Many Drivers Do Not Take Advantage of Law

Many Oregon drivers do not take advantage of a 1951 law which permits right turns against red lights, after first stopping, Chief of Police Charles P. Champlin reminded motorists today.

Under the same law motorists may make left turns against the red lights when entering one-way streets after stopping, he said.

Such turns can be made at all locations unless a "no turn on red" sign specifically prohibits the move, he said.

Champlin explained that drivers who fail to take advantage of the law do so out of ignorance of the law as much as the fact that they cannot break the habit of moving only on a green light.

Habit Not Dangerous

Although the habit is not dangerous, the chief added, it does, however, slow traffic and add to downtown congestion.

Drivers who received their licenses some years ago should occasionally check some of their old habits when it comes to traffic, he said.

Among the bad driving habits which can prove to be deadly include failing to make complete stops at stop signs; not using the rear view and side view mirrors often enough; backing out of private driveways without checking closely enough on both foot and vehicular traffic which might be in the way; and changing lanes without signalling.

Snider Endorses Wildlife Week

Medford Mayor John W. Snider has endorsed stimulating public action to bring more conservation into the school program as the goal of 1959 National Wildlife Week in Medford.

National Wildlife Week will be observed throughout the country March 15 through 21.

Mayor Snider pointed out that National Wildlife Week should demonstrate the importance of making conservation, as it affects day to day living and the present and future welfare of the nation, a part of the learning experience of young people.

Proper care and protection of natural resources, he said, can not be provided without the support of an informed public. He urged all citizens and public and private agencies to further the objective of Wildlife Week by helping to assess and publicize the need for conservation training in the schools so that the education of young people can be expanded through public understanding and support.

Air Charter Service Formed at Airport

Formation of Valley Aviation, an air charter and aircraft brokerage firm, has been announced by Lyle Estelle, former manager of the Rogue Flying service.

Valley Aviation is operated from the Medford airport terminal building and is the authorized dealer of Piper aircraft here. The company is using a Piper Tri-Pacer for air charter and taxi service, and plans later to furnish a Piper Comanche for such service.

Traffic Shows Increase in Area

Average daily traffic for January at four highway locations in Jackson county showed an increase over January, 1958, the state highway department has reported.

On Highway 66, five miles east of Ashland, 812 vehicles were recorded for the average daily volume compared to 701 for January, 1958, an increase of 15.8 per cent. An increase from 418 last year to 464 this year, an 11 per cent increase, was recorded on Highway 238 one mile west of Ruch, the department reported.

Traffic on Highway 62 four miles south of Shady Cove increased from 1,100 last year to 1,223 this year for an 11.2 per cent increase, and the average daily volume on Highway 99 two miles south of Talent showed an increase of 9.8 per cent from 6,013 last year to 6,600 this year.

The figures are compiled from permanent automatic traffic recorders on rural highways, the department noted.

Statewide highway traffic increased 1 per cent during January, 1959, compared to January, 1959, traffic. Traffic counts are taken at 72 locations throughout the state.

Urban traffic trends showed an increase of 3.8 per cent during the same period.

Prominent Chinese Faces Jury Trial

San Francisco—(UPI)—Prominent San Francisco Chinatown businessman George W. Yee will face a jury trial March 30 on charges he conspired to smuggle $100 million worth of narcotics from Red China to the West Coast.

Medford Employee At Short Course

Corvallis—Raymond S. Fish of route 2, box 445E, Medford, is enrolled at Oregon State college this week in a special sewage works operators short course. He is a Medford city employee.

The short school training program is offered at the college each year as a service to cities, sanitary districts, and private utility companies. Purposes are to promote economical and efficient operation of sewage works systems and to reduce hazards to public health incident to the disposal of sewage and industrial wastes.

Sponsors with the college's school of engineering are the Oregon State Board of Health, Oregon State Sanitary Authority and League of Oregon Cities.

New Requirements Listed by Air Force

New requirements have been announced for aviation cadet training, according to M/Sgt. Carson W. Campbell, local Air Force recruiter.

