

Chances of Injury in Auto Accidents Found No Greater in 1957 Model Cars

Editor's note: Following is the third in a series of articles dealing with prevention of deaths in traffic accidents. Robert J. Serling, United Press writer, who prepared the series, did research work in New York and Washington in gathering material for the articles.

By ROBERT J. SERLING
United Press Correspondent
New York (U.P.)—The familiar motorist's gripe—"They don't build cars like they used to"—has taken on a controversial new meaning for automobile safety experts.

There are drivers who insist the modern products of Detroit's assembly line are too flimsy to withstand the impact of a collision. Some charge that by increasing the glass area, automotive designers have dangerously reduced the thickness of corner posts, and have thus reduced the ability of the roof structure to hold firm in a rollover.

Others deplore the popularity of "hardtop" styling on the

grounds that it takes away roof support and weakens the entire body structure. Hardtops lack the side center posts of the conventional two and four-door sedans.

The only organization that has done large-scale research on the relationship of body structure to automobile injuries is Cornell Medical College's auto crash injury research project. Included in the data of its more than 8,000 accident reports is the make, model and body style of every car involved in those accidents.

The Evidence

Evidence collected by the Cornell project shows:

1. Complete structural failure, such as total flattening of the roof, occurred in less than five per cent of the accidents studied. In other words, for every five accidents involving almost complete demolition of the vehicle, there were about 95 other accidents in which the passenger compartment remained reasonably intact and whose partial crumpling played little or no role in producing injuries. The researchers concluded that what happens inside the car is more important than what happens to the outer shell in the vast majority of accidents.

2. Drivers and passengers were as likely to get injured or killed in cars of 1950-54 vintage as in the older vehicles dating from 1940-49. In some cases, the newer cars resulted in more frequent and severe injuries. But this was not due to such factors as "thinner corner posts and collapsing roofs," but rather to other factors such as interior design and the tendency of unsupported hardtop doors to pop open, ejecting occupants.

3. Except for injuries caused by ejection, there is insufficient evidence to indicate that hardtops built before 1956 (when safety door locks were in-

duced) have a greater injury-producing potential than conventional sedans.

Little Difference

The project studied accident injury data involving nearly 3,000 cars divided equally between two and four-door types. The results showed very little difference in overall injury effects, but did demonstrate that rear-seat passengers in four-door sedans stand a greater chance of sustaining moderate through fatal grades of injury than those riding in the rear seats of a two-door. This difference is due almost entirely to the popping open of rear doors. The Cornell experts recommend seat belts for rear-seat passengers as well as those in the front, particularly if they ride in four-door models.

Project spokesmen say that from all the available statistical evidence, the modern car is not prone to collapse, fold up or be crushed any easier than its older predecessors. In some cases, thinner metal (on fenders and grills, for example) is safer, because it absorbs impact energy easier.

Very Little Difference

"But it is unfortunate," adds one researcher, "that we still cannot say the more recent cars are definitely less dangerous than older models. The plain fact is there is very little difference between a 1954 car and a 1940 car insofar as the injuries that can be sustained in each are concerned. Now that manufacturers have begun to adopt such devices as belts, padded panels etc., it is possible to say that you stand less chance of getting hurt in a 1956 or '57 car than in a 1940 or 1954."

Tomorrow: What about horsepower and speed and their relation to the accident rate? The next article in this series will discuss the pros and cons of the so-called horsepower race.

SHADY COVE-TRAIL Rock Collection Viewed

BY EVALYN P. WATSON

Shady Cove Trail—Members of the Rogue Rockhound club of Shady Cove made a trip to Eagle Point Tuesday, evening, Feb. 19, where they viewed the outstanding rock collection of Tom Riley. Those going were Mr. and Mrs. John Galovich, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Greenley, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Sackett and son, Kerry, Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Watson, Mrs. Clara Thurman and Mrs. Dolf Larson. The next meeting of the club will be on March 19 at the home of Mrs. Clara Thurman, with Mrs. Dolf Larson as co-hostess. Tom Riley of Eagle Point will be guest speaker. Eagle Point will be the guest speaker.

Mrs. Arley Spain of Shady Cove has accepted a position as private secretary to Mr. Gould at the Camp White Domiciliary Center. Mrs. Spain recently passed the civil service examinations.

Friends in the area have heard from Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Hicks and family who left their home in Shady Cove recently to go to California. They have settled in the little town of Chula Vista, which is only 8 miles from the Mexican border. Hicks is employed by Tyce Engineering. Their address there is 549 G. St. Chula Vista, Calif.

Sharon O'Brien of Shady Cove entertained a group of teen-agers at a Valentine party at her home. There was dancing during the evening. Guests attending were Loretta Rone, Leonard Winslow, Delberta Spain, Stanley Johnson, Mavis Couser of Shady Cove, Mike Clark and Jean Ann

Morgan of Trail and Fred Hay of Eagle Point.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Rich and daughter Jeanette, of Medford, were visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Bartuss on Sunday. Other visitors at the Bartuss home were Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Collins of Shady Cove and Mr. and Mrs. William Epperson of Prospect.

