval of the park project to the county court.

Judge Miller said he and Commissioner Chester Wendt both liked the idea. But, he would not commit the county to any part in financing land acquisition, development of facilities or maintenance.

He said such participation by the county was "not beyond the realm of possibility," however.

The park site is between the Highway 99 freeway on the north and the Rogue river, and east from the town of Rogue River to Homestead-on-the-Rogue.

Judge Miller said he intended to get in touch with Mrs. Harry White, who with her husband owns the property, and with state highway park head C. H. Armstrong. Of immediate concern is allowing in freeway plans for access to the park.

Support of the park idea by the county was recommended by John Leyen, mayor of Rogue River and county park commission member.

Principals Will Host President

Salem —UPI— Oregon high school and junior high school principals will be hosts to the president of the National Association of Secondary School Principals during their 31st annual state conference here Oct. 12-13.

The national president is Dr. Cliff Robinson, director of secondary education in the Eugene Public Schools.

Officers Reelected To Juvenile Council

All Oregon Juvenile Council officers of the past year were reelected to new one-year terms at the council's business meeting Friday.

Two new directors were named to two-year terms each. They are Don Miller, official of the MacLaren School for Boys, and Marjorie McBride, superintendent of the Hillcrest School for Girls.

They replace R. E. Renne and John Cain.

The reelected officers include Ronald E. McKenzie, Portland, president; Dan J. Cardwell, vice president; Bibiana M. Maher, secretary, and Wilbur A. Shafer, treasurer.

Washington —UPI— The Agriculture Department has estimated the 1959 corn crop at a record-breaking 4,429,154 bushels. This compares with the September estimate of 4,381,772,000 bushels.

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