

Ints-Streets

# Progress Tour Of Expressway Stirs Optimism

16 Miles Are Expected To  
Be Ready For Use Within  
Next Two Years

## SOUTHERN LEG IS FIRST

CA-28-60  
Will Connect With Highway  
In Mississippi — Officials  
Of City, County And State  
Look Projects Over

By RICHARD T. ALLEN

Memphians can expect to ride  
over about 16 miles of express-  
ways within two years.

This optimistic forecast was  
made yesterday by state and  
local officials who toured ex-  
pressway construction projects  
and later outlined expressway  
progress at a public meeting at  
the Courthouse.

### Depends On Funds

Community leaders were told  
that, barring a cutback in in-  
terstate highway construction  
funds, they should be able to  
drive onto the southeast cir-  
cumferential expressway at  
Park and travel west 10 miles  
to the cloverleaf at Highway 51  
South (Bellevue). There, if they  
are headed to Mississippi, they  
should be able to turn south on  
the southern leg of the express-  
way and continue six miles un-  
til connecting with Mississippi  
Interstate Highway 55 already  
completed with the exception of  
paving.

William S. Pollard Jr., ex-  
pressway design engineer for  
Harland Bartholomew and As-  
sociates, said the southern leg  
probably would be the first ex-  
pressway segment ready for  
use. It is under construction  
with paving included in the  
contract. It should be opened  
by the spring of 1961, he said.

### Some Almost Ready

All 13.82 miles included in the  
southeast circumferential ex-  
pressway are now under con-  
struction, Mr. Pollard said. This  
includes the section from just  
west of Bellevue and Alcy to  
where it will connect with the  
interchange near Summer and  
White Station Road.

Portions of this segment, in-  
cluding interchanges and struc-  
tures, already have been com-  
pleted with the exception of pav-  
ing and lighting, officials point-  
ed out. This includes a 2.2-mile  
segment from near Highway 51  
South to just west of Airways  
and a 2.8-mile segment from  
west of Perkins to near Park.  
Paving contracts on this por-  
tion of the expressway were not  
included in construction con-  
tracts.  
A total of 63 miles of express-  
ways will be built in Memphis  
and Shelby County before the  
work is completed.  
**Road Commissioner Here**  
State Highway Commissioner  
D. W. Moulton, who flew here  
for the expressway meeting ar-  
ranged by Public Works Com-  
missioner William W. Farris,  
said paving would not be un-  
dertaken until "we get a usable  
section completed." However,  
he said "once paving is started  
it doesn't take long to com-  
plete."  
With exception of the Missis-  
sippi leg, it was indicated the  
first usable section would be  
from Park to Highway 51 South.  
The north-south expressway  
and the southwest leg of the  
circumferential are still in the  
design stage, but plans are near-  
ing completion, Mr. Pollard  
said.  
The proposed east-west ex-  
pressway is still "years off,"  
Mr. Pollard said.  
Commissioner Farris and  
County Commissioners Rudolph  
Jones and Dan Mitchell were  
hosts to about 30 city, county  
and state officials and commu-  
nity leaders on the construction  
tour and later at a luncheon at  
the Penal Farm.  
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