

TODAY and TOMORROW

By DON ROBINSON

HOME dangerous

There is no place like home for an accident.

I don't know where the expression "safe at home" came from, but the figures compiled each year on causes of accidental deaths indicate that a home is about as safe a place to be as the middle of a railroad track.

In 1942, for instance, of 93,000 people who were killed accidentally, 30,000 died from home accidents—accidents such as falls, burns, explosions, fires, and shooting guns which weren't supposed to be loaded.

There are a number of other surprising facts which are disclosed in the statistics on accidents. If most of us were asked to name the most dangerous occupation, we would be apt to pick such things as heavy industries or railroading—but few would ever think of what is actually the greatest occupational cause of death—namely, farming. The figures show that of 18,500 work accidents in 1942, 4,400 occurred on farms, while manufacturing, which employs almost twice as many people, accounted for only 3,100 accidental deaths.

The figures indicate however, that if you are a farmer, you are safer at work in the home or in your car or truck. Next to home accidents, the major cause of accidental death is motor vehicle accidents—which accounted for 28,206 deaths in 1942.

Even with the terrific battles now going on in Europe, it is unlikely that as many Americans will die on the battlefield in 1943 as will succumb to accidents in the U. S. A.

TRAVEL automobiles

Recent train wrecks and airplane crashes have made a lot of people jittery about using either of these means of transportation, but even with the wartime limitations on automobile traffic you are a lot safer on a train or in a plane than you are driving your own automobile.

The National Safety Council analyzed transportation deaths in 1942 by the number of miles covered by each vehicle and found: for every 100 million miles of automobile travel 10.5 people were killed; and for every 100 million miles traveled by railroad only 0.18 people were killed.

It is evident from these figures that railroads continue to be, by far the safest means of travel. And when non-fatal accidents are taken into consideration, the ratio of safety for railroads and airplanes is greatly increased and the danger of the automobile is multiplied many times. No exact figures are available on airplane travel but, according to the Interstate Commerce Commission, the non-fatal injuries for railroad accidents totaled 47,782 (which included many grade crossing accidents) while the number hurt, but not killed by automobiles was well over a million.

Automobile accidents, because each involves only a few people, seldom make big newspaper headlines, but when all the minor accidents are gathered together the total damage is tremendous.

CAUSES speed

There isn't much anyone can do about the accidents which occurred in 1942. The post-mortem figures are of little use unless they can be used to prevent a repetition of this tragic story of sudden death, of injury and of huge financial loss.

Although over a period of years effective steps have been taken to cut down accidents in industrial plants, in construction work and even on farms—the toll from automobiles continues to be difficult to curb because it requires the cooperation of so many millions of individuals.

But a review of the major causes of automobile accidents should be of

help to motorists.

For 1942 the figures show: despite the wartime 25-mile speed limit, a speed violation was a contributing factor in three of every ten fatal accidents; 17 per cent of accidents were caused by improper passing and driving on the wrong side of the road; one of each nine drivers involved in fatal accidents had been drinking; 11 per cent of all fatal accidents involved either a driver or a pedestrian who had a bodily defect (bad eyesight, hearing, etc.); a defective vehicle was involved in 8 per cent of fatal accidents; in about 20 per cent of the accidents the driver's vision was obscured; over half of the pedestrians killed were hit after dark; 25 per cent of all accidents occurred in bad weather.

If every driver and pedestrian would give serious thought to these accident causes many would enjoy a pleasanter life and a longer one.

Which is the most fattening food—a big juicy apple, a large orange, a medium-sized baking powder biscuit, or a medium sized baked potato? The home economists say that they are all the same.

Expectant Marines



When fellow marine airmen found out that all three members of a torpedo bomber crew were to become fathers, their plane was appropriately labeled "Expectant." The fathers-to-be are, left to right, Maj. Holland F. Smith, Sergt. Jack N. Stanser and Sergt. Irwin F. Waldvogel.

Vilas News

Mrs. Ray Danner of Vilas, N. C., is visiting her mother and brothers of Bristol, Tenn., and also her brother, Lee Greene, who is in the army and is in for a few days furlough.

Mr. Odell Cooke who is working in Suffolk, Va., spent the last week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. I. G. Cooke of Vilas.

Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Hollar received their first letter from their son, Mr. Clay Hollar of Vilas, N. C., who has been overseas for three months.

Mrs. Lee Ella Fox and her little daughter Betty of Baltimore, Md., has been visiting her friends and parents, Mrs. I. G. Cooke and Mrs. Cooke of Vilas.

