

The News-Review

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AUTOMOBILE SAFETY

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Having a touch of spring fever, resulting from a taste of sunshine, we "lift" material for this column today from the current issue of *Automobile Facts*, published by the Automobile Manufacturers association:

If you ask an automotive engineer to list those features in today's motor vehicles that add to their safety on the highway, he will tell you the list covers almost every item in the vehicle. For the building of safety into motor vehicles is so deeply ingrained in automotive engineering that it's the first consideration in every step of design, manufacturing and inspection.

This engineering pressure for safety in vehicles results from the knowledge of automotive firms that cars and trucks will be used by both good and poor drivers; that some motorists will fail to keep their vehicles properly serviced—and that many cars will be driven in weather when airplanes are grounded and trains are running at reduced speeds.

To see how safety in vehicle design has advanced, let's look back at the cars of 1920:

Most of them had fabric tops, with side curtains for bad weather. The curtains had tiny windows, making it hard to see out on either side.

There were no windshield defrosters, and no safety glass for the protection of passengers.

Most car bodies were made of sheet metal panels, attached to wood frames. Stiff springs and high-pressure tires made noise and vibration severe.

Blowouts were a constant threat. And the two-wheel mechanical brakes required nearly three times the stopping distance needed by today's cars.

Shifting of gears, and use of other driving controls, called for skill and did not let the driver keep his full attention on the road ahead.

The average car's life was about 25,000 miles. Axle shafts and gears broke down frequently.

Since then, safety improvements have come steadily.

They've come through stronger metals, better heat-treating of gears and other vital parts, and changes in the design or finishing of various parts. They've come in such details as a better seal on a bearing, to keep out dirt that causes wear; in a hundred design changes to make the car easier to operate, so the driver can concentrate on his driving.

Four-wheel brakes came along in 1923. Balloon tires in 1924. Safety glass in 1927. Welding of car bodies into all-steel units in 1934. Sealed-beam headlights in 1939.

Other advances before 1942 included elimination of projecting knobs and handles in the car; methods to keep children from accidentally opening doors while cars are in motion; steering wheels with flexible steel cores, so they'll bend but not break in the event of a crash; and improvements of gears, axles and other moving parts so today they almost never experience a failure.

Because of the greater durability built into it, the average car today gives over 100,000 miles of lifetime service, or four times as much as in 1920.

Since World War II, the advances in safety have continued.

Today's cars have bigger windows and lower hoods for more driver vision. Brakes are improved and last longer. Riding qualities also are better, and driving controls are simpler—all making for less driving fatigue.

And tires too have new safety features, including synthetic cords, lower air pressure, wider tread, and greater resistance to blowouts.

According to accident records, "vehicle defects" are reported today in 13 per cent of traffic accidents. Safety officials point out that in nearly all cases such defects are a result of lack of maintenance. For safe vehicle maintenance, automotive engineers recommend:

1. If the brake pedal can be depressed to within one inch of the floor, brakes should be serviced immediately.
2. Have the car lubricated every 1,000 miles at a dependable service establishment. Request that tires and other items be given a safety check when the lubrication is done.
3. A complete safety check every six months, covering brakes, tires, lights, windshield wipers, brake hose, steering gear, shock absorbers and the exhaust system.

Car Accidents Result In Suits In Circuit Court

John E. Newton and Pacific Indemnity Co., in a suit filed in circuit court against Michael D. Collins, asks damages of \$636.85. The suit is the result of a collision between Newton's car and a truck and trailer allegedly operated by Collins. The accident took place 11 miles south of Roseburg July 13, 1949.

Damages of \$435.17 are asked as the result of another car accident. Don Wilcher and Pacific Indemnity Co. ask this amount in a suit filed against Riley Hunter and Henry Wynant. The accident, involving the cars of the parties, took place Feb. 27, 1948, at Second Ave. and the highway in Sutherlin.

M. C. Munson asks judgment for \$3,500 alleged due on an original \$12,000 purchase of an Allis Chalmers tractor by M. D. and Lillian P. Sutherland, named as defend-

ants, along with the Douglas County State bank, which holds a \$1,000 interest in the equipment.

