

1957 Not Just Another Year To Victims of Unusual Accidents

By PAUL JONES

Director of Public Information
National Safety Council
So 1957 was just another year?
Try to tell that to Dr. Guy Jones. Or George Bates. Or John Arends. Or to Dogcatcher Donald Baird.

For it was in 1957 that—
Dr. Jones was vaccinated by a cow.

Mr. Bates was clobbered on the highway by a flying canoe.
Mr. Arends suffered severe injuries by becoming a father.

And Dogcatcher Baird was bitten not by a dog, but by a dog owner—a mad one.

Just another year? Hah!
And the oddities listed above were only a few of the weird and wacky happenings uncovered by the National Safety Council in its annual roundup of freak accidents.

The dizzy details:
The case of the vaccinated veterinarian occurred in Wadesboro, N.C., where Dr. Guy Jones got a syringe full of vaccine in his arm when a cow he was preparing to inoculate suddenly lunged against him. Moral: never vaccinate a cow at lunging time.

Driver Must Be Prepared
George Bates, of Evanston, Ill., is aware of course, that in today's traffic a driver must be prepared for almost anything. Nevertheless, he was startled when a flying canoe zoomed down the highway straight at him, crashed through his windshield and clobbered him good. It had been blown loose from the top of an approaching car by a high wind.

John Arends, of Olympia, Wash., can tell you what any man knows—that becoming a father is no picnic. After an all-night vigil at the hospital, Arends proudly rushed up to his wife as she was wheeled from the delivery room. At the sight of the ether, he passed out cold, landed kerplunk on the concrete floor. Mother and child? Doing fine, Father? Two broken teeth and a banged-up face!

And in East Los Angeles, Calif., Dogcatcher Donald Baird was bitten good and hard by a lady who seemed upset because Baird was trying to impound her pet. "It's a dog's life," moaned Baird.

As a professional landscaper, Harry Westcott, of Mt. Upton, N.Y., knows better than to saw off a limb on which he is sitting. But he did saw off one to which his safety rope was attached. Always something new to learn!

Two Fall Into Shaft
In Morningside Heights, New York City, two workers on a new skyscraper fell into an open elevator shaft 21 floors above the ground. Donald McKeon fell four floors, grabbed a cable and swung himself safely onto the 17th floor landing. William Vesalides plunged 18 floors before he managed to seize a cable and ease himself onto a third-floor landing platform. Both men escaped with minor bruises.

And in Long Beach, Calif., movie actor Jeff Chandler understandably put so much fervor into a love scene with Kim Novak that he cracked one of her ribs.

The John Bakers, of Bellflower, Calif., didn't have to lift a hand to arrange for a rumpus with which to christen their fine new rumpus room. A passing automobile obliged by going out of control and crashing into the room for one of the damndest rumpuses you ever heard.

Fifteen-year-old Susan Thomson, of Madison, Wis., didn't invite her father to go along when she took the family car for an unauthorized spin which ended when she banged into a tree. He couldn't have gone anyway. As governor of Wisconsin, he was busy at the moment attending a highway safety conference on teen-age driving.

Driver Wags Tail
In San Diego, Calif., a car rolled out of a driveway, crossed the street and crashed into the porch of a home. When police arrived they found the driver happily wagging his tail. His name was Jack and his owner, Don Snyder, had forgotten to set the hand brake when he left the dog alone in the car. Jack had climbed behind the wheel, put paw to gear shift, and let 'er roll.

When three-year-old George Wilkins' mother found him playing with matches in the Wilkins home in San Antonio, Tex., she picked him up to warn his seat. She didn't have to. It already was warm. Matches in George's

hip pocket had set his pants on fire.

Mrs. Charles Drennon, of Memphis, Tenn., still doesn't know for sure that the little light in the refrigerator really goes out when you close the door. She was still peering intently inside when she slammed the door shut. Her nose wasn't broken, the doctor said. Just good and sore.

Thomas Clappa, of Oswego, N.Y., wondered if it wouldn't be smart to have his brakes relined. He decided definitely it would be when his car kept right on going through the door of the brake-testing station. Damage, \$300.

