



**BIG TURN OVER**—A workman stands beside one of the four huge five-bladed propellers of the carrier USS Forrestal as the ship is readied for launching at Newport News, Va. The screws will absorb the largest amount of power ever used to drive a ship, a total of over 200,000 horsepower. Each propeller is 22 feet in diameter, of single manganese bronze casting, weighing over 70,000 lbs.

**U.S. To Train Vietnamese Army**

Washington—(U.P.)—The United States will take over primary responsibility soon after Jan. 1, for the training of a new 90,000-man Vietnamese army in American officials.

Free Indochina, according to the state department, is part of a broad military, economic, and diplomatic program to save Free Viet Nam, Laos, Cambodia, and Southeast Asia from Communist aggression.

Informed sources said, meanwhile, that agreement had been reached to hold the first meeting of the new Southeast Asian pact powers in February at Bangkok, Thailand. The main topic will be how to stem the spread of Communism in Indochina.

**Convicted Murderer Sentenced To Death**

Brighton, Colo.—(U.P.)—Former Idaho Falls, Ida., radio announcer Douglas Paul Becksted Friday was sentenced to die in the Colorado state gas chamber during the week of March 20 for the May 12 slaying of a Delavan, Ill., salesman.

Becksted was convicted Oct. 8 for the murder of Ronald A. Naffziger, 28, in a shooting near Denver's municipal airport. Judge Christian Stoner denied Becksted a new trial and ordered he be taken to the state prison to await execution.

Becksted was arrested two days after the slaying at Lovelock, Nev., when police, suspicious about the odor of decaying flesh, found Naffziger's body jammed in the trunk of the car Becksted was driving.

**Woman Run Down by Car Driven By Dog; Other Freak Mishaps**

Chicago—(U.P.)—A woman in Washington, D. C., was run down by a car piloted by her cocker spaniel, a man in Kansas City was hit by a ton of bricks and an Illinois farmer was hurt kicking his cow.

These were among the freak accidents of 1954, compiled by the National Safety Council.

The Washington woman was Mrs. William Suite. She left her dog, Mr. Bushman, behind the wheel of her car and neglected to set the hand brake tightly.

The Kansas City man was

Lew Babcock. He was walking past a condemned building when a brick wall collapsed. Police found him waist-deep in debris, dazed but unhurt.

The farmer was Leslie Ertl, Pinckneyville, Ill. The cow kicked him, so he kicked the cow and broke a bone in his leg. The cow was unhurt.

**Teamwork Credited For Connecticut's Road Safety Record**

Editor's Note: No state in the nation has received more traffic safety awards than Connecticut. Its highway fatality rate in the past decade has been far below the national average. The following dispatch, written as the country prepares to observe President Eisenhower's designated Safe Driving Day Wednesday, tells why.

By WILLIAM D. CLARK  
United Press Correspondent  
Hartford, Conn.—(U.P.)—Since participating in the national traffic safety contest in 1937, Connecticut has won the Grand Award six times, more than any other state, and received honorable mention three times.

It has been Grand Award winner four times for its pedestrian protection record, and various phases of the state's safety program have been singled out for national or district recognition.

With one exception since 1945, the state traffic death rate never has been higher than the second lowest in the country.

William M. Greene, director of the state safety commission, said that, "it is not so much the low rates credited to Connecticut which is gratifying as the consistency of the very low rates."

**Teamwork Is Key**  
They have been achieved, he said, "through teamwork over the years," and a well coordinated program which begins at the elementary school level.

Law enforcement is strict, and penalties to drivers extend beyond the courts. Under a "point system," drivers receive demerits commensurate with the law infraction in which they are involved. These demerits are re-

corded on the back of their licenses, and too many of them may cause suspension or revocation. For some violations suspension is automatic, and the license may be restored only after a Motor Vehicles department hearing. The point system is regarded as one of the most important factors in keeping drivers in line.

School safety programs are carried through all grades, and in high schools include driver education and courses preparing students to pass licensing tests.

**Insurance Regulations**  
Although the state has no compulsory insurance law, drivers between the ages of 16 and 25 must show "financial responsibility" before licenses will be issued them.

Furthermore, uninsured drivers involved in accidents causing damage of \$100 or more, must take out insurance before being allowed behind the wheel again.

Nearly 70 per cent of the state police personnel is assigned to traffic patrol or enforcement.

State police also employ radar for periodic crackdowns on speeders.

The Safety commission conducts a year-around public information campaign, municipalities compete for safety awards, and most communities have traffic safety committees which dovetail their operations with those of the state. Newspapers, radio and television stations receive public interest awards for outstanding contributions to safety.

At Anadarko, Okla., 10-year-old Billo Law slid into home plate and "blew-up" when a roll of caps in his pocket exploded. The umpire ruled that Billy overshot the plate.