Edward M. Scollard has filed suit against the State Industrial Accident commission, demanding judgment for a temporary total disability rating, and then an award not in excess of permanent complete loss of use of one leg. The plaintiff alleges he sustained injuries Aug. 23, 1949, while employed as a truck driver and loader for Rutherford, Inc.

CRASH KILLS OFFICER

SPOKANE, April 1.—(P)—Frank C. Larson, a 22-year-old Spokane police force sergeant, was fatally injured Friday in an automobile accident.

Larson, injured in a collision, died in an ambulance on the way to a hospital. Chief of Police Clyde Phelps said Larson was out duty and alone in his own car. Larson drove into the rear of another car stopping at a traffic signal, the chief said. Three persons in the second car were hurt, all back and hip in-

The Voice Of Experience



In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

tractive sweetheart, Gee Gee. His defense is that his mind just went blank, and when she came to it had happened.

THERE is Dolly, the Ringling circus elephant. Over her long life, she had been kind and friendly to children, the story goes. A little 5-year-old boy was feeding her peanuts. Suddenly she seized him with her trunk, threw him on the ground and crushed his head under one of her huge feet.

They promptly put Dolly to death with cyanide.

LOOKING backward over the years, it seems to us who are older that there are more of these things now than when we were young.

Is that true? Or are we misled by the glamour that always attaches to the olden, golden days?

OR is it because communications are now so fantastically far advanced over the communications facilities of a few generations ago? In these days we hear almost everything practically instantly. In the olden days, news traveled slowly.

GENERAL EISENHOWER tells us that in Europe in World War II the percentage of military rejections for mental defects was far under our percentage.

Are European males mentally sounder than American males? Or did the Europeans, scraping the barrel for cannon fodder, just OVERLOOK more mental defects than we did?

HITLER was a mental case. Hitler STARTED World War II, which nobody else wanted. When they go sour mentally in Europe, do they go sour in a BIGGER WAY? Personally, it seems to me that the men in the Kremlin are mental defectives. How else can we explain their actions?

THESE are all big questions. Significant questions. I can't answer them. But it does seem to me that if SOMEHOW we could bring about straighter thinking in this world, a lot of the terrible evils from which we suffer would vanish.

Dimick Is Guest Speaker At Child Welfare Dinner

Attorney Daniel Dimick will be guest speaker on the subject, "Children Behind Bars," at the American Legion auxiliary child welfare dinner planned for Wednesday, April 3, at 8:30 o'clock at the Legion home, according to an announcement by the president, Mrs. Rose Dauber. Those attending are asked to bring their table service. The dinner will be in charge of Jane Stephens, chairman, assisted by Rose Dauber, Minnie Ritter, Connie Burke, Mary Dolan, Edith Marshall, Faye Wheeland, Betty Moore, Lois Hill, Wilene Barton and Viola Bates. Attorney Dimick, who is with the firm, Winston and Dimick, practiced in New York City, Seattle, Portland and Washington, D.C., following his completion of studies at University of Oregon law school. He came to Roseburg in April of 1948. During World War II, he served in the U.S. Navy Air Forces in the South Pacific Theatre of Operations and received his discharge as a lieutenant commander.

Scrapes from the MENDING BASKET

By Viaknett S. Martin

What a delightful place is the Shoemaker room in the Roseburg Public library! Who shall measure its value to the children of the city? Children do so enjoy a place of their very own; even the shyest, most reluctant young visitor will soon feel at home. He need not go through the grown-up part at all. I like that idea! So do the children, I'm sure! The trouble would be, seems to me, to keep the grown-ups out of the Shoemaker room. The books for children are so very beautiful in colors, format and are fascinating even to a grownup!

I asked Miss Muriel Mitchell, librarian, why the room was so named? As I recall she said that some years ago Mr. Samuel Shoemaker of Roseburg gave a sum of money to be used in buying books for the library as a living memorial to his father, Milton John Shoemaker. I had noticed the photograph which was placed in the room where the books were collected.

Later it occurred to the librarian to put the children's room near the door, and the "Shoemaker room" seemed the ideal

Red Cross Areas Designated For Conducting Drive

Douglas Simms, manager of the local chapter of the American Red Cross, announced today that organization of the drive is fairly complete in all county areas with the exception of Elkton, Glendale and Azalea.

It is hoped, he said, that persons living in these areas will in the near future come forth with some organization with which to conduct a drive, the proceeds of which remain almost entirely in Douglas county.