Hitchhiker Too Close
It was bound to happen sooner or later, of course, and it did—to Melvin Carter, of Kinlock, Mo. Trying eagerly to hitchhike a ride, Melvin edged a bit too close to traffic and a passing car whacked his outstretched thumb so hard he had to have it treated. He eventually took a bus.

And in Auburn, Mich., George Pero literally gave up his seat—to a strip-run driver. As Pero leaned over his car, parked beside the highway, a passing auto caught his trousers and deftly whisked them off, leaving him standing there red-faced.

No matter how changeable your climate may be, chances are you never saw the mercury go down as fast as it did when Robert Sheffield swallowed a clinical thermometer in a hospital at Bournemouth, England.

Even in a city as big as Chicago, a man and his wife will occasionally run into each other on the street. But Dr. and Mrs. Alex Buchholz did it the hard way—each driving a car. Dr. Buchholz, uninjured, insisted on taking the other driver to a hospital for personalized treatment.

Takes Direct Route
In Plant City, Fla., Mrs. Lizzie B. Morgan took a direct route to reach the automobile licensing bureau for her driving test. She stepped on the accelerator instead of the brake and crashed

into the building which houses the bureau.

It was hard for 10-year-old Marshall Frey to figure out just how he happened to ram his bike into a parked car on a street in Miami Beach, Fla. "All I was doing," he told police, "was riding along reading my comic book."

Police were horrified when they pulled Harold Donath from the wreckage of his overturned bakery truck in West Palm Beach, Fla. His face appeared to be a mass of blood. Closer inspection disclosed it was only cherry pie.

In Chicago, Mrs. George Relthall solicitedly entered the darkened bedroom where her husband lay recuperating from a badly sprained ankle, tripped over the crutch protruding from his bed, fell and broke her arm.

One of Charles Combs' farmhands at Olney, Ill., knew a surefire way to get rid of those wasps in the barn. He would burn them out. It worked. The wasps went up in smoke. So did the barn, 5,000 bales of hay, 2,000 bushels of barley, a utility shed, a garage, three drums of gasoline, and 200 loads of manure. And that ain't hay!

Safety Drivers Collide
In Los Angeles, two safety award-winning taxi drivers—George Madden with 15 years without an accident and Harry Hayman with eight—made out accident reports the same day. They had collided with each other.

The perfect way to close this treatise, of course, would be to report that when the San Francisco earthquake of 1957 jarred loose a National Safety Council award proudly hanging on the wall above Cartoonist Al Vermeer's drawing board in Castro Valley, the bronze plaque bopped him on the head. But the capricious little sprites who arrange such things slipped up on this one. The thing missed Al by a full inch!

So 1957 was just another year? Hah!

Extension Staff Off To Corvallis Meet
Seven county agriculture staff members left yesterday for the annual state agriculture staff conference to be held at Oregon State college, Corvallis, this week.

Attending the meetings are W. B. Tucker, agriculture agent, Clifford B. Cordy and Don Berry, horticulture agents, Earl Jossey, extension agent, Miss Mary Pat Lucy, home demonstration agent, and Glenn Klein and Miss Marilou Garner, 4-H county agents.

Cordy is vice-president of the county agents association and will take an active part in the week conference.

Eastbound Buses Resume Schedules
Portland — (AP) — Eastbound Greyhound buses, idle since last Wednesday because of a labor dispute, began running again today.

An official of the Motor Coach Employees union said the dispute over closing of an agency in Pullman, Wash., would be "settled in the courts."

Burnard Wilson, assistant regional manager for Greyhound, said service resumed at 7:15 a.m. with the departure of an eastbound bus for Salt Lake City. The dispute had affected bus service from Portland and Seattle east and the Spokane area.

U. S. CONSUL HONORED
Birmingham, England — (AP) — The city of Birmingham honored U. S. Consul Walter W. Hoffman Monday night at a farewell dinner given by Lord Mayor John J. Grogan. Hoffman, American consul here for the past four years, is returning home to Boston, Mass., next week to retire from the foreign service after 29 years.

MORE GOLD TO BRITAIN
London — (AP) — Russia has delivered its second shipment of gold bars to England in the last 18 months. A shipment worth \$7 million for payment for British exports to Russia landed here Monday aboard the Soviet liner Baltika.

