

Foreword

THIS report contains the results of highway traffic studies of the Federal-aid, State-aid, and town road systems of Vermont conducted during 1926 under a cooperative research agreement between the Bureau of Public Roads, United States Department of Agriculture, and the Vermont State Highway Department.

The investigation was undertaken in order to obtain essential facts concerning traffic on Vermont highways as a basis for planning the development of the State highway system to serve present and future traffic.

The conclusions are based upon the present density, type, loading and distribution of traffic. These characteristics of the present traffic, as revealed by the survey, and modified by a study of present population and population trends, form the basis of a prediction of future traffic, and a traffic classification of the State highways; and the traffic classification, together with an analysis of other economic and physical factors, are the basis of the proposed plan of highway improvement.

The first section of the report contains a summary of principal conclusions, the second contains the detailed data of the survey and the third section the proposed plan of State highway improvement endorsed by the Vermont State Highway Department and the United States Bureau of Public Roads.

The highway traffic studies upon which the report is based were conducted under the joint supervision of Thos. H. MacDonald, Chief of the Bureau of Public Roads, and Charles W. Gates, George Z. Thompson, Emery A. Melendy, and W. A. Simpson appointed to succeed Charles W. Gates in 1927, members of the Vermont Highway Board, and Stoddard B. Bates, Commissioner of Highways. J. Gordon McKay, Chief of the Division of Highway Economics, Bureau of Public Roads, directed the work of the survey and preparation of the report, assisted by O. M. Elvehjem, E. T. Stein, L. E. Peabody and B. P. Root, all of the Division of Highway Economics, and Hubert E. Sargent, Vermont State Highway Engineer.