He estimated that 85 cents out of each dollar raised last year remained in this county. The local chapter contributed \$1,892 to National Red Cross for the support of blood program, disaster relief and service to military hospitals. During the Glue epidemic \$4,380 was returned to the county by the national organization.

The county drive was late getting underway this year because of poor employment conditions, however early returns from Sutherlin, Reedsport and Days Creek indicate generous response in those areas. Mrs. Helen Lewis, long a volunteer Red Cross worker, is chairman at Reedsport and gives great credit for the success of the campaign in that area to the Reedsport volunteer fire department, which has undertaken to raise the funds in that city.

Mrs. Russell Seymour, chairman at Sutherlin has already reported a total well above the 1949 result. John R. Orr, Glue high school principal, has his district well organized and promises a very active campaign. Other communities in the county were somewhat later in getting started and have consequently made no report as to their results. It is hoped that progress reports will be available in the Roseburg office no later than Tuesday, said Simms.

WCTU Temperance Meet To Be Sunday Afternoon

The WCTU temperance program of special music and a silver medal speech contest will be held at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 2, at the First Methodist church. An interesting picture will also be shown

section of the library. Mr. Shoemaker, when asked, agreed, saying his father had always been fond of children. So the gaily decorated, attractive Shoemaker room is available to bless the children of Roseburg with a fine selection of books which they may enjoy in their very own room.

Perhaps it is because books meant so much to my happiness as a child, as well as in my older years, but anyway I think to make books accessible to children, and to stimulate in them a love of reading is doing a civic work that ranks high in fruition. For to the child who is an habitual reader the world is his! He has but to open the covers of a book and set off on his own magic carpet. Much reading makes easy reading—so important a part of a child's equipment for life.

"A book is like a faithful friend With heart that's always ready; A comrade faithful to the end. Wise, understanding, steady; Good company at school, at home, Gay pal for cozy nooks. Heigh-ho, for now and years to come. Let's sing the praise of books!" (Nancy Byrd Turner)

Sheriff Target At Mass Meeting In Vancouver

VANCOUVER, Wash., March 31.—(P)—Two hundred persons attended a protest meeting today leveled against Sheriff Earl N. Anderson and two of his deputies.

The meeting stemmed from a statement signed by Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Dewey, parents of the slain Jo Ann, and 10 friends in which they said the sheriff and his deputies manhandled Collin Cree who had offered what he said was information in Jo Ann's kidnaping.

The statement was given to the county commission. Commission Chairman Charles Hall said any protests should be made to the county prosecutor, not the commission.

Howard Cusic, a city fireman, said he would do it. The incident occurred at the home of Cusic's parents near Battle Ground Saturday night.

LaGrande Decision On Fast Time Postponed

LA GRANDE, April 1.—(P)—City commissioners here sidestepped a decision on daylight saving time, for the time being, at least. A request for a shift to daylight time was made in a letter from Dr. William B. Siddens, who said the change would permit the city to conform with other communities which already had approved the change.

The commissioners ordered the letter filed.

JUDGMENT GRANTED

Circuit Judge Carl E. Wimberly has issued judgment orders in the sum of \$668.44 in favor of N. W. Staley, doing business as Staley Transfer Co., and against Ernie Scoburg.

By Eugene Northrop. The public is invited to attend. The W.C.T.U. has sponsored a series of three silver medal contests recently. Winners were Martha Thomas, Kenneth Reeder and Patty Ridgeway. These winners joined with other silver medal contest winners in a gold medal contest at Myrtle Creek Tuesday evening. Kenneth Reeder won this contest with the reading, "Shall They Go Free?"

Red Cross Drive Will Be Extended Until April 15

William T. Evans Jr., chairman of the local chapter of the American Red Cross, announced today that the current fund drive will be extended at least until April 15, in the Roseburg area and as long as is necessary to complete coverage in the county areas.

Evans stated that it is absolutely essential that the drive be prolonged until the goal of \$13,612 is reached. The wives and children of men now serving in the armed forces are in many cases entirely dependent upon the resources of the local chapter during the usual two to three months period necessary for army or navy headquarters to determine the amount of the serviceman's pay coupled with government allowances which may be due the families as legal dependents of the particular soldier or sailor.

