

IT'S YOUR LAW

Respect for Law Makes Democracy Live

AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENTS

Now that millions of people are taking their vacations and driving about the country, automobile accidents are occurring with increasing frequency. When involved in an accident, it is hard to keep your wits about you and know just what to do.

It is therefore a good idea to plan in advance just what you would do in the event of a smash-up. Here are a few simple rules that every driver should commit to memory:

1. Stop! Failure to stop can result in serious criminal consequences.

2. Render Aid. If anyone is injured: (1) Render first aid. (2) Stop bleeding. (3) Call a doctor or an ambulance or both. (4) Do not move an injured person in any way that could possibly add to his injury.

3. Protect the Scene from Further Damage. You may be liable for damages to approaching drivers, unless they are properly warned. If the highway is obstructed at night, have someone turn his headlight beams on the wrecked vehicles.

4. Call an Officer. Highway Patrolmen, Policemen, Sheriffs and their Deputies are trained accident investigators whose testimony may be invaluable in establishing your civil claim for damages.

5. Gather information . . . Write it down. Don't trust your memory. Don't guess — be specific. Measure skid marks. Step off distances. Be sure to obtain names and addresses of witnesses. You are required by law to exhibit your driver's license to the other driver — and he must do the same.

6. Be Careful What You Say. Even if you feel you probably are to blame, it is best to make no admission. You may learn later that the other driver was equally at fault, or more so. Emotional comments can be misconstrued by others, or may be misquoted. Whatever you say, make it factual.

7. See Your Doctor if there is the slightest chance you may be injured.

Serious injuries do not always result in immediate pain or bloodshed.

8. Consult Your Lawyer Immediately. The sooner your lawyer is brought into the matter, the better he can advise you and protect your rights. He can obtain statements from the witnesses while their memories are fresh, and do many other things to insure that the true facts are preserved. Get your lawyer's advice before giving any interviews or statements to investigators or adjusters for the other side.

9. Inform Your Insurance Company Promptly. Failure to do may void your policy.

10. Report the accident to the sheriff, or the Police Department, or to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

An official accident report may be procured from any of the above-listed agencies.

(Oregon lawyers offer this column as a public service. No person should apply or interpret any law without the aid of an attorney who is completely advised of the facts involved. Even a slight variance in facts may change the application of the law.)

SUING THE GOVERNMENT

"The sovereign can do no wrong" still means that no one can sue the United States, the state or the government agencies or their employees without consent.

But the law has given up much of the government's "sovereign immunity" to allow one to sue an agency for injuries or damages suffered.

But as a citizen you may have claims against your government for damages, overpaid taxes, license renewal or anything else. If so, be sure to follow strictly all the legal procedures and conditions like filing your claim in the city council or with a government agency.

The Federal Tort Claims Act allows one to sue the United States for injuries such as when an army or postal truck runs into you, or you get hurt in a national park or in a federal building, or a military plane falls on your house, etc.

This law makes the United States liable in many cases where a federal employee harms you by lack of due care or negligence while he is on the job. The act does not allow suits for certain intentional misconduct such as assault, battery, false imprisonment and the like.

The law allows any federal agency to settle cases involving less than a thousand dollars. If your claim is for more, you can sue in a federal court. Bring claims or suits within two years after injury.

Some agencies have you make your claim on a proper form in which you state facts about your injury or damage. Some agencies may pay the smaller claims from funds on hand.

If the agency people do not think the harm is their fault, they may turn down your claim, and then it is up to you — if you wish to go further — to prove your case.

Sometimes a just claim does not fall under any provision of the law. In that case as a last resort, you as a losing claimant, may have Congress itself pass a private bill to pay for your injuries or damages.

The Federal Tort Act was passed to keep down the number of private bills going through Congress. So if you have a claim not covered, you should make sure it is otherwise a fair and just claim.

