

WORLD LISTS NEARLY 44 MILLION MOTOR VEHICLES THIS YEAR

Washington, D. C., Aug. 7 [Special].—The department of commerce today reported that world registrations of passenger cars, trucks, and buses last year increased the total to the record of 43,819,929 vehicles in operation as of Jan. 1, 1939. This was an increase of 741,299 vehicles, over 1.7 per cent, compared with the previous year.

Achievement of this record was attributed by the department to a rise of 7.1 per cent in the motorization of countries outside the United States, since registrations here at the end of last year declined slightly from the Jan. 1, 1938, figure.

Registrations in the United States included 25,964,260 passenger cars, 4,427,413 trucks, 156,237 buses and an estimated 5,000 diesel units.

STANDARD (CAL.) WINS OIL RIGHTS IN SAUDI-ARABIA

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BEIRUT, Syria, Aug. 7 [Special].—

A concession for oil covering the whole kingdom of Saudi-Arabia has been granted to the Standard Oil Company of California by King Ibn Saud, it was learned today.

For the concession the king received \$1,500,000 in gold. The king is to receive payments annually while the prospecting is going on and as soon as oil production begins in any part of the kingdom he is to receive royalties which will increase with production.

This vast concession granted to an American company is considered of utmost political significance. For years Italy has been trying to get an oil concession in Arabia. Within the last year Germany and Italy also have made attempts. King Saud, however, was said to have expressed distrust of the political aims of all European and far eastern powers.

ROOSEVELT SIGNS 3 BILLS REVISING LAW ON PATENTS

Washington, D. C., Aug. 7 (AP).—Three bills designed to simplify patent procedure were signed today by President Roosevelt.

One shortens and simplifies the contests in the patent office by eliminating one of the two or more appeals previously permitted.

Inventors are required by the second to file their application for patent within one year, instead of two as previously, after they make their invention known to the public.

The third requires that any person who believes himself a prior inventor must file an application within one year and start a contest within one year after a patent is granted. Previously two years were allowed.

New Auto Window Glass Made to Relieve Eyes

Toledo, O., Aug. 7 (AP).—The General Motors corporation and the Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass company announced jointly today development of new "eye glass" windows, for automobiles, designed to combat driving fatigue and visual inefficiency. Dr. Andrew H. Ryan of Chicago, former physiology professor, explaining the development, said an intensive study of the optical properties of glass was vital in the interest of highway safety.

Banks Have Until Feb. 1 to Revamp Directorates

New York, Aug. 7 [Special].—Despite the presidential veto of a bill to extend to 1943 the period in which directors or officers of one bank may hold similar posts in another bank, no changes in interlocking relationships will be forced until Feb. 1, 1940. The federal reserve board, which on Aug. 1 extended the deadline to next Feb. 1, intends to let its order stand, it was learned today.

Morgenthau Visits London; Denies Official Business

LONDON, Aug. 7 (AP).—Henry Morgenthau Jr., United States secretary of the treasury, stopped in London a few hours today en route to Denmark. He said his visit definitely had no connection with official business. Morgenthau said he planned to return to the United States on Sept. 6.