

by John Eastman

Safe Driving Pays



A wave of the checkered flag by Urbandale (Ia.) Mayor Byron Jamison starts students on the run.

THE CHECKERED flag falls and the cars pull away, but there's no thunder of exhaust, no screaming tires. What kind of a race is this?

High-school students in more than a thousand schools across the country are finding out this Spring as they participate in "Economy Runs" where trophies go to the safe, not the swift.

Safe driving is difficult to measure, but the careful driver is almost sure to get more miles per gallon of gas than the fast, reckless driver. Economy runs, held in only a few schools three years ago and in 50 last Fall, pit one student against another over a 100-mile course. The best miles-per-gallon total wins a prize, and the best ton-miles per gallon wins another, thus eliminating any advantage held by a light car over a heavier, more powerful model.

Usually 35 students drive in each competition. The rest of the student body joins in by making posters and route guides, writing publicity for the school paper, inspecting the cars before the run, and acting as "pushers" to move the cars from gas pump to starting line. Every drop of gas counts in this race, so motors aren't run needlessly.

The runs are organized and carried out by the high-school teachers (especially the driver-education instructor), townspeople, and local and state

police. Any boy or girl over 16 who has a valid driver's license and is a student can enter. They must drive their own or their family car, and it must be adequately covered by liability insurance.

When the student starts on the run, an adult observer rides along. He keeps a log of the trip, and any traffic violation costs a tenth of a gallon of gas. This cuts down the driver's miles per gallon and means that the safest driver tends to win.

The run is planned and patrolled by the state or local police and covers as many road conditions as possible—a real test of teen-agers' driving abilities.

What good are economy runs? The National Safety Council and law-enforcement agencies in many states have commended them, believing that safety education is more effective in high schools than anywhere else.

Jerome Donovan, principal of Urbandale High School, in a Des Moines suburb, has described economy runs at his school as "safe and sane automobile competition. Teen-agers love competition, and what better way can they have it?"

Plans are under way to make the runs national in scope, with regional sweepstakes for trophies.

Perhaps the coming generation of drivers will be safer and saner than today's, and they'll get better gasoline mileage in the bargain!

All Right...Let Us Judge CATHOLICS BY THE BIBLE!

Many sincere people regard the Bible as the sole authority for Christian belief.

And they reject the teachings of the age-old Catholic Church because these teachings and forms of Catholic worship are not mentioned by name in Holy Scripture.

"Where," some will ask, "does the Bible say anything about the Mass or Purgatory? And how about confession to a priest, praying to Mary, and those seven Sacraments you Catholics talk about? They're not in MY Bible."

Although everything contained in the Bible is true, yet the Bible is not the sole source of all truth. For example, we know that Christ established His Church... that the Church existed long before the Bible was completed... that millions lived and died in the Savior's truth without ever having seen a Bible.

But we are willing to set aside these historical truths for the moment and judge Catholic beliefs and practices by the Bible.

Take first, for instance, the fact that the Bible does not mention the Mass or Purgatory by name. Well, neither does it mention the word Bible by name. Furthermore nowhere within its covers is it stated what are the writings which contain the inspired Word of God. The only authority you have for this is the word of the Catholic Church, which preserved and collected the Scriptural writings and put them between the covers of a book.

The word "Sacrament," meaning a sacred rite, is not used anywhere in the Bible. But Holy Scripture does make clear the sacredness of such Catholic rites as Baptism, Confirmation, the Eucharist, Matrimony, Penance,

the Last Anointing, and Holy Orders—the deputizing of the successors to the Apostles.

The Sacraments were in possession of the Church and in daily use before a single line of the new Testament was written. People were being received into the Church by Baptism long before there was a New Testament. They were receiving Confirmation, were being married according to Christ's teaching, and praying over and anointing the sick.

Christ definitely *did* establish His Church. He *did* deputize His Apostles, and their successors, to continue His teaching. He *did* promise that His Church would endure forever, and could not fall into error. But He *never did say*: "All My teachings shall be in a book. Read and believe nothing else."

A tremendously interesting pamphlet explaining the Catholic teaching concerning such things as the Sacraments, Purgatory, why Catholics do not eat meat on Friday, why we call it Catholic Church instead of "Roman" Catholic, will be sent in a plain wrapper on your request, and nobody will call on you. Write for Pamphlet No. FM-28.

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