

Indifference Chief Reason For Wrecks

A driver runs a stop sign and collides with another car. A few minutes later two people are dead and one is seriously injured.

A man, later charged with drunk driving, reportedly careens down a hill, striking two cars

and a pedestrian. The pedestrian, an elderly woman, is thrown into the air and her body is "splattered all over." Seventy-four feet from the point of impact a witness picks up a leg which was torn from her body.

"Well," the driver was quoted as saying, "it was an accident, and that's that. I was only going about 25 or 30."

These are scenes typical of what has been happening on Oregon highways during July, and safety officials, Friday, said:

"The callous indifference of the drivers and the public toward all these deaths is nothing short of barbaric."

From all sections of the state reports of increased deaths and injuries—the toll for 1952 had hit 204 by mid-July—are coming to

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Along Azalea Row

By Mrs. E. F. Rapraeger

The Gopher Harvesting Corporation had its headquarters in our vegetable garden until it was recently dis-incorporated. I remember the first pocked gopher I ever saw. I thought it was a cute little fellow. It pushed paws full of earth from a hole underground, popped up its head for a moment and then went back underground for another load of earth.

Our motto is: "Live and Let Live," but we found that this did not work out where gophers and similar animal pests were concerned. When we planted our garden in the spring the activities of Gopher Harvesting Corporation increased by leaps and bounds. We did the planting and they did the harvesting. It was evident that most members of the corporation owned working shares. They did work beyond the normal eight-hour shift; they worked all night, all day and on the Sabbath. Their runways extended under the hills of potatoes, through the carrot patch and amongst the cabbage and kale.

One day they diverted the outgoing waste from the septic tank so that it ran through their underground tunnels into the strawberry patch. When my husband went to pick berries I had a suspicion that the Gopher Harvesting Corporation was about to be dis-incorporated. Among the first individuals eliminated were the portly president of the corporation and several of the more active workers. In the course of one spring we trapped about 15 gophers in a garden patch no larger than a fifth of an acre. In one recent week we caught not only gophers but ground squirrels, mountain beaver, mink and mole. We have not seen any jack rabbits, kangaroo rats or woodchucks but we have our fingers crossed.

It does not pay to ease up on any of these pests. The garden which is well watered and a source of abundant food provides ideal living conditions. It is an oasis in a desert where they find food, shelter and companions. They

the state department's traffic safety division.

In southern Oregon a driver plowed into the rear of a car legally stopped at a stop sign. Witnesses estimated his speed at 70 miles an hour but, the driver insisted it was "maybe 25 or 30."

On the coast a driver rounded a curve, lost control of the car and traveled nearly 150 feet down through roadside brush. He was thrown out and pinned under the vehicle where he died of a crushed chest. His passenger, still in the hospital, reported "he was a very careful driver."

"Careful driving," grimly remarked Captain Walter Lansing, head of the safety division, "does not cause accidents but carelessness and indifference behind the wheel can and is killing more than one person a day in Oregon."

Just About Folks

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Jones of San Francisco, former residents of this area, were here over the week-end looking after property

move into this area from the surrounding territory. Few places have a greater variety or number of pests than Oregon, and in proportion to the value of crops produced, probably no other state suffers such serious losses from these pests. Lily growers suffer a large loss from gophers alone.

Information on control methods is given in publication entitled "Controlling Rodents and other small animals pests in Oregon." A free copy may be obtained by writing for extension bulletin 629, addressing your request to the Clerical Exchange, Oregon State College, Corvallis.

interests. They still own acreage and a house north of town.

J. F. Ward, of Central Point, generating engineer for COPCO at that place, stopped briefly in Brookings Monday en route home. He had been to Gold Beach to visit his son, Dale, over the week-end. Mr. Ward knew Mrs. Clara Kerns while he lived at Keno a number of years ago.

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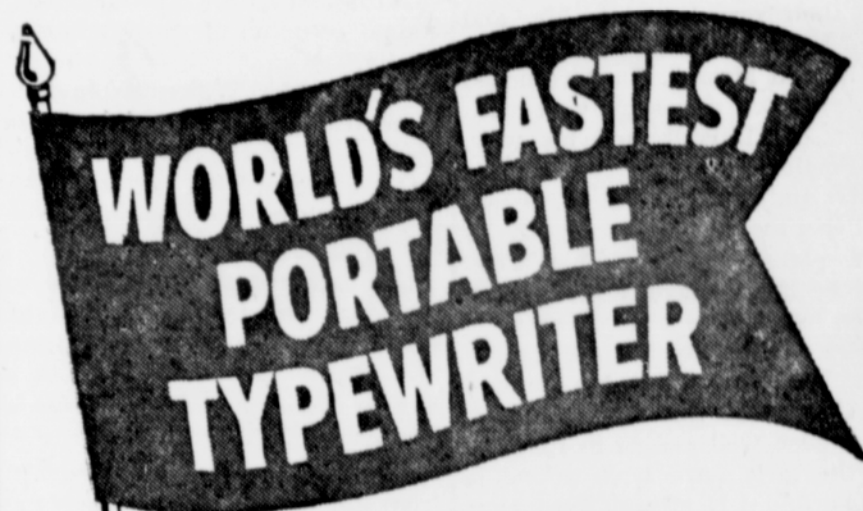
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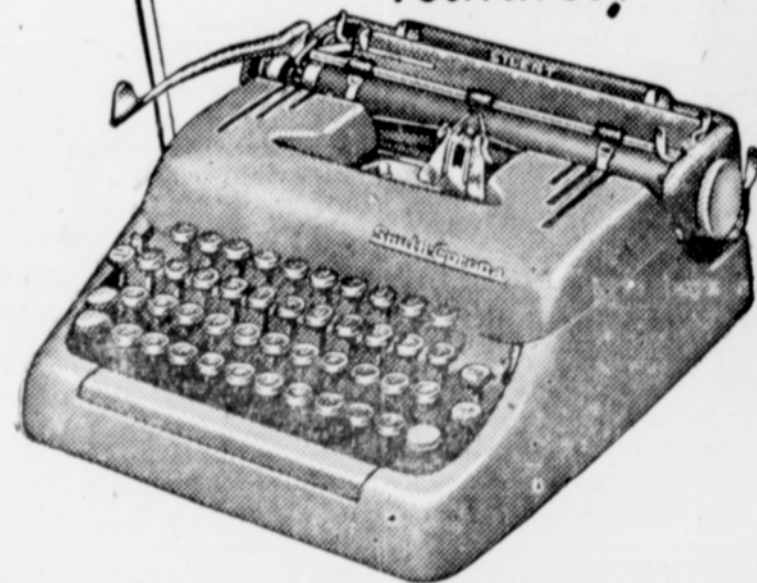
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