

Cars Someday May Boast Gold Steering Wheels, Magnetic Tapes

CHAPEL HILL — North Carolinians with physical and medical problems may one day take special road tests in a car boasting a number of unusual options—a gold steering wheel and a magnetic tape recorder, to name two.

The gold-plated steering wheel isn't exactly a decorative touch, according to Dr. Themis Johns, a staff associate at the University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center. It's a sensor that takes the driver's heart rate as he grips the wheel and maneuvers along a test course.

The instrumented cars will provide additional information—free of human error—on which the license examiner may base his decisions about the handling ability of the driver.

In addition to the gold-plated steering wheel, there are instruments that measure the following:

- Emotional change as indicated by the skin's resistance to an electrical current (Galvanic Skin Resistance).
- Elapsed time.
- Actual time car is in motion.
- Number of times driver applies brakes.
- Number of speed changes.
- Number of times driver accelerates.
- Fine steering adjustments (as little as a two degree turn of the steering wheel).
- Lane changes (a turn of the wheel of 12 degrees or more).

All this information will be recorded on a magnetic tape recorder in the trunk. For the present, the magnetic tape will be sent to Ford Motor Company for analysis. Later, the Safety Center will have access to local computer facilities.

A similar instrumented car is being used in a Vermont study of the effects of alcohol and drugs on driving ability.

Love Serving With Marine Corps

(PHOTO) TWENTY-NINE PALMS, CALIF., June 24 — Marine Staff Sergeant John T. Love, husband of the former Miss Frankie Means of 97 Louisiana Ave., Bessemer City N. C., is now serving at Marine Corps Base, Twenty-nine Palms, Calif.

The first transistorized undersea cable capable of carrying at least 720 simultaneous conversations, was placed in service between the United States and the Virgin Islands.

New Visitation Hours Set

RALEIGH — New standard visitation hours will go into effect on July 1 at the fifteen State Historic Sites administered by the State Department of Archives and History.

With few exceptions, the sites will be open for public visitation Tuesday through Saturday from 9:00 to 5:00 and on Sunday from 1:00 to 5:00. All will be closed on Monday.

Those conforming with the standard hours are Historic Bath, Historic Halifax, Zeulon Vance Birthplace near Weaverville, James K. Polk Birthplace near Pineville, Town Creek Indian Mound near Mount Gilead, Alamance Battleground near Burlington, Bennett Place near Durham, Bentonville Battleground near Newton Grove, Charles B. Aycock Birthplace near Fremont, Brunswick Town near Southport, Fort Fisher near Kure Beach, C.S.S. Neuse and Caswell Memorial near

Exceptions are Tryon Palace in New Bern which will be open Tuesday through Saturday from 9:30 to 5:00, Sunday from 1:30 to 4:00, and closed on Mondays; and Somerset Place in Pettigrew State Park which will be open Tuesday through Saturday from 9:00 to 6:00, and closed on Monday.

For the summer months of June through August the North Carolina Museum of History at 109 East Jones Street in Raleigh is open Monday through Saturday from 8:00 to 5:00 and on Sunday from 2:00 to 5:00.

A new multiple brochure for the State Historical Museum of History will be released in July and may be obtained free by writing the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

A 6-man CARE team in Nigeria is helping war victims rebuild their lives. Food plus farm tools, seeds, construction materials and other aid is provided by contributions to: Nigeria Emergency Fund, CARE, New York 10016



GARDEN TIME
m.e. gardner
n.c. state college

Don't neglect your house plants during the summer months because they provide so much color and pleasure to family living during the wintertime.

If you have rooted cuttings to pot try this mixture: 3 parts of good loam soil; 2 parts of peat moss; and 1 part of coarse sand, all of these by volume. To this mixture add 1 cupful of 20 percent super-phosphate to each bushel of prepared soil. Bone meal may be substituted for the super-phosphate.

I suggested peat moss because it is readily available and a good clean source of organic matter. You may substitute leaf mold or well decomposed compost for the peat.

If the garden loam is heavy of clay-like, you should use two

wet the soil well.

If some of your plants have outgrown the container and have become rot (pot) bound, repot in a larger container using the same mixture as suggested at the beginning.

Many house plants do better out of doors in the summer if they are adapted to outdoor conditions. They may be grown on porches, terraces, or in the garden border. This would not apply to such plants as African violets.

A great many plants can be carried through the summer by placing the pots in soil up to the rims. A layer of gravel at the base of each pot will assure good drainage.

If you do put plants outside, be sure to give consideration to the light requirements. If you are not sure about this, I would suggest partial shade most of the time.

Plant glad every two weeks for a succession of flowers. Better now than in the mountains after July 15.

Be on guard for lacebugs on azalea, pyracantha and rhododendron. Spray with malathion being sure to cover the undersides of the leaves.

Keep your roses protected at all times by spraying every two weeks with a combination of fungicide and insecticide.

There were five times as many overseas calls from the United States in 1967 as there were just ten years ago.

After a period of testing, the Highway Safety Research Center here will join the Driver License Division in developing a program to upgrade licensing procedures of persons with physical or medical problems which may impose restrictions on their driving abilities.

The Safety Center testing program, under the direction of Dr. Johns, will determine if the cars can actually distinguish between good drivers and poor drivers and whether the information collected by the car can be used to predict an individual's future driving performance.

In the past license examiners



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