

# The News-Review

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## THE ROAD SNOB

By George Castillo

The typical adult American automobile driver is a self-righteous snob.

At least this is the indication in a study endorsed by The President's Committee for Traffic Safety. The purpose of the study was to determine just what the American motorist thinks about himself and others in relation to traffic safety. It was sponsored by the Pure Oil Co. and American Trucking Assn. and was conducted by a group called Opinion Research Corp.

One of the first things the survey indicated was that the motorist generally thinks he's pretty good. As a matter of fact, so many think they are above average, there doesn't appear to be any such thing as an average driver.

The survey shows that nine out of 10 adults questioned in the investigation (and 100 per cent of those with records of traffic violations) considered themselves above average in driving skill. They also said they were better than average at obeying traffic laws.

The survey emphasizes another indication of the "It must be the other guy" philosophy evidenced by the typical driver. He thinks such traffic - safety slogans as "Speed Kills" and "Slow Down and Live" are for what he considers the average driver. He says they are certainly not for him. He'd be insulted at the suggestion that he doesn't drive safely.

### Attitudes Are Strange

This typical motorist has some other strange and marvelous attitudes too, when it comes to the other guy.

For example, 82 per cent of those surveyed said they thought breaking traffic laws was as wrong as stealing or lying. But 64 per cent, at the same time, said they thought warnings instead of tickets should be issued for minor violations. In other words, safety is just a lip service when it applies to him.

Still another incongruity is the way the typical driver gets worked up over drunken drivers or speeders — unless he is the one involved. He says jail or loss of license should be the reward of drunk drivers or speeders. He calls them the "real killers" of the highway.

However—  
If he is caught a little tipsy at the wheel, he insists he had only a few drinks. If he's stopped for speeding, he'll explain that he was only going five or 10 miles over the limit.

The surveyors conclude that the typical driver is indeed a contradictory figure. Because of the contradiction evidenced, the approach to traffic safety campaigns should probably be changed.

The conclusion is also made that people really want to be good, law-abiding drivers. They want to be, so they say they are. Cited are two possibilities for safety campaigns. One is that perhaps symbols of their ideal might be held up to them instead of the admonishment to "look out" or "take it easy."

Another is that people be judiciously shown they don't know everything about traffic safety. It cites the possible approach of "The good driver keeps up with progress on the highways."

### Driver Doesn't Scare

One of the most - drummed campaigns of highway safety education is the "scare technique." Smashed cars and bodies are shown as stark evidence of the effects of the lack of caution on the highways. The technique appears to impress motorists, but it doesn't scare them.

Since they have mentally molded themselves into the "good driver" image, they know "it can't happen to me." The conclusion drawn is that perhaps the impact of the scare technique is dulled because strong emotional tensions are created without telling the driver what to do about them.

One other interesting point made by the survey was that the 38,500 deaths last year on American highways don't scare the typical driver as much as the possibilities of non-fatal traffic accidents. In other words, he feels death isn't the worst thing that can happen.

The surveyors tentatively concluded that perhaps emphasis might be made on the fear of long - lasting physical pain or permanent injury to the driver or his family. Present campaigns of highway safety are obviously not doing a solidly effective job, so another look at the strange attitudes of the typical driver might be in order to stem the tide of highway suicide.

## Thinking It Over

By Robert L. Dieffenbacher, D. D.  
(Written for NEA Service)

The colors of the fields change from season to season. In fact they change from month to month or even oftener. This color comes not from a blanket of paint sprayed over the landscape. Rather the color comes from almost insignificant plants growing in great profusion.

A field which was solid blue a few weeks ago is bright yellow today. The mass effect is magnificent. Yet it is all the result of different kinds of flowers. Each petal is so tiny that it is scarcely noticeable. The flower itself is too small to put in a bud vase.

People living together in a community present an overall color to the objective observer. We must look at ourselves and others in order to make sure that the areas in which we live present an aspect which is interesting to others and to God. We must brighten up ourselves and thus help our neighbors to live better.

## Scientists Agree On Several Ways To Detect Tests

GENEVA — Scientists of the Western and Communist worlds have agreed on seven different methods for detecting nuclear weapon tests and now face the task of combining them into one fool-proof system.

