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CAUTION AND COURTESY

By Charles V. Stanton

Driving our ancient jalopy along the main drag in mid-afternoon recently we were forced to apply brakes quite suddenly to avoid striking a couple of women, armed with packages, who stepped out from between parked cars midway in the block, and, without a look in either direction, dashed across the street. When we came to the intersection, pedestrians filled the lane, but the driver ahead bulled through, and when we stopped (being polite for once) cars behind set up a Klaxon razzberry; so, we too, pushed through at the first opportunity, setting a couple of pedestrians back on their heels.

With streets filled with shoppers, automobiles, trucks, kids, and altogether too many stray dogs, it becomes a real adventure either to walk or drive through our main thoroughfares on a busy afternoon. It's about as dangerous, in fact, as trying to advance across an enemy minefield on a battle front, and about as risky to life, limb and future happiness.

One of our pet peeves is the jaywalker; that is, it's a pet peeve when we're not the offender. Crosswalks were made for pedestrians. Safety lanes have been established for pedestrian use. Crossing the street in the middle of the block is extremely dangerous—at least that's what we were told by a policeman in San Francisco, who chased us back onto the curb when we took our country carelessness to the big city. But, perhaps, the jaywalker isn't too much to blame after all, for when motorists insist on taking the right of way from pedestrians in the safety lane, why hasn't the pedestrian the right to cross the street where he pleases?

And another thing that gets our goat is the angle or double parking truck. Even though half a block may be open to parking space, it appears that delivery trucks must either be backed against the curb at an angle, thus occupying half the street, or else double parked while the driver makes deliveries, and, in some cases, holds lengthy conversation with friends on the sidewalk, or stops in the nearby tavern for a friendly glass of suds. Of course, when we double park the family buggy and dash into the drug store for a box of aspirin, and stop for a coke with a friend having an extra nicker, that's O.K. It's the other fellow's practice which rouses our ire.

And then there's the "long-lost-friend" technique. Two people who haven't seen each other for ages stop in the middle of the street on a busy intersection to rehash all the news of the last decade, while traffic slows to a snail's pace as the dialogue goes on and on.

We also have the "Family Hour," when papa pulls up at the intersection and mamma gets out of the car and stands with the door open while delivering last-minute instructions, observations, and cautions, cars in the meantime piling up for a couple of blocks behind.

Then, too, we have the horn virtuoso—the guy who always mounts on his jalopy the noisiest warning device obtainable, which he proceeds to sound at every opportunity. Always in a hurry, he must bang the horn whenever the car ahead gets under the speed limit, or is forced to a stop. He frightens pedestrians out of a year's growth if he comes within honking distance. His horn hand is heavier than the butcher's.

We could go on and on, but what's the use?

What we would really like to plead for is a little caution and a little courtesy on our streets in this busy Christmas season. Roseburg's streets are too narrow for the traffic forced upon them. Christmas shopping is unusually late. This is resulting in bigger than average street crowds. We can save serious accidents, and avoid needlessly frayed nerves, if, as pedestrians and motorists, we observe safety rules and common courtesy.

Government Plans To Ban Excesses In Housing Costs

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.

(AP) Reconstruction Director

John W. Snyder is studying

a plan designed to assure that

purchasers of new homes get

their money's worth.

The plan, applicable to dwell-

ings built under the government's

new housing program, has been

submitted by officials working

out details of a regulation which

will restore building materials to

a priorities system.

The regulation, to be put into

effect next week on order of

President Truman, earmarks 50

per cent of all building supplies

for houses or apartments costing

\$10,000 or less a unit.

This far there has been nothing

in drafts of the regulation to

make sure that builders sell

homes at prices reasonably related

to the cost. Quality controls

have been lacking.

This meant that a contractor,

after receiving government aid in

obtaining materials, could sell at

\$10,000 a home actually worth

only \$8,000.

"We've got to block that sort

of thing," said a high govern-

ment official who asked that his

name not be used.

"If we are going to flow ma-

terials into home construction,"

he continued, "we want to make

sure that veterans and others get

their money's worth of house."

Close Check Planned

The plan presented to Snyder

by the National Housing Agency,

Civilian Production Administration

and CPA provides for a check

of builders' specifications when

they apply for help in getting

materials.

If it were found that the build-

ers planned to sell the house at a price out of line with cost, his application for a materials priority would be denied.

In cases of assistance granted, there also would be a later check to determine whether the house was sold at a price reasonably close to that specified before construction.

Aides of Snyder are known to be skeptical about whether this program could be enforced.

Costly Spellbinding

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 17. (AP)—

This spellbinder must have been

in rare form:

Elmer Giff told police that

while he listened to an orator in

downtown Presbury Square, some-

one stole a \$75 stickpin. To get

it, he scissored off part of Giff's

tie.

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Jones Outlasts Lipscomb to Win Torrid Mat Brawl

After a 25-minute combat with Rufus Jones in the main—or meek—event of the weekly wrestling bill at the Roseburg Armory last Saturday night, Jack Lipscomb was so badly manhandled that he told Referee Elton Owen "I've had enough," and refused to continue action when the third and deciding round opened. Owen promptly awarded the decision to Jones, to the accompaniment of a roar of acclaim from nearly 700 spectators, a big majority of whom were with the Detroit Negro from start to finish.

Repeatedly taking refuge partly outside the ropes when the going got too rough for him, Lipscomb finally mauled his opponent, Jones, into submission to win the first fall in 10:35, then for added measure applied knee pressure on his prostrate foe's throat and followed with kicks to the body.

Jones Gets Revenge

Rufus went berserk in the second round, using head, fists and feet on the Indiana villain. He finally snared Lipscomb's head between two of the ropes, downed him with a headbutt, then turned on his helpless opponent and hammered him with-out mercy. When Owen regained

KRNR

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REMAINING HOURS TODAY

4:00—Fulton Lewis, Jr., Plough Cham-

ber.

4:15—Rev. Miller, National Baptist Ch.

4:30—Erskine Johnson, Flamingo Sales

Company.

4:45—Evening Vespers, Methodist

Church.

5:00—Musical Clock, Modern Furniture.

5:15—Superman, Kellogg Co.

5:30—News, Night-Wander Co.

5:45—Tom Mix, Ralston Purina Co.

6:00—Gibson Heater, Krenel.

6:15—E. S. Recup of Sports, U. S. Tire

Stores.

6:30—Night Bands, Coca Cola.

6:45—State and Local News, Keel

Maters.

7:00—Rhythm Round-Up, Luckwood

Maters.

7:30—The Lone Ranger.

7:45—Michael Shane, Union Oil.

8:00—Lyle Dance.

8:15—Alka Seltzer News.

8:30—Rex Miller.

8:45—Carlton's Furniture.

9:00—Starlight Serenade.

9:15—Fulton Lewis, Jr., Roseburg

Maters.</