Until recently, two years of college were mandatory, but because of the heavy demand for flying officers, the requirement has been eased to allow high school graduates to enter the flying program, he said.

Single men between 19 and 26½ years old with a diploma from an accredited high school may be eligible to enter the program. Graduates of the cadet program receive a second lieutenant's commission in the Air Force Reserve with a rating of pilot or navigator.

Additional information may be obtained from Sgt. Campbell at the Medford post office building or by telephoning SPring 3-4943.

The Medical Roundup

by Walter Alvarez

Emeritus Consultant in Medicine, Mayo Clinic
Emeritus Professor of Medicine, Mayo Clinic

Studies in the Newer Psychiatry

As I keep pointing out in this column, a very hopeful revolution is now taking place in psychiatry. For last 40 years or so most of the writing on mental disease has been done by devoted disciples of some leader like Freud, Jung, Adler or Rank who every year sat down at his desk and spun out theories of the origins of mental and nervous diseases. Naturally, these theories were unproved, and many of them could not possibly be tested or proved. Many were so stupid and improbable and even laughable that they would never have been published if they hadn't caught the fancy of the lay public. Certainly, most of these theories should never have been published in a scientific journal.

Dr Alvarez

Now, at last, a new type of psychiatrist is appearing on the scene—a real scientist, a man trained in laboratory technics. He is studying the functions of the brain in animals, in healthy men, and in mentally sick men. He is finding drugs which, when given to a healthy man, cause him in half an hour to become psychotic for perhaps a day. The new type of psychiatrist keeps working with able drug chemists who are constantly producing new medicines which either calm an excited brain or stimulate a sluggish and depressed brain.

Studying Mentally Ill

The modern type of psychiatrist now is studying mentally ill persons with chemical methods, searching for nervous poisons in his blood and other body fluids. Dr. Linus Pauling, one of the world's great chemists, received a large grant from the Ford Foundation to study mentally retarded children. We know of at least one type of mental retardation which is due to an inborn defect in body chemistry, and now the search is on for other similar defects.

I have just been reading of studies recently made in New York by Drs. Loring F. Chapman and Harold G. Wolff. For years, Dr. Wolff and his associates have been pioneering in this field of studying nervous and mental diseases—with exact laboratory technics. Now, Chapman and Wolff report that they have been finding chemical peculiarities in the cerebro-spinal fluid which surrounds the brain and spinal cord of persons with certain nervous diseases. As yet, they do not know whether these changes are the cause or the result of the disease in the brain.