Four-year-old Judy Combs rolled off a fourth floor fire escape in Cincinnati, tumbled into a network of clotheslines and bounced back to the second floor of the fire escape.

Peter Passantino, 11, of Chicago, stuck his nose through a knot hole in a fence. A dog on the other side of the fence ripped his nose.

Mrs. Jessie Dugar, Houston, Tex., got so excited when two men started a fight in front of her home she swallowed her toothbrush.

Morgan Wallace, a circus daredevil, made 113 parachute jumps without a scratch. But he fell 18 inches from a ladder at his Pueblo, Colo., home and broke his foot.

In San Francisco, Con Dempsey told a high school gym class that "knowing how to jump and fall is very important." He stepped back, tripped on a mat and broke his arm.

**Governors' Panel Sets Lumber Strike Meet**

Portland—(U.P.)—The seven-man governor's panel, investigating issues in last summer's lumber strike, is scheduled to meet here this week.

Announcement of the meeting next Thursday and Friday said the panel might indicate then when it will announce its findings.

Both the AFL lumber and sawmill workers and the CIO woodworkers have announced that preparation of new wage and hour demands will await the report of the fact-finding panel.



CALLING AT WHITE HOUSE, Seaborn Collins, American Legion's national commander, discusses ways of forcing Red China to release 13 Americans jailed as spies. (International)

**\$3,500,000,000 Deficit In '56 Budget Expected**  
Washington—(U.P.) President Eisenhower's spending budget for the 1956 fiscal year tentatively is shaping up at about \$63,000,000,000 with a deficit of about \$3,500,000,000, according to informed sources.

But these sources cautioned that several important budget decisions have not yet been made. They said the final figures might differ from the tentative ones by two or three billion dollars either way.

The main question-marks concern the scope of a proposed Far East Economic Air program, pay raises for federal employees and servicemen and a scheduled reduction in corporation and certain excise taxes next April 1.

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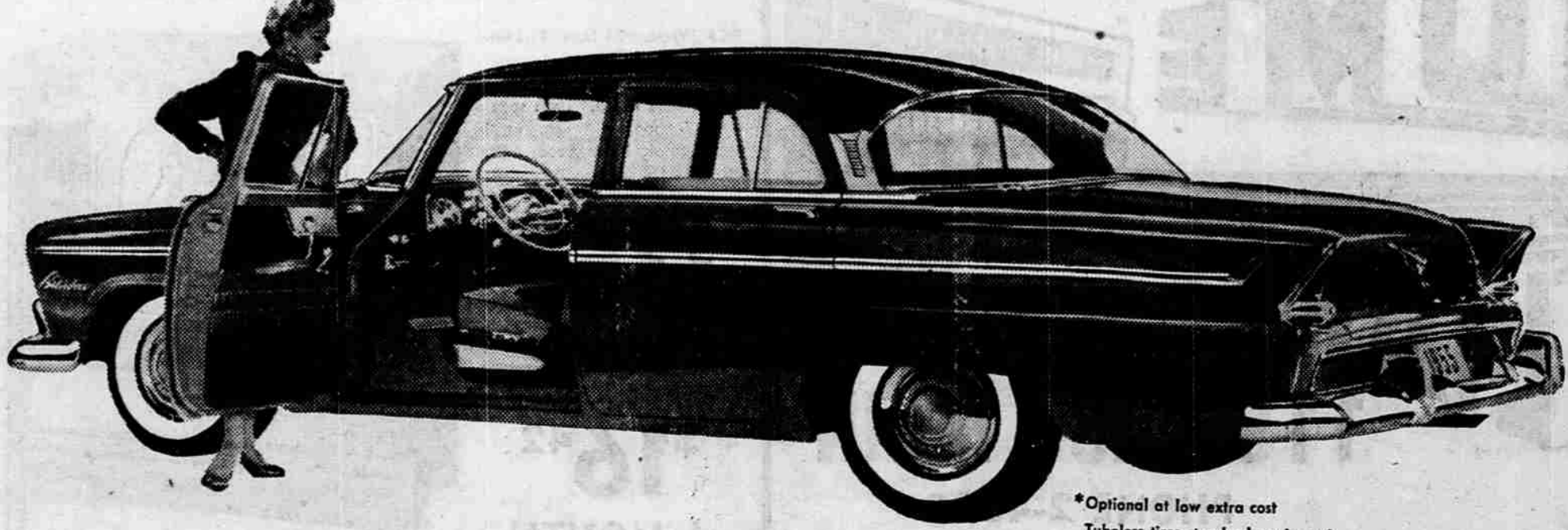
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Published by The Mail Tribune in Cooperation with Medford Retail Merchants