This responsibility to the families of active servicemen is a legal obligation imposed on Red Cross by the Congress of the United States.

Other obligations of this type which must be met are for disaster relief, which includes financial relief, drugs, medicine etc., in all cases of fire, flood or epidemic or other disaster involving five or more families.

A dramatic illustration of the type of assistance which only Red Cross can give in large amounts occurred during the recent epidemic at Glue, where the Red Cross furnished drugs which contributed immeasurably in checking the spread of the infectious hepatitis prevalent among the school children and adults of that area.

It is also the responsibility of Red Cross to act as a supplementary relief agency in those instances where other government and voluntary relief agencies find the situation beyond their means to cope with temporarily. Such a situation has occurred this spring in Douglas county and it has been necessary that the local chapter expend nearly \$500 on cases which, due to an extreme shortage of funds, could not be handled by the more regularly recognized agencies for direct relief.

Paying Insurance In Advance Is Saving To Vets

World War II veterans who have National Service Life insurance policies can save money by paying their premiums three months, six months or a year in advance, according to the Veterans administration. Most veterans pay their G. I. insurance premiums by the month.

As an example of the savings to be had by paying premiums quarterly, semi-annually or annually, the VA cited the example of a veteran, aged 25, who has a \$10,000 term policy. By the month he makes twelve payments of \$6.70 each, for a total annual premium of \$80.40. On an annual basis through a single payment the premium on the same policy is only \$79.30.

Comparable savings are available on other types of G. I. insurance policies.

The VA pointed out that in addition to receiving the saving, paying G. I. insurance premiums in advance is also much safer, because there is less danger of a veteran forgetting to keep his insurance in force.

Because of the risk of loss in sending cash through the mail, veterans are urged to pay insurance premiums by check or money order, the VA said. They should use the printed return envelope provided by the VA.

Veterans also should jot down the number of their G. I. insurance policy on their check or money order. The VA said this would help to speed up the handling of premium payments.

54 Children Are Examined During Crippled Clinic

Total of 54 children were examined in the semi-annual crippled children's clinic held at the Douglas County Health department office Thursday. The examinations were conducted by Dr. Gilbert McKelvie orthopedic physician, and Mrs. Olga Curtis, orthopedic nursing consultant, a secretary and physiotherapist. They were assisted by the local health department staff.

Of the 54 cases, 32 children were examined for the first time. Others were children who had received previous treatment. The examining physician's recommendations are followed up and taken care of by the health department nurses.

Where recommended, medical treatment and surgery is taken care of at the Shrine or other Portland hospitals. In cases of need, there is no charge for such operations, but the parents are expected to pay the cost wherever possible. The clinic, however, is conducted without charge.

Many of the cases may be treated by corrective shoes, according to Miss Lavinia Fulton, health nurse. Other cases require physiotherapy and posture exercises. The more serious cases which require surgery. Post-polio treatments sometimes are called for.

Children are referred to the public health department by interested persons in the communities and through the nursing program in the schools. Any child afflicted is eligible for the clinic. The next one will be held in October.

Music Summer School Is Dated At University

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene.—(Special)—The University of Oregon's annual music summer session for high school students will open here June 19 under the direction of John Stehn, associate professor in the music school and director of the university band.

An intensified four-weeks session has been planned that will include instruction in individual applied music as well as group work in orchestra, stringed orchestra, chorus, and band. Outstanding members of the university music school will staff the session.

High school students attending will be housed and fed in university dormitories. All campus recreational facilities will be open to them. A full program of evening concerts, recitals and social hours has been planned for them.

One hundred Oregon high school students will attend the session on tuition-scholarships given by the university. Information and application blanks may be obtained from Mr. Stehn, School of Music, University of Oregon, Eugene, Ore.

PHONE 100

between 6:15 and 7 p. m., if you have not received your News-Review. Ask for Harold Mobley

PTA MEET DATED

The Elgaruse Parent-Teachers association will meet April 8 at the Elgaruse school. Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Dillard will be the guest speakers. Refreshments will be served. Everyone interested is invited to attend.

TARDY ACTION (CHEHALIS, April 1.—(P)—Wayne John J. Rochester, was without an automobile today. His car stalled on a street crossing of the Northern Pacific tracks here, and he left to hire a tow car. During his absence a freight train hit it.

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