

# TO SPAN NATION WITH HIGHWAYS

*Angeleno Urges Three Cross-Country Routes.*

*Would Have Them Built Like Roman Roads of France.*

*Seeks Federal Aid Toward Starting Work this Summer.*

[EXCLUSIVE DISPATCH]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—H. J. Whitley of Los Angeles, one of the pioneers in good roads and boulevard building in Southern California, has been in conference with Senators and Congressmen here several days seeking some plan for building three national highways across the country. Mr. Whitley believes this work should be started at once to provide employment for thousands of returning soldiers and to make use of the motor transport released by the returning army.

He would have roads built under Federal control and according to Federal specifications in such a way that they would be as lasting as the Roman roads of France.

Having been one of the men who created Sunset boulevard and Sherman Way in Southern California, Mr. Whitley is using his time and influence here to secure legislation that will result in the triple roads from ocean to ocean. He likes the ideas put forward by Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General Blakeslee, who advocates one transcontinental highway via St Paul and the northern tier of States to Seattle and Tacoma, a second through Omaha and Denver to San Francisco, and a third by way of the southern route through El Paso and Yuma to Los Angeles.

He is also very much in favor of the plan of Senator Townsend to create a national highway commission of five members to make a national system of highways and appropriating \$425,000,000 during the next five years to bring about a con-

nected system of good roads. This plan contemplates the co-operation of all States and provides that no Federal aid shall be given unless States contribute in like manner with the national government.

Mr. Whitley is seeking some action that will permit this work to start this summer and permit the employment of large forces of men and the use of machinery built for the war. He believes that no more pressing work is before the country, and feels that no other means of closely uniting the States and particularly the Far West and Rocky Mountain States with the East can be developed with such great prosperity to all parts of the country.