

Facts Of Safety On Highways Outlined

How's your highway I. Q.? How much do you know about the facts of driving safely?

A quick-quiz to find out how much — or how little — drivers know about the causes of accidents has been prepared by Jerry Coe of Coe Insurance Agency based on information supplied him by safety engineers for the Kemper Insurance group.

Mr. Coe says the highway I. Q. quiz offers drivers a brief refresher course on some common misconceptions about driving safety. "Knowing the correct answers

to these questions," he points out, "may someday save a driver's life."

O. K., class is in session. Get behind the wheel and start thinking.

1. What is the minimum safe distance in dry weather at which to follow another car? (a) 10 feet for each 10 m. p. h.? (b) one car length for each 10 m. p. h.? (c) 20 feet? or (d) three car lengths for each 10 m. p. h.?

2. What are the conditions of the roads on which at least 80 per cent of last year's traffic fatalities occurred? (a) wet? (b) dry?

3. Do more accidents occur in good weather or bad weather?

4. What should you do if you become fatigued while driving? (a) speed up to make your destination before you fall asleep? (b) pull over to the curb and rest? (c) stop and eat a heavy meal? (d) take some pills?

5. What is the fastest and safest way to stop a car? (a) slam the brake pedal hard? (b) ease the brake pedal to a deliberate stop? (c) pull the emergency brake and depress the foot pedal? (d) pump the brake pedal gently but firmly?

6. When a tire blows out, what is the best thing to do? (a) apply the brakes gently? (b) apply the brakes gently or not at all? (c) pull off the highway? (d) speed up to counteract the effect of the blowout?

7. There are four specially engraved invitations to death on the highway. Which is the greatest cause of death? (a) reckless driving? (b) not having the right-of-way? (c) driving on wrong side of center line? (d) excessive speed?

8. Where is the best place to put an old tire you think may blow out if driven far? (a) either front wheel? (b) in the garage? (c) spare wheel? (d) either rear wheel?

9. Drunken drivers or drivers who have been drinking are involved in one out of how many fatal accidents? (a) 24? (b) 6? (c) 18? (d) 106?

10. In addition to the specific wording on the signs, the shapes of highway signs have significance. Indicate the shape of the signs which have the following meanings: (a) stop, (b) caution, (c) railroad crossing, and (d) reduce speed.

What about the answers? Mr. Coe said the correct answers are as follows:

1. (b) one car-length for each 10 m. p. h. You must compensate for emergency stops and for any advantage in braking distance the car ahead may hold over yours.

2. (b) Dry. Dry roads are no guarantee of safety, Mr. Coe said. Speed and careless driving are more dangerous than the condition of the road.

3. Good weather. Only one out of five fatal accidents occurs in inclement weather, according to the Kemper safety engineers.

4. (b) Pull over to the curb and rest. Avoid starchy foods, heavy meals and liquids. Drugs, which slow up reaction, are dangerous.

5. (d) Pump the brake pedal gently but firmly, particularly on wet or icy pavement.

6. (b) Apply brakes gently or not at all. In case of blowout, a sudden application of the brakes may cause a car to overturn.

7. (d) Going too fast for road, weather and visibility conditions is most common cause of fatal accidents.

8. (b) A worn out tire is a menace to the driver, his passengers and to others on the road. Keep it in the garage, put it on the rubbish pile or make a swing for the kids.

9. (b) One out of six. The figure for pedestrian deaths only is even higher. One of every four adult pedestrians killed in traffic had been drinking.

10. (a) Octagonal. (b) Square. (c) Circular. (d) Diamond-shaped.

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Motorists In Area Get Hints

Motorists driving to or through North Carolina for vacations in the southern sun enjoy making their trips leisurely enough to include noted attractions on or near main north-south highways in the Tar Heel State.

U. S. Highway 1 cuts through the famous Sandhills, where the Mid-South resorts of Pinehurst and Southern Pines welcome sightseers as well as those who plan to stay for golf and riding. These sports, along with foxhunting, are at their best in the Sandhills, and at Tryon to the west, from now until late spring. Tournaments, horse shows, steeplechasing and the training tracks for race horses lend further interest. A number of gardens and an orchid greenhouse are open to Sandhills visitors.

Also on U. S. 1 is the Capital City of Raleigh, where the recently opened North Carolina Museum of Art houses a \$2,000,000 collection of works by Reubens, Goya, Rembrandt, del Sarto and other Old Masters. The museum is open from 10 until 5 p. m. daily except Mondays, and from 2 until 6 p. m. on Sundays. Admission is free. Also open free, daily and Sundays, near Capitol Square is the State Hall of History.

A loop trip off U. S. 17 to the romantic Outer Banks islands via Highways 150, 64 and 264 is facilitated by a new bridge replacing the automobile ferry across Croatan Sound to Roanoke Island. Historical points of interest in the region are Wright Brothers National Memorial, and Roanoke Island National Historical Site, where the first English settlements in America were attempted in the 1580's. On Hatteras Island, accessible by free automobile ferry, Hatteras Lighthouse—tallest lighthouse in America—is open daily so visitors can climb to its 193-foot summit.

A visit to Gaddy's Goose Refuge near Ansonville on Highway 52 is an adventure in large-scale birdwatching. Some 10,000 wild Canada geese make the refuge their home from October until April. Visitors can feed and photograph them.

Ice-hockey games between Eastern Hockey League teams are a big attraction at the Charlotte's huge Coliseum on Highway 74.

The Public Health Service recently reported drops in the incidence of poliomyelitis and hepatitis in 1956. The polio disease was from 29,270 cases in 1955 to 15,400 for 1956, a drop of about 47.5 per cent. Paralytic polio dropped from 10,641 cases to 6,708. Hepatitis (inflammation of the liver) decreased from 31,340 cases to 19,270. This disease has shown an upward trend, reaching a peak of about 50,000 cases in 1954. There was no apparent explanation of its last year's decline. Decreases were noted in cases of Diphtheria while increases were noted for phallititis, typhoid fever and measles.

10. (a) Octagonal. (b) Square. (c) Circular. (d) Diamond-shaped.

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NEWS ABOUT OUR Servicemen

EUGEN CARROL GOING TO NORFOLK
Norfolk, Va.—Eugene Carroll, radioman third class, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie J. Carrol of Route 1, Boone, N. C., is scheduled to arrive February 5 at Norfolk, Va., aboard the destroyer USS Soley after six months in the Mediterranean and the Middle East with the 6th Fleet.

While in the Mediterranean the Soley took part in anti-submarine and air defense exercises and participated in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Operation "Whipsaw."

In October the ship moved through the Suez Canal into the Red Sea where she participated in joint exercises with the Iranian Navy. With the closing of the Canal, the Soley was forced to remain in the Persian Gulf for an unexpected 30 days before beginning the trip home around the Cape of Good Hope.

Airline operations in '56 show an over-all increase. Brazil will buy U. S. surplus products under accord.

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