

AUTOMOBILE NEWS of the WEEK

PUBLIC SAFETY LAW IS UPHELD

"Safety Responsibility" Statute Constitutional, High Court Rules.

PORTLAND, Ore., May 2.—Safety of the traveling public was enhanced by a decision of the California state supreme court last week upholding the constitutionality of the "Safety Responsibility" law which authorized the state division of motor vehicles to cancel the operator's license and registration certificate of a person who fails to pay a judgment for personal injury or property damage resulting from a motor vehicle accident. The decision is being hailed as an important victory for organized motorists, which supported enactment of the law and took an active part in the suit testing the validity of the provision. George E. Sandford, general attorney of the California State Automobile Association, appeared in the case for the motorists' organization and forwarded the court's decision to the Oregon State Motor association.

The law was enacted at the 1929 session of the California legislature. It provides for the cancellation of license and certificate in the event of failure to satisfy judgments over certain amounts within fifteen days after the judgment has become final. A test of the section grew out of a case in which the district court of appeal held the law unconstitutional.

When the case was taken to the supreme court the automobile association appeared as a friend of the court in support of the law with the object of having its validity finally determined. The majority opinion of the court sustaining the law said, in part:

"In our opinion the revocation of the privilege for non-payment of judgments arising from negligent operation of motor vehicles is a reasonable regulation and one which may well tend to eliminate from the highway persons shown to be dangerous to life and property."

Piston Slap More Than Merely Noise

When a piston slap is heard the motorist should not regard it simply as an annoying noise, according to the free emergency road service of the Oregon State Motor association. If the sound really is loud it is an indication of cylinder wall wear which should be corrected without delay by adequate repair. Another harmful result of piston slap is the dilution of crankcase oil by gasoline permitted to seep down the cylinder wall on the worst side.

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Motorists Urged To Exercise The Utmost Care For Greater Safety

PORTLAND, Ore., May 2.—With the season of heavy motor travel at hand and traffic accidents and fatalities still mounting, the public safety department of the Oregon State Motor association in a statement urges all motorists to exercise care in driving as the first and most important requirement for greater safety. Evidence that the key to the traffic accident problem lies in more responsibility at the wheel is provided by an analysis of nationwide statistics by the American Automobile association, with which the Oregon Motor association is affiliated.

This analysis is cited by the association public safety department as a part of its statement. The study, covering 32,500 fatalities and 500,000 motor injuries in 1930, indicates that the carelessness of a minority of drivers is the biggest single cause of the ever-increasing toll of automobile accidents.

Fatalities Increasing

The figures show that not only are the total number of fatalities increasing from year to year, but the fatalities are also increasing in proportion to the registration. In 1929 there were 109 deaths for every 100,000 registered vehicles; in 1927, there were 111.8; in 1928, there were 114.2; in 1929, there were 117.8 and in 1930, without any appreciable increase in registration or mileage operated, the deaths per 100,000 vehicles had mounted to 122.5. The increase in motor vehicle registration was less than 1 per cent, but automobile accidents increased 12 per cent, fatalities increased 4 per cent, and injuries increased 13 per cent.

Four fundamental factors were found to underlie the range of motor accidents. First, the degree of responsibility exercised by driver and

Simple Way To Get Licenses, Secretary Says

SALEM, Ore., May 2 (Special).—"How do I license my automobile this year?" With the approach of the registration year, that question soon will be in the minds of motorists. The answer is contained in a letter of instructions to be sent out by Hal E. Hoes, secretary of the Oregon State Motor association, to all registered motor vehicle owners and they will save themselves considerable time and trouble if they will note the suggestions contained in the letter. Methods of license renewals have been simplified and less effort is required on the part of the owner under the new plan.

In registering motor vehicles, the receipt of registration now held by the owner plays the leading role. It points out Mr. Hoes. "Simply sign the receipt on the reverse side, send it with the fee to our office by mail or present it to a branch office or a sheriff's office, and the owner's work is over. Adherence to this plan will not only save the applicant time and inconvenience, but it will cut down the work of the motor vehicle department and effect substantial savings."

More than a quarter-million letters are going to Oregon motor vehicle owners in connection with the renewing activities. New license plates may be obtained as early as June 1, and will be in time and money, all applications properly prepared and accompanied by the correct fee, which are on file on the office of the secretary of state on May 23 will be included in a drawing for numbers up to 1000. Over 1000 applications will take the order of receipt in the office and no special numbers will be allotted.

Care at Crossings Major Safety Rule

Greater caution at blind intersections is today one of the most essential safety lessons which motorists must learn, declares a statement by the public safety department of the Oregon State Motor association. The vast majority of automobile accidents occur at intersections and in most cases because the view of the cross road was obstructed in some manner.

March Car Output Reaches High Mark

Automobile production in March in the United States reached the highest mark the industry has recorded for the past nine months, according to a report received by the Oregon State Motor association from the automobile chamber of commerce at Washington. The estimate for the month placed the production at 286,688 cars and trucks. This was an increase of 25 per cent over the previous month. Production for the first quarter of 1931 was announced as amounting to 695,650 units.

Four Ships Leave Troubled Regions

WASHINGTON, May 2 (AP).—The navy department yesterday ordered four vessels withdrawn from Nicaraguan and Honduran waters. The ships were the light cruiser Trenton, flagship of Rear Admiral C. S. Kempff; the second line aircraft carrier, Langley; the destroyers Dupont and Schenck; plane guards of the Langley.