Mr. and Mrs. Vic Conover and Mr. Conover's father, Alvin Conover have returned from Portland. While there they visited with Mrs. Conover's brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Johnson.

Recently, Mr. and Mrs. William Epperson, of Prospect, were doing some work on their lot in Shady Cove, which lies between the homes of Mrs. Mary Chapman and the Glenn Collins. The Eppersons assisted by the Collins and Mrs. Chapman were engaged in pulling down an old dead stump which was riddled with woodpecker holes. When it finally came down with a crash, a flying squirrel scampered out of the debris, and upon investigation, a nest was found in the hollow end of the tree. Nearby neighbors, the Bob Vincent family, recalled a similar incident happened to them when they were building their house several years ago.

There will be a Benefit Games night on Saturday, March 2 starting at 8:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Fatima hall in Shady Cove. Bridge, pinocle and other games will be played and refreshments will be served. Admission for adults will be 75 cents per person. All members of the community are invited.

Nehru Escapes Injury In Emergency Landing

New Delhi (U.P.)—Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru of India escaped injury Tuesday when an engine caught fire on his twin-engine campaign plane—a gift of the Soviet government—and he was forced to make an emergency landing.

The plane, a two-engine Ilyushin-14, was presented to Nehru by Soviet Premier Nikolai Bulganin last year when Bulganin and Soviet Communist Party leader Nikita S. Khrushchev were touring India.

The plane landed at a neglected wartime airstrip at Raichur, 110 miles southwest of Hyderabad. Nehru looked untroubled when told of the fire and only smiled when the pilot later apologized to him for the incident.

Illinois Valley Group Starts Drive for Tags

Cave Junction — An all-out drive to place identification tags on the majority of children and adults in the Illinois valley has been launched by the American Legion auxiliary as part of the Civil Defense effort here.

Mrs. Harold Haslock, committee chairman, said the tags are not only essential in case of attack, but might prove valuable when accidents or other disasters occur. She will discuss the program at Parent-Teacher association groups in the valley this month.

PACIFIC INDUSTRIAL
16 S. Central • Phone 3-5308

IT WORKED

Niles, Mich. (U.P.)—John Jessup, 6, rubbed two sticks together while playing in a closet and succeeded in starting a fire, just as he had seen Indians demonstrate on TV. His baby sister called firemen who doused the blaze with a pail of water.

ALL-WHEAT

Alliance, Neb. (U.P.)—Keeping with promotion of their product, the Box Butte County Wheat Growers Assn. featured an all-wheat fare at their annual dinner. The menu included wheat scollops, macaroni salad, bulgar, (a wheat cereal) and pie.



DRIVE-IN CLEANERS
702 West Main St. • 844 South Riverside
• Finest Quality Cleaning
• Quick 2 Hour Service
• Latest Type Equipment
• Convenient Drive-Up Windows
• Free Ford Tickets



"Standard Heating Oils keep my house so clean I couldn't see where I'd been washing"



"At the last spring cleaning time," says Mrs. William McGillivray, Spokane, "I started cleaning my kitchen ceiling for the first time in two years. But it was so clean I couldn't see where I'd washed and where I hadn't. We've never had any cleaning trouble since we've used Standard Heating Oils. They save us money, too!"



Call your Housewarmer — your local Standard Heating Oil Distributor — for the most modern heat your money can buy

1. Clean — every drop turns to pure heat.
2. Automatic delivery with your Housewarmer's keep-filled service.
3. Money-saving suggestions are part of your Housewarmer's personal service.

And for economy, remember...no other type of fuel has higher burning efficiency



Standard Oil Company of California

VALLEY FUEL CO.
26 West Main — Phone 3-1576

FABER FUEL CO.
401 So. 4th St. — Phone 2-4449

GOING RIDING?
Look for STABLES RIDING APPAREL PILLOWS in the **YELLOW PAGES**
You'll find it fast in the **YELLOW PAGES**

Montgomery Ward
Wards Open Tonight Till 9:00
E.O.M.
end-of-month sale

- 1.35 NYLON HOSE
Stretch nylons in seamed or seamless styles. 9 to 11. Save at Wards. **99¢**
- 2.98 WOMEN'S, MISSES GIRDLES
Choice of Panty or Regular Styles. 2 Way stretch. All elastic. Broken sizes. **2.33**
- 1.00 COSTUME JEWELRY
Fine Quality Simulated Pearl Necklaces in many styles. Plus tax **67¢**
- 59c WOMEN'S PANTIES, BRIEFS
Close Out on Good Quality Rib Knit Cotton Vests, Panties, Briefs. **47¢**
- 3.98 WOMEN'S, MISSES SHOES
Casuals, Wedgies and Flats. Not all sizes in every style. Save! **1.88**
- 2.98 GIRLS' SKIRTS, SLACKS
Choose from large selection of styles and fabrics. Hurry for yours at Wards. 7-14. **\$1**
- 2.98 BOYS' PANTS
Sizes 6 to 18 years. Long-wearing Denim and Gabardines. Save now at Wards. **2.47**
- 2.98 BOYS' DENIM JACKET
Ideal for school or play wear. Assorted colors. Sanforized for lasting fit. 6-18. **2.47**
- MEN'S SHIRT VALUES TO 4.98
Long or short sleeve Sport Shirts in cotton or Rayon. Small, Med., Large. **2.47**

