

## Campaign Aims To Teach Driving In High Schools

By JANE EADS  
WASHINGTON—Training "with its feet on the ground" is being urged for the nation's high school students so that young people "who will drive cars anyway" will operate them with safety to themselves and others.

It is estimated that a million high school students begin driving automobiles each year. Records show that high-school-age drivers continue to pile up the worst accident toll of any age group. The American Automobile Association says that, based on miles driven per fatality, 16-year-old drivers as a group have a record more than nine times worse than drivers 45 to 50 years of age.

Whether we should teach driving in our high schools has been a much-debated question among parents and educators over the past several years.

The National Commission on Safety Education, backed by a subcommittee of school administrators, teachers and safety educators, favors such instruction. It says that the money lost through motor vehicle accidents in one year would pay for teaching over 40,000,000 persons how to drive safely and efficiently.

It adds that a complete one-semester course of instruction in driving, consisting of both classroom work and behind-the-wheel training, costs not more than \$30 per student, and often much less. A good classroom course in driving can be provided by any high school at little added expense.

Compulsory in Some States  
The minimum legal driving ages range from 14 years in some of our agricultural states, to 18 years in some of our industrial states.

The President's Highway Safety Conference in May, 1946, adopted a recommendation that secondary schools "provide driver education and training as an integral part of the curriculum for students approaching legal driving age, and other traffic safety activities for all age levels in the secondary school."

The commission reports that interest in driving instruction in high schools has been growing for more than a decade. Prewar high-school driving courses numbered several hundred. Many war-abolished programs are being reinstated. New courses are developing. In some states the legislatures have made the teaching of traffic safety mandatory in all grades.

Pamphlet Prepared  
The commission has put out a pamphlet, "Let's Teach Driving," intended "to guide the high schools in providing students with the best possible preparation for driving."

The suggested content of a high school driving instruction course is indicated in a 13-point outline contained in "Let's Teach Driving." Suggested subjects include how to operate a vehicle; laws governing the use of motor vehicles and the penalties for nonobservance; driver examining and licensing; traffic accidents, national, state, and local; characteristics of streets and highways; the motor vehicle as a mechanical device; human capabilities and limitations for driving and walking.

## Says Steel Costs Hiked By Miner's Wage Boost

CLEVELAND, July 10.—(AP)—President Charles M. White of Republic Steel Corp. declared yesterday the wage contract ratified by the United Mine Workers and the northern mine oper-

ators "has placed an unbearable burden on steel costs in relation to selling price."

White said "we have not, of course, had an opportunity to evaluate the terms of this contract into costs of steel but I personally do not see how the price of steel can any longer be held at roughly 24 per cent above 1936-1939 selling prices, especially when average steel wages are 93 per cent above those levels, to which must now be added substantial coal wage increases."

Soil conservation practices in the United States have increased production per acre an average of 20 per cent where they have been used, says the U. S. Department of Agriculture.



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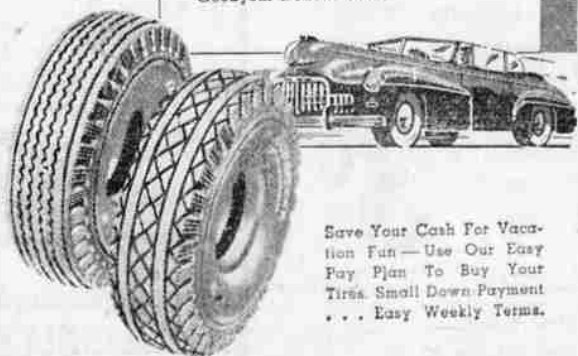
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