

## NEW LIGHT ON HORSEPOWER

By BILL CROWELL

Horsepower or horseness—which will it be? The auto manufacturers don't market both in their products and the rage seems to be toward higher and higher horsepower.

But are galloping horses the real menace to traffic safety?

Not altogether say engineers including safety experts of the State Department of Motor Vehicles. "Controlled" horsepower and sensible driving speeds are largely the key to preventing motor tragedies.

With the '55 models breaking out over the country at least one North Carolina newspaper bemoans the fact that engines in the new models are climbing higher and higher in the horsepower range.

Editorially it says, "It's rather ironic that so many people . . . continuously moan and cry about the gruesome fatality records of our state, yet voice no objection when cars are made more powerful and dangerous."

But a high powered car isn't necessarily dangerous. Quite the contrary, it is much safer than the cars of several years ago sporting maximum ratings of 85-100 horsepower.

Auto engineers know that acceleration, hill climbing ability, gas mileage and reduced wear are desirable factors in engines. They achieve this performance and durability by building

engines of higher compression and increased horsepower. Additional speed is only a superfluous "benefit" unavoidable, of course, as horsepower ratings climb.

They point to improved acceleration as a definite safety factor. And here motor vehicle safety authorities agree. The ability to pass slower moving cars rapidly is a safety factor. George Koether, automotive editor of LOOK, describes it this way, "One 1953 model of 125 horsepower required 18 seconds to accelerate from 0 to 60 mph. This year, that same car, with a new engine of 161 horsepower, accelerates over the same range in 15 seconds. Those saved seconds can make the difference between life and death in a tight squeeze on the highway."

So high-stepping engines of savage power, while the delight of the hot rod set, aren't the menace to safe navigation they've been painted.

"A motor scooter, of five or so horsepower, is a dangerous vehicle in the hands of an irresponsible operator," says Motor Vehicles Commissioner Edward Scheidt. The real safety factor in safe driving is still the driver. In all of our fatal accidents last year a driver violation was reported in 87 per cent of the cases. That means someone was disobeying a traffic law when death struck."

in their blind pride, have even gone so far as to deny the existence of God, since they can form no conception of Him through reason alone. But if there is no God, and we came into existence merely as the result of chance and circumstance, how may we be certain that our minds are trustworthy? So we see that once again

faith comes first—in this case, faith in the human mind. But a study of the history of philosophy will reveal how vain it is to trust in human reason alone. Gorgias, for example, was one of the greatest of the Greek philosophers. He proved, by human reason, that nothing exists, and even if it did exist it would be impossible for us to know about it. Further, we all know that two different persons, both exercising reason, both starting from the same set of facts, will often find themselves in hopeless disagreement as to what those facts mean. Therefore, we may conclude that nothing is so unreasonable as reason (and even this conclusion is unreasonable, since I have used human reason to prove that nothing can be proved by human reason).

"In order to understand a thing we must first believe it." This is a foundation truth in the realm of theology. The Bible says, ". . . without faith it is impossible to please Him; for he that cometh to God must believe that He is . . ." (Hebrews 11:6). First of all, the existence of God cannot be proved, it must be accepted by faith. We may advance all kinds of arguments for the existence of God, but they are only arguments, not absolute proof. Further, one must place faith in something as an authoritative revelation, or "Word" of God. To some, this authoritative revelation is their church; to others it is some person, such as Mary Baker Eddy, Father Divine, or their preacher; to most who read this column it is the Bible. Beginning with faith in the Bible we are now free to gain understanding by exercise of the reason; but we must begin with faith. As I write this column I have on my desk an excellent little book by a Lutheran scholar entitled "Why I Believe the Bible is God's Word." He advances several good reasons for accepting the Bible as the Word of God

—but they are not his reasons for believing the Bible. He accepted the Bible first of all by faith, and having accepted it, compiled proofs to strengthen and confirm his faith. If you will examine your own religious faith you will find you have done the same—you believe what you wish to believe, not what seems reasonable to you.

But mere intellectual faith is of no value until it is acted upon. You may believe that God speaks to men through the Bible—but He will not speak to you until you open your Bible

and read it. You may believe that "the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23) but that gift does not become yours until you accept it.

Thus we see that faith and reason cannot be divorced, for one confirms the other. And Augustine was right when he said that faith comes first.

### Back Next Year, Too

"Hey, you! What's the idea of hunting with last year's license?" "Oh, I'm only shooting at the birds I missed last year."

**OFFICES CLOSED NOV. 11**  
Both town and county offices will be closed all day Thursday of next week, November 11 in order to observe Armistice Day. Important business should, therefore, be transacted accordingly.

### Mathematical Problem

Ella—When are you to be married?  
Stella—Whenever the man in the case gets his salary raised to a point where he will not find the alimony I expect prohibitive.

## Weekly Devotional Column

By JAMES MACKENZIE

"Chronologically, faith precedes intelligence; in order to understand a thing we must first believe it" — Augustine (453-430 A.D.).

Do you agree with Augustine? At your first glance I imagine you will not. Because of human pride we like to kid ourselves into thinking that all our views are reasonable, and that we accept and believe nothing on the basis of faith alone. But think for a moment on what Augustine says, and you will see he speaks the truth.

"In order to understand a thing we must first believe it." Certainly this is true in the realm of history. Let us assume, for example, that you know a good deal about the Civil War, and understand quite well just why it was fought. Upon what do you base your knowledge and understanding? Upon contemporary documents and eye-witness accounts? But how do you know that these documents and eye-witness accounts are authentic? Only because you accept them by faith—in this case, faith in the persons who have passed them on to us.

This is also true in the realm of philosophical speculation. There is no one so unreasonable as the person who says, "I believe only that which my mind tells me is reasonable, and accept nothing by faith alone." Some,

## SALESLADY WANTED

FOR

Permanent Work With Good Working Conditions  
Good Starting Salary  
Vacation With Pay  
Hospitalization and Insurance Included

WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR THE RIGHT PERSON!

### The Betty Shoppe

EDENTON, N. C.

**PM**  
**STRAIGHT BOURBON WHISKEY**  
**5 YEARS OLD**

**\$2.15** Pint **\$3.40** Qt.



National Distillers Products Corporation, New York, N. Y., 86 Proof

**The '55 FORDS are coming...**

**FOUND!** A WAY TO BEAT THAT LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS RUSH!