WONDERFUL IDEA
Brillion, Wis. — (AP) — The town of Brillion has given taxpayers a Christmas present. Officials said an audit showed the town treasury had so much money that no township taxes will be levied next year.

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Geo. N. Taylor

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Gresham Man Dies As Car Leaves Road
Sandy, Ore. — (AP) — One man died and six persons were injured late Monday night when a car skidded on glare ice and plunged into Cedar creek about 5 miles east of here on Highway 26.

The Clackamas county sheriff's office identified the dead man as Delmar Gene Niles, 28, Gresham.

Lt. Paul Lowery of the sheriff's office said the car attempted to pass another, skidded on the ice, struck the concrete abutment of the bridge and fell about 25 feet into about four feet of water. A preliminary coroner's report indicated Niles may have died from drowning.

Most seriously hurt of the six injured was Mrs. Ruby Chamberlain, Gresham, who suffered a fractured leg, shock and possible internal injuries. Others, in fair to good condition, were Warren Marion Parker, Boring, driver of the car; Jerry Niles, Gresham, brother of the dead man; Donald Fogel, Portland; and Judith Arlene Hug and Wanda Packer, Pleasant Home.

The Hollywood Scene
Hollywood — (AP) — Esther Williams hollered for help today—her house is being splintered by woodpeckers and she can't do anything to stop them.

The swim star, clad in skin-tight bull-fighter pants, climbed a top of her ranch-style canyon home to survey the wreckage. Shingles were scattered hither yon, holes the size of silver dollars were punched through to the attic, and acorns were wedged into every cranny.

"I began when a man, who had been oiling roofs in the neighborhood, offered to fix our roof for half price," Esther explained unhappily.

Peppermint Flavored Oil
"So he spread some evil smelling stuff all over the place, collected his money and disappeared. That oil must have been peppermint flavored."

"A few weeks later I woke up to hear horrible pounding noises. It sounded like a mob of process servers trying to break down the doors. Looked all over the house before I spotted two dozen woodpeckers drilling away on the roof."

"Since then it's been open warfare," Esther called her insurance company, but got the horse laugh.

"They said woodpecker damage was an act of God and I couldn't collect on my policy. Each hole came under my \$50 deductible clause—which meant I'd have to pay that much for each of 500 holes."

Bought Gun, Couldn't Shoot
The actress climbed down from the roof and into the attic where shafts of light from the holes made a pleasant polka dot pattern.

"I bought a pellet gun, but I couldn't bear the thought of shooting the darned birds. I considered a scarecrow, but the neighbors would think I'd lost my mind."

PLANE READY FOR SERVICE
London — (AP) — The turbo-prop Bristol Britannia will go into non-stop transatlantic passenger service between London and New York, Dec. 19, British Overseas Airways Corp. announced today. The scheduled service had been delayed for months by icing and other minor faults in the big four-engine "whispering giant." The flights are to be once weekly in each direction at the start.

Dead Line on Classified Ads: 5:30 p.m. for following day, except 10 a.m. for Monday; for Sunday, noon Saturday.

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By VERNON SCOTT
United Press Writer

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Oregon City Man Hurt In Streetcar Crash

Oregon City — (AP) — Howard Buttolph, 55, Oregon City, was injured critically Monday night when his car was struck by a street car in the fog midway between here and Gladstone.

Sheriff's deputies said Buttolph drove onto the tracks in thick fog at the end of Main and 18th sts. and continued westbound about half a mile.

They said he apparently was trying to get the car off the tracks when a street car struck the auto while it was crossing a 30-foot trestle. The car was pushed 196 feet and was a total wreck. Buttolph was found at the bottom of the trestle bank below the point of impact.

FIRM MUST SELL ASSETS
Cairo — (AP) — The Cairo branch of the American Express company has been given five years to sell its assets to Egyptians, it was disclosed today. Five years is the maximum time permitted for such takeovers under the "Egyptianization" laws passed earlier this year.

LLOYD'S COUNSEL DIES
London — (AP) — William Mendes, 66, general counsel in the United States for underwriters at Lloyd's, London, died here Monday after a short illness. A native of New York, Mendes was senior partner of the law firm of Mendes & Mount.



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