The gunboat Asheville was ordered last night to proceed from Cape Gracias a Dios, Nicaragua, to Cristobal Canal Zone, to be fueled and provisioned to capacity and there await further instructions.

The following ships remain in Nicaraguan and Honduran waters: The cruisers Rochester and Marblehead at Puerto Cortes, Honduras; the cruiser Memphis at La Ceiba, Honduras; and the gunboat Sacramento at Bluefields, Nicaragua.

MOVING DAY HITS BELGIUM AS RENTS SHOOT SKYWARD

BRUSSELS (AP).—Expiration of the post-war law aimed at profiteering in rents has started a rush of moving in Belgian cities.

Since the armistice, in November, 1918, tenants have been protected against increases but this year they have faced boosts of from 400 to 800 per cent.

The result is that there are 16,000 houses and 12,000 apartments for sale or for rent in Brussels.

Trans-Bay Bridge Nearing Reality



The dream of decades—a bridge or series of bridges across San Francisco bay connecting San Francisco and Oakland—came closer to reality this week, when state engineers began preliminary surveys on Yerba Buena (Goat) Island, to fix the route for the huge span. The data secured will go to Washington, D. C., to settle technical matters connected with construction. Lower photo shows A. D. Huntington and Erwin Johnson of the survey crew with Huntington driving the first stake in the work. Above, proposed route of the bridge and tunnel is superimposed on photo.

and a broader knowledge of how best to proceed within each country under conditions made peculiar to it by the international situation. There is little doubt, he says, that some of the delegates will find it advisable to suggest to their governments the necessity of encouraging readjustment of acreage. At long range, he explains, the crux appears to be that the world is producing more wheat than it can eat.

Should the conference establish that as a truth, he expects deliberations to swing materially toward agreement on where and to what extent realignment of production should be advised.

Circus Fans Given Unexpected Thrill

STOCKTON, Cal., May 2 (AP).—Circus crowds last night were given an unexpected thrill here when, during a performance of the Al O. Barnes circus, Mabel Stark, trainer, was defended from a maddened Bengal by another tiger.

As one of the tigers suddenly jumped at Miss Stark and made a pass with a paw, another tiger immediately leaped to her defense. In a moment the two beasts were engaged in a terrific struggle in the center of the ring cage. It required the combined efforts of Miss Stark and two guards, who entered the

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4.50-20 (29x4.50)	5.60	10.90
4.50-21 (30x4.50)	5.69	11.10
4.75-19 (28x4.75)	6.65	12.90
5.00-19 (29x5.00)	6.98	13.60

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'Future Farmers' Select Officers At State Meet

CORVALLIS, Ore., May 2 (AP).—Millard Magnus of Dayton was elected president of "Future Farmers of America" at the state convention of 300 Smith-Hughes students at Oregon State college yesterday. Five officers were selected from the delegates last night to the "Oregon Farmer Degree" accorded for most outstanding achievements in the past year. Other officers are Richard Carter,

Newberg, vice president; Wayne McFetridge, Enterprise, secretary; Howard Robertson, Forest Grove, treasurer; Hugh Hanna, Independence, reporter. Trustees are Burrier Young, Dayton; Russell Adams, Forest Grove; and Warren E. Crabtree, Silverton.

Among those chosen for the degree were Neil Hoffman, Ontario; Cleo Latham, McMinnville; Palmer Tardiff, Silverton; and Emil Kraft, Canby. C. C. Hulet, master of the Oregon State degree, who spoke at the opening session, was voted an honorary degree.

Nine chapters qualifying for the honor roll or "Keystone chapters," are Enterprise, McMinnville, Ontario, Silverton, Lebanon, Newberg, Corvallis, Dayton and Corvallis.

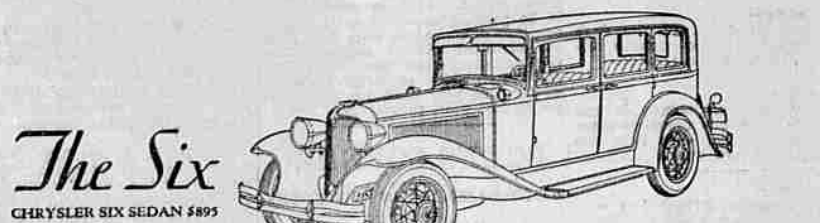
WORLD'S FASTEST ENGINE QUILTS RAILS FOR MUSEUM

YORK, Eng. (AP).—The Great Western railway's famous locomotive "City of Truro," described as the fastest engine in the world, has been retired on the railway museum here.

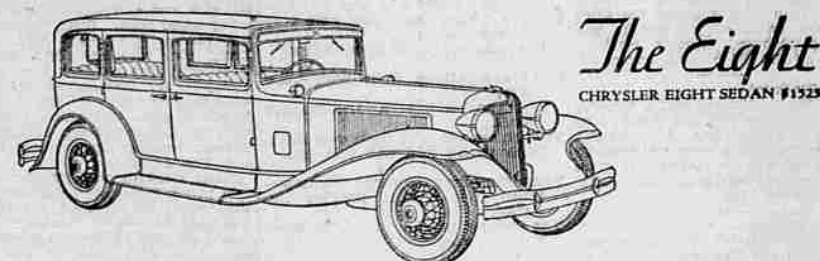
The City of Truro once made 102.2 miles an hour while speeding to Plymouth in competition for the American mails in 1904. But the directors thought the public would be frightened at mere mention of such a speed and the record was not made public until 1922.

In 27 years the engine traveled more than 1,000,000 miles.

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