Mr. Alf Davis from Portsmouth, Va., spent the past week with his family at Shulls Mills, N. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hollar spent last Sunday with her parents, Mr. Lonnie Greene of Vilas, N. C., who is very ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Barber Bill Hodges spent last week-end with relatives at Bluff City, Tenn.

BUY WAR SAVINGS BONDS

Just Arrived----

Big shipment Men's Wool Suits, Wool Odd Coats and Pants, Boys' Wool Coats and Pants, Men's and Boy's Sweaters, Men's Re-conditioned Stetson Hats.

We have just received a shipment of extra good quality Army Shoes Women's and Children's Shoes and Oxfords Women's and Misses Tweed and Black Coats, Coat Suits, Short Sport Jackets, Dresses and Sweaters.

Prices are uniformly low.

ECONOMY STORE

Earl Cook Bldg.

Depot Street

BOONE, NORTH CAROLINA.

Read Democrat Advertisements. It Pays!



Is it "Dead-end" for this Kid?

The name is Benson. Jimmie Benson from the top floor.

Jimmie got his first tough break when he was only a baby. The old man just skipped...leaving for parts unknown.

Now at 11, Jimmie's a "war casualty." There's nobody around to look out for him. You see...his mother puts in an 8-hour day and longer, at a war plant.

So at 11, Jimmie has to face the critical turning point in his life...alone.

But you can help him call the turn.

Up. Maybe all the way up to presidential timber some day.

Or down. Slipping slowly down from gutter-sniping...small-time, "kia gang" stuff...down even to the big pen perhaps.

You and your spare dollars can give Jimmie the normal recreation, the help and guidance that every adolescent needs at the turning point.

Or...you can turn your back, if you like.

All over America...and right here in town...there are thousands of Jimmie Bensons. They

and their families who bear the brunt of war. They need your help.

Social agencies on the home front have, among their vital tasks, those of keeping up morale and keeping down divorce, desertion, broken homes and child neglect. Overtaxed hospital facilities must be reinforced by community home nursing programs. The stabilizing influence of essential recreational services is more important than ever.

Thus our task is clear. We must make freedom from want a living thing...here in America. And it is a task that will challenge your generosity as never before. Your local united campaign, in cooperation with the National War Fund, is asking for your contribution. The funds you give must finance three vital jobs—meeting the needs of the home-front; maintaining the morale of our armed forces wherever they may be; helping the people in unoccupied and, if possible, occupied countries.

And because you will give once for this three-fold job...make your contribution as big as your heart's desire for victory!



GIVE for your soldiers here at home and abroad. Wherever they may be, they deserve the best of fun and food, entertainment and relaxation. There's a grim job that they're doing for you. So show your appreciation. Remember, they like to enjoy their time off, too!



GIVE so that the crushing burdens of an invaded and pillaged China can be eased—so that our gallant ally can continue to fight on by our side until victory is won! They've taken so much in the cause for freedom. They ask so little!



GIVE for those unsung heroes of ours...the seamen who defy the terror of lurking U-boats—day after day, night after night—so that our fighting men will receive the guns and tanks, planes and ammunition—all the supplies that must be ferried for victory!

Boone Flower Shop

Our Aim is to Please You. Cut Flowers, Potted Plants, Funeral Designs

Phone 139-W 417 Grand Blvd.

Don't COUGH



Ask for MENTHO MULSION IF IT FAILS TO STOP YOUR COUGH DUE TO COLDS ASK FOR YOUR MONEY BACK 75

BOONE DRUG COMPANY

Try BISMAREX

for Acid Indigestion. Insist on genuine BISMAREX and refuse other so-called Anti-acid Powders, recommended to be "just as good." BISMAREX is sold in Watauga county only at

BOONE DRUG CO. The REXALL STORE

Give ONCE for ALL these

- USO
- United Seamen's Service
- War Prisoners Aid
- Belgian War Relief Society
- British War Relief Society
- French Relief Fund
- Friends of Luxembourg
- Greek War Relief Association
- Norwegian Relief
- Polish War Relief
- Queen Wilhelmina Fund
- Russian War Relief
- United China Relief
- United Czechoslovak Relief
- United Yugoslav Relief Fund
- Refugee Relief Trusts
- United States Committee for the Care of European Children

This space is contributed by

Watauga Building & Loan Ass'n - Watauga Farmers Cooperative, Inc. BOONE, N. C.

NATIONAL WAR FUND