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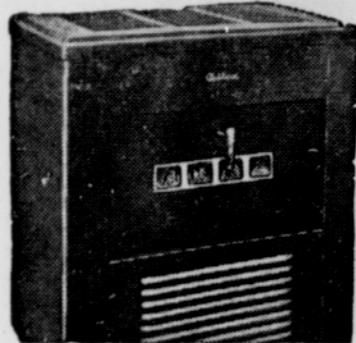
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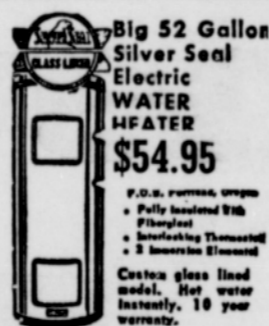
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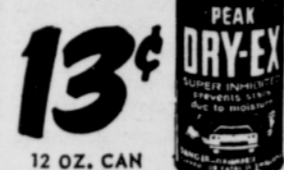
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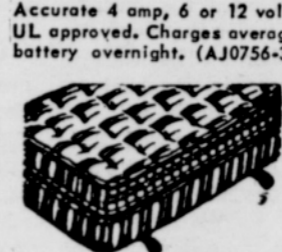
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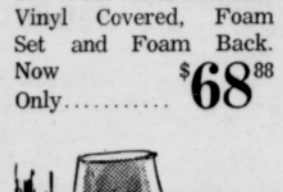
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COAST-TO-COAST STORES — COAST-TO-COAST STORES — IT'S A PRIVILEGE AND A PLEASURE TO LIVE IN VERNONIA

Vows Exchanged In Reno Rites

TIMBER — Word has been received of the marriage of Chris Middleton to Harold Hammock at Reno, Nevada recently. At one time Miss Middleton was boiler station attendant at the round house here, and Mr. Hammock was a mortician at Hillsboro. They will make their home at Brownsville.

October 18 another feast was held at the John Bino home when 13 cousins of Mr. Bino, all from Portland, dropped in for a pot luck dinner and visit.

Mrs. Mae Tallman and Mrs. John Bino attended the meeting at the Manning hall last Tuesday of the Work and Win club. Mrs. Roy May was a guest of Mrs. Tallman. After the usual pot luck lunch, birthday cards and gifts from secret pals were presented to the members having birthdays during the current month.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Adams, who were recent guests at the John Alviso home have returned to their home in Lodi, California. They moved from here to Vernonia, then to California.

B. B. Wright, who is working near Klamath Falls, spent the week end with his family here. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hojen came with him and were guests at the Wright home. The men were appearing on the port labor commission at Portland.

Aircraft Factory Visited in Texas

BIRKENFELD—Mr. and Mrs. Art Bellingham flew to Kerrville, Texas recently and went through the Moon-eye Aircraft factory.

Mr. and Mrs. Buddy Larson and family spent the week end with his folks, the Francis Larsons. Buddy did some hunting.

Miss Shirley Berg was in Portland Sunday afternoon. She took Ann Ramsey back to her school. Donna Sanders accompanied them.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Udey took a drive to Astoria, Warrenton and Seaside one day last week.

Mrs. Elsa Richardson is spending some time at Sutherlin visiting with friends.

Seven-Point Elk Is Week End Hunt Prize

BIRKENFELD—Jim Barlow was a lucky hunter. He got a seven-point elk which he killed not too far from the road in the Banzer area.

Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Wanstrom were Forest Grove callers Saturday.

Tom Colvin of Clatskanie visited at the Francis Larsons for awhile Monday.

Winema HEC will meet at the home of Mrs. G. P. Wanstrom next Tuesday, November 10 at 1:30 p.m.

The Mesdames Helen Nordstrom, Grace Berg, Pat Larson and Mrs. Churnard were in Clatskanie last Wednesday.

Grandson Home From Boot Camp

RIVERVIEW — Fireman Apprentice Jack Greenwood came Saturday to spend a two-weeks leave at the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Bud Rose. He has finished boot camp at San Diego and will be on the aircraft carrier USS Oriskany when he returns to duty.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Brown and children were in Portland at the Bible Chapel Sunday evening where he was the speaker.

Rev. and Mrs. Kermit Freeman and daughter of Portland spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Snook.

Sunday visitors at the Henry Hudson home were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lara and children and Mrs. Opal Bechtold of Portland and Elders Toole and Brown of Hillsboro.

Mrs. Bill Eckland and children spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jewell Lloyd at North Plains.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Parker spent the week end at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Ray at Gearhart.

Mrs. Alice Mills came home Wednesday after spending four days at the home of her daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Cleon Woodruff in Portland.

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