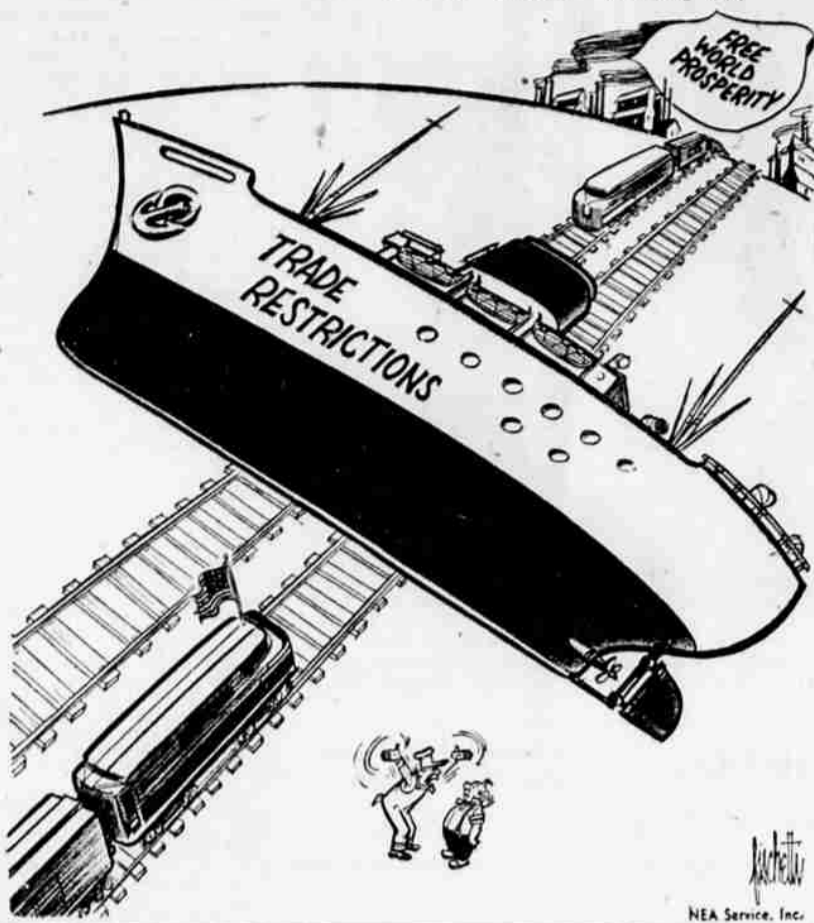
This final phase of the month-old secret conference may bring it into the forbidden area of politics. The Western experts have been ordered not to discuss the political problems of negotiating a ban on weapon tests.

Not spokesmen for both sides expressed satisfaction with their progress in agreeing on the seven detection methods.

The techniques involve different types of sensitive recording apparatus to detect these tell-tale signs of nuclear blasts: (1) sound waves, (2) earth tremors, (3) magnetic fields, (4) radioactive fallout, (5) gamma rays and neutrons, (6) radio waves and (7) light waves.

The experts agreed the last three could be detected by such instruments as radio - telescopes and photo-electric cells reporting from satellites in space to ground stations. The ground stations in turn would be equipped with seismographs, fallout collectors and the like to provide other checks.

## "I Don't Care How It Got There—Move It!"



NEA Service, Inc.

## In The Day's News

(Continued from Page 1)

You can't fix up ancient prejudices OVERNIGHT by passing a law or handing down a court decision. Things like that take time. LOTS of time. In such cases, a good rule is to make haste slowly.

We'd better keep that fact in mind in our tinkering with the Middle East.

If we are wise, we will remember that for CENTURIES hatreds have been smoldering there.

If we act too precipitately, these smoldering hatreds may break into the flames of WAR.

That would be tragic. More tragic than Little Rock.

Getting closer home—

The Seaton bill that seeks a more orderly termination of government control of the Klamath Indian reservation has passed both houses of Congress. The house version of it differs from the senate version. The senate bill provides that sustained yield management must be observed by any purchaser of reservation timber lands for 100 years. The language of the house bill stipulates that the purchaser must agree to manage the forest lands as far as practicable so as to furnish a continuous supply of timber.

The two bills must now go to a joint conference committee composed of members of both houses of the Congress. The job of this committee is to reconcile the differences between the two bills. If and when this is accomplished, the compromise bill must then go back to both house and senate. It must be accepted by both houses and signed by the President before it becomes law.

It can be assumed that if the conferees reach an agreement the bill will receive approval in both house and senate. It is a reasonable assumption that it will then be signed by the President.

The important point is that the bill didn't get caught in the adjournment jam that so often develops in the final days of a session of the congress.

In that event, it would have died, and the reservation timber would have had to be disposed of under the provisions of Public Law 587 — which, by throwing a huge volume of timber on the market, under unfavorable market conditions, could have resulted in heavy losses to the Indian owners of the timber.

### Fired City Attorney Responsible For Raid

SAVANNA, Ill. (AP) — A determined city attorney, who since has lost his job, this week was held responsible for getting several civic leaders indicted on lottery charges.

Local officials said Atty. Lawrence A. Smith requested a grand jury investigation of the methods used to finance Savanna River Days, an annual community celebration.

Smith had complained to state Atty. William Petty last month after he reportedly tried to stop the sale of numbered tickets in Savanna's business district.

A council said Smith was fired by the town council a week ago after he demanded that an investigation be made.

### Newest Satellite Not Visible To Naked Eye

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP) — The United States Army's newest satellite probably never will be visible to the naked eye and it will be many days and possibly weeks before it can be seen with the aid of a telescope in the United States.

Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, in charge of the visual tracking of satellites, said that it may be possible in certain parts of the world to see the new satellite with a low powered telescope.