- MISSES SPORTS WEAR**
- | Blouses, T-Shirts | Skirts |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1.98 Now 80c, \$1 | 3.98 Now \$2 |
| 2.98 Now \$1, 1.50 | 5.98 Now \$3 and \$4 |
| 3.98 Now \$2 | |

- WINTER COATS**
- | Misses' Coats | Girls' Coats |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 19.98 Now \$13 | 12.98 Now \$8 |
| 24.98 Now \$16 | 16.98 Now \$10 |
| 29.98 Now \$20 | |
| Teen Age Coats | Misses Raincoats |
| 19.98 Now \$13 | 14.98, 16.98. Now \$13 |

- 4.98 MEN'S GABARDINE SLACKS
Wash and Wear! Quality tailoring. Choice of 4 colors. 32 to 38 waist. **3.88**
- 129.95 TABLE TV
Good Quality 17" set with top mounted controls. 3 Only. **\$99**
- 184.95 HI-FI RADIO-PHONO COMB.
Blond Oak Cabinet. Four-speed Record Changer. Wonderful tone. **\$169**
- 84.95 WOOD CIRCULATOR
Ruggedly built Heating Stove. 4 to 5 room size. Well designed. **\$50**
- 299.95 REFRIGERATOR
Deluxe Quality 11.5 cu. ft. Full-width Freezer. Many features. **\$220**
- 129.95 SEWING MACHINE
Maple finish Cabinet. 20 Year Guarantee Sewing Head. **\$79**
- 189.95 2 PC. SECTIONAL
Attractive Green Nylon Frieze Cover. Reversible foam rubber cushions. 1 only. **\$150**
- ODD LOT BOX SPRINGS
Values to \$50 in twin sizes. Attractive, long-wearing tickings. **\$25**

Many Unadvertised Items

- 27.95 INNERSPRING MATTRESS
Good Quality 180 Coil Mattress. Matching Box Spring ... 19.88. **19.88**
- TABLE LAMPS. 12.75 VALUE
Assorted styles and colors. 3 Way switch. Save on these! **\$8**
- OCCASIONAL TABLES
Values up to 34.95. Coffee, End and Lamp Tables. Mahogany finish. **11.88**
- 1.00 BATH TOWEL
22x44 in. Dacron-Nylon reinforced Selvages. Carefree colors. **66¢**
- 1.00 DRAPERY YARDAGE
36 in. Decorator Fabrics. Vat-dyed. Pre-shrunk. Resists fading, shrinking. **77¢ yd.**
- 1.00 CLOTHES BASKET
Convenient round shape. Sturdy Bamboo construction. Light weight. **66¢**
- 12.50 VALUE CLOTHES DRYER
150 ft. Parallel line dryer. Plastic lines. Galv. Steel construction. **\$6**
- 19.50 LAVATORY
1 Only. Flat rim porcelain on steel. Suitable for Built-ins. **10.50**
- 16.50 ASBESTOS SIDING
Silver Gray. Completely fireproof. Easy to install. Covers 100 sq. ft. 29 sqs. only. **12.50**

- JUNIORS, MISSES, WOMENS DRESSES**
- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 8.98 Now \$7 | 12.98 Now \$10 |
| 9.98 Now \$8 | 15.98, 16.98 Now \$12 |

- Hallmark Bedroom Suite**
Rich Mahogany Veneers. Heavy Construction.
- | | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| REG. 114.95 POSTER BED | \$99 |
| REG. \$209 DOUBLE DRESSER | \$189 |
| REG. 119.95 CHEST | \$99 |
| REG. 49.95 NIGHT STAND | \$39 |

- 16.95 ELECTRIC MOTOR
1/4 h.p. Split-phase type for easy starting jobs. 1725 rpm., 110-120 V. AC. **\$12**
- 52.50 GAS ENGINE
Dependable 3/4 h.p. Ward-Clinton engine. Horizontal shaft. 1 Only. **\$42**
- 17 IN. ROTARY MOWER
Was 48.95. 1.6 h.p. 2 cycle engine. Re-circled wheels for close trimming. **\$37**
- SELF-PROPELLED MOWER
Was 129.95. Good used mower. Cuts 21 in. path. See this today. 1 only. **\$39**
- 62.95 BOYS', GIRLS' BIKES
26 in. American Tank Model. Balloon tires. Coaster brake. 3 Only. **\$53**
- 4.98 SOCCER BALL
Official size and weight. Sturdy, well built for constant use. **3.88**
- AUTO SEAT COVERS
Your choice of Jetspun or Saran plastic. Fits most cars. **19.88**
- 15.45 WINTER KING BATTERY
Wards Standard. Guaranteed for 30 months. Type 1 and 2. **10.88**
With your old battery.

Limited Quantities