

Official Points Out Winter Road Hazards

The "ordinary" road hazards faced by drivers become "extraordinary" in winter because of three major factors. Motor Vehicles Commissioner Edward Scheidt said this week.

"These are reduced visibility, inadequate traction and temperature changes," he advised.

"Seeing danger in time to avoid it, and being seen by fellow motorists in time to avoid a collision, requires proper attention on the part of the driver and proper use of vital equipment helpful in assuring good visibility," Scheidt said.

"Windshield wipers must be functioning well to clear the windshield of rain, sleet or snow," he warned. "The rubber in the blades should be live, not dead, and the arm pressure on the blades against the glass should be strong enough to clear without smear and without riding over freezing deposits. One ounce of arm pressure for each inch of blade length is recommended by safety authorities."

"Headlights must be up to par and properly aimed to light the way ahead at night, and they should always be depressed for approaching cars. Headlights may even have to be used in daylight when extremely bad weather conditions prevail—such as fog, blinding rain, intense snowfall or sleet," Scheidt said.

The defroster should be in top working order, he added. This is an invaluable aid to vision. Frequent checking of the rear-view mirror is a smart "rear guard action" which will alert the driver to traffic conditions behind.

"When pavement is made slippery by rain, or particularly by snow or ice, the gripping ability of tires is adversely affected," the vehicles chief warned.

He said this hazard can be overcome by reduction of driving speed, avoiding quick starts and sudden stops, having tires with good treads, using brakes properly adjusted and applied with a fast pumping action. Reinforced tire chains ready for use should always be carried in the trunk if needed.

For severe snow and ice conditions, "National Safety Council winter research has consistently pointed up the fact that while snow treads are better than regular tires on winter surfaces, they do not equal or replace tire chains for severe conditions. The use of reinforced chains is strongly recommended by test drivers and safety engineers when needed for heavy snow or icy hills," Scheidt declared.

"Even with the aid of snow tires, or the greater help of tire chains, drivers should exercise precaution by reducing speed and increasing following distances," he added.

In addition to being on guard against the dangers posed by reduced visibility and inadequate traction, the wintertime driver must also reckon with temperature changes.

"Temperature determines the 'wetness' of ice," Scheidt observed. "Ice near the melting stage is much more slippery than 'dry' ice existing when temperatures are near zero. Ice which has thawed during the day can turn to ice again after the sun has gone down."

Profits show decline for Sears, Roebuck.

French reaction uncertain on Algeria plan.

Hyde Takes Party Post

Raleigh — State Democratic Chairman Bert Bennett today appointed Dr. Wallace N. Hyde, a native of Graham County and a resident of Raleigh, as executive secretary of the N. C. Democratic Executive Committee.

Two of Dr. Hyde's major duties will be to work with county Democratic organizations in maintaining and building Democratic strength and to help promote close liaison between local organizations and the State Party and Administration.

Dr. Hyde will make his headquarters at State Democratic Headquarters in Raleigh. He will fill a post authorized several years ago in the North Carolina Democratic Party's Plan of Organization.

Arrest Record

Highway patrolmen stationed in Watauga county, last week reported a total of 25 arrests for speeding. In the current report no arrests for that traffic violation were reported, making it appear that the crackdown on speeders is showing results.

Three persons were charged with stop sign violations, three with failure to transfer title, and two with improper lights. One arrest each was made for the following violations:

Improper passing, no chauffeur's license, improper registration, improper brakes, no operator's license, improper parking, no liability insurance, failure to see that intended move could be made in safety, driving drunk, and public drunk.

Is Elected To Kappa Phi

Raleigh, Dec. 1 — The North Carolina State College Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi, highest scholastic honor society at the institution, has elected 40 students as new members.

Among the new members are 10 graduate students and 30 seniors. Membership in Phi Kappa Phi is the highest award that State College can give a student for scholastic achievement. Phi Kappa

Phi in technological colleges is equivalent to Phi Beta Kappa in liberal arts schools.

New graduate student members include James Robert Reynolds of Boone.

USE THE WANT ADS

ENVOYS' TRAVEL CURTAILED

Many United States diplomats who planned to return home or leave or move to new posts early next year have been told to unpack their suitcases.

In a major economy move, the State Department has ordered a

drastic cutback in all but the most essential travel by its Foreign Service officers. The order takes effect January 1.

The purpose of the action was to save funds that will be used to speed new diplomatic posts in Africa.

Joins Home For Children

Mr. John McNeely has been with the Grandfather Home for Children for three months. He is in charge of recreation and entertainment for the children, taking them on outings and planning parties for them.

He attended Lees-McRae College in 1939 and is a native of Rowan County.

He was previously in the insurance business for five years in Boone before joining the Home

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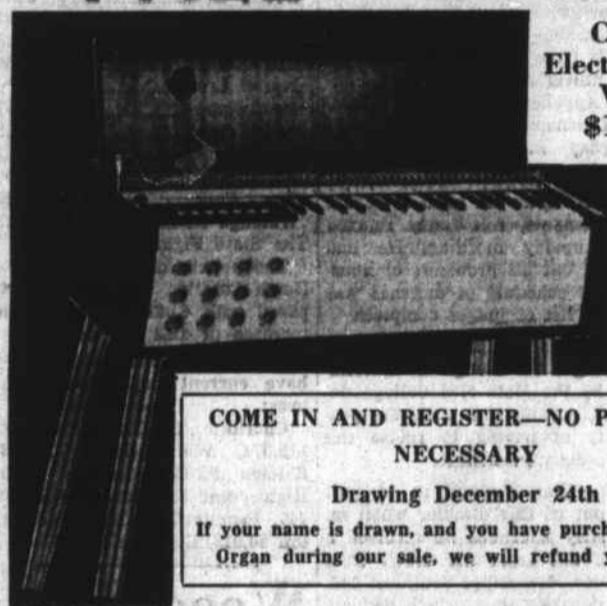


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