A Smithsonian spokesman added that the viewer would have to know exactly where and when to aim the telescope.

## —Hal Boyle—

NEW YORK — Girls, do you know what is the worst enemy of feminine beauty?

Here's what Constance Bennett, one of filmdom's all-time glamor dolls, has to say: "It is a resentful personality. Any woman who habitually harbors meanness and envy will find in time they will show in her face and make her unattractive."

but that actresses are less glamorous.

"Films now are more realistic and true to life," she said. "They don't grind them out like sausage as they used to."

"But those old tinsel films did make actresses seem glamorous, remote and unattainable."

Not Exciting

"There aren't any Nita Naldis, Theda Baras and Pola Negris round any more. That style of glamor isn't exciting anymore."

"Styles change in glamor, just as in everything else."

"What is glamorous today? I think it is a combination of fresh natural beauty and sophistication rather than the exotic Ingrid Bergman and Grace Kelly come first to mind."

"But anything really obvious isn't glamorous — and that includes, in my opinion, actresses who look so sexy they seem to be bursting."

Thousands of times women have asked her for beauty secrets, but she said the only one she knew that makes real sense is this: "Be beautifully natural — and naturally beautiful."

## —Bruce Biossat—

Most of the time the things they have been doing have not made headlines or even front pages. Yet in the end their labors may prove more fruitful for mankind than 90 per cent of the efforts that have had the glare of public attention.

We're talking about the 10,000 scientists who for a solid year have been combing the earth's surface — land, water and air — in search of knowledge never heretofore possessed by man, for all his problings through the centuries of history.

These scientists, toiling in a vast cooperative effort called the International Geophysical Year, have thus far turned up countless remarkable discoveries in nearly every field of search.

MANY OF THESE will have no practical value now or in the foreseeable future. But many will. And all have the intangible merit of sharpening man's thinking about his planet home, giving him as they do a broader, deeper grasp of its strange workings, and its relation to other planets, the sun and to space itself.

One of the big surprises, for instance, has been the discovery in the southeast Pacific that millions of square miles of the ocean floor are strewn with needle-like projections of iron, manganese, nickel and cobalt worth about \$500,000 a square mile and considered recoverable.

In a world where growing millions of people seem to be in a race with the earth's resources, this is no minor find.

Long-term trends in climate and weather are vital matters to mankind. They affect what he can produce and where, and how he must live in various areas of the earth.

A DECISIVE FACTOR in these trends is the size and depth and spread of the world's ice regions. Thus it is important that searching scientists now find they may have previously underestimated by about 40 per cent the volume of ice covering the earth. They have found ice on Antarctica up to 14,000 feet deep.

Under the ocean the probes have found great new mountain ranges, and flowing eastward through the Pacific a powerful "river" whose current is 1,000 times stronger than the Mississippi's.

Already heralded is the amazing discovery of a huge radiation belt in outer space, ranging from 600 to 4,000 miles out. The product of

## Scientist Studying Cause Of BC's Hot, Dry Summer

VANCOUVER, B.C. (AP) — Scientists here are speculating on what connection there may be between the hot-dry summer and a shift in the warm Japanese Current in the Pacific.

Normally only that portion of the current between the 45th and 48th parallels up to the 50th parallel swings north and flows up the British Columbia coast. The part of the current below that swings south.

For unknown reasons the point of division has altered during the last 18 months to about the 43rd parallel, so that a much larger portion of warm water is turning north and its effect is reaching as far as the Bering Sea.

Dr. John P. Tully, chief oceanographer at the Fisheries Research Board's station at Nanaimo, said Monday the shift in the current began in early 1957. This, he said, helps to explain why British Columbia's last winter was mild.

Similar Shift Recalled  
A similar, but not so pronounced, shift occurred in 1950-51, another year of a mild winter and hot summer.

The phenomenon has affected the fishing industry. Salmon runs

are behind time and the fish are apparently taking more north-westerly routes to their spawning grounds.

Lloyd A. Rofal, director of the International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission, said an early Fraser River runs are moving through Johnston Strait, a route followed usually by less than 10 per cent of the fish.

A large run should have reached the mouth of the Fraser last week. Next Monday, "at the latest," should tell the story, Rofal said.

Meanwhile the warmer water has drawn tropical fish such as tuna and barracuda into British Columbia waters and even the Gulf of Alaska.

## Gen. Hersey Hits High Rate Of Rejections

PORTLAND (AP) — Lt. Gen. Lewis B. Hersey, director of Selective Service, said here last week that the high rate of rejections still is the No. 1 problem of the nation's draft program.

Gen. Hersey said rejections of men unable to meet mental and physical standards are expected to increase because of more rigid limits to be set by the Defense Department.

President Eisenhower has signed into law the bill allowing the changes in acceptance standards for draftees.

More than 40 per cent of all rejections are for mental disqualifications, Gen. Hersey said.

The official was here to visit the Oregon Selective Service headquarters, on a tour he makes every three or four years in visiting draft officials in the United States and the territories.

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