Discoveries Excites Hope

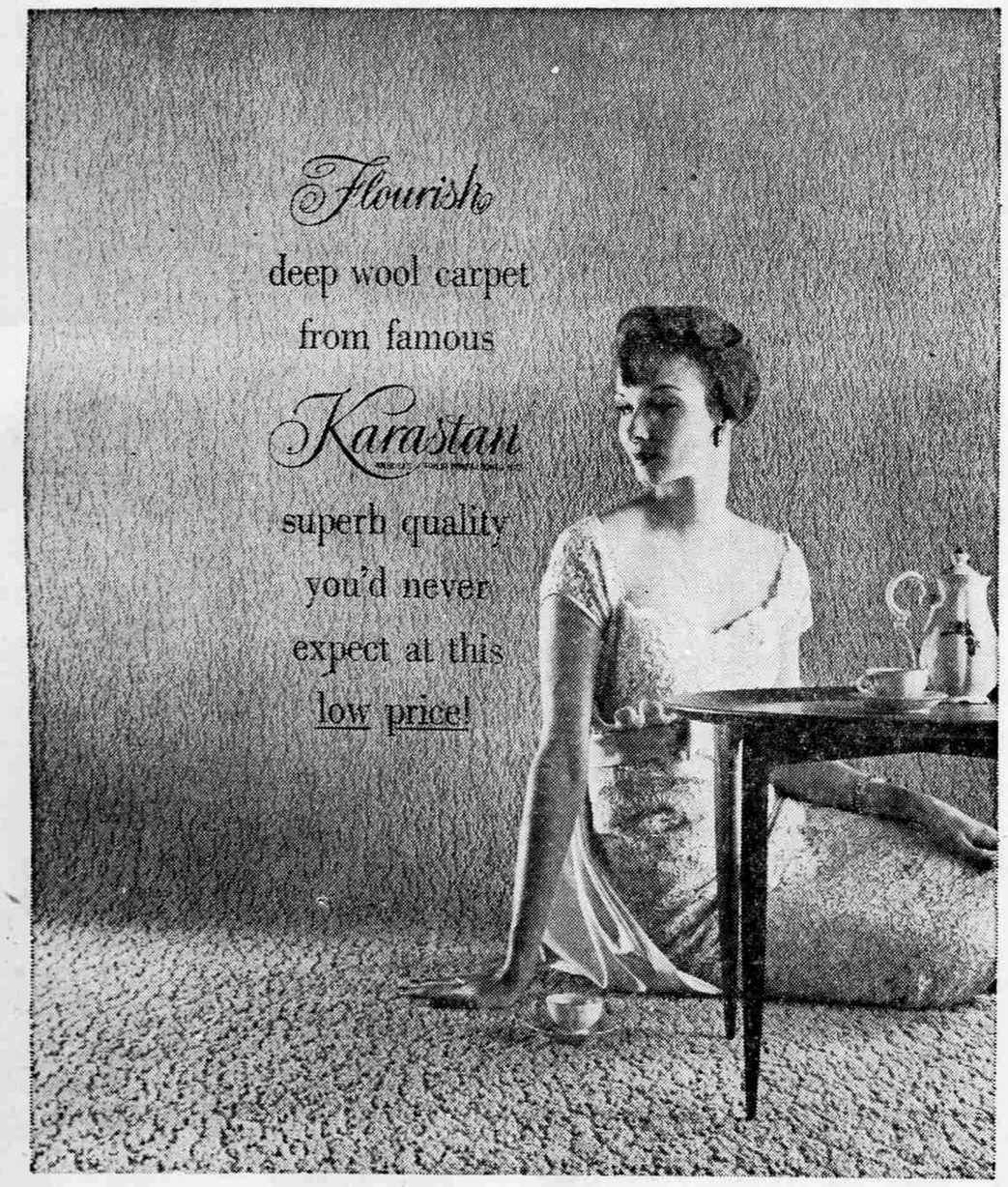
Particularly interesting to psychiatrists will be the discovery that the cerebro-spinal fluid of schizophrenics contains an abnormal amount of a protease—a ferment which affects the chemistry of proteins. As yet, no one can prophesy what this discovery will lead to, but all such discoveries excite hope. For one thing, they show what many phychiatrists have long suspected, and this is that in some cases of schizophrenia we are dealing—not with a normal man who in his infancy was mentally injured by seeing his parents naked, or something like that. No: We are dealing with a man who inherited something wrong in the chemistry of his brain and perhaps his whole body. He would seem to be much like a diabetic who inherited a defect in the pancreatic cells that make insulin, or like a man with gout who inherited a defect in some part of his body which normally gets rid of uric acid.

As soon as we doctors can be sure that some mental and nervous diseases are due to an inherited defect in body chemistry—like diabetes and gout—out the window must go the pseudo-scientific mumbo-jumbo of many of the psychoanalysts. Instead, the new modern and scientific type of psychiatrist will be searching for drugs which will rectify the insane man's brain chemistry, much as insulin corrects the defective body chemistry of the diabetic. The world does move!

Radar Demonstration Set at Roundtable

Patrolman Duane Franklin of the Medford police department is scheduled to discuss and demonstrate the operation of the city's traffic radar set tomorrow at the weekly Jackson County Chamber of Commerce roundtable.

The roundtable meets for lunch each Monday noon at the Jackson hotel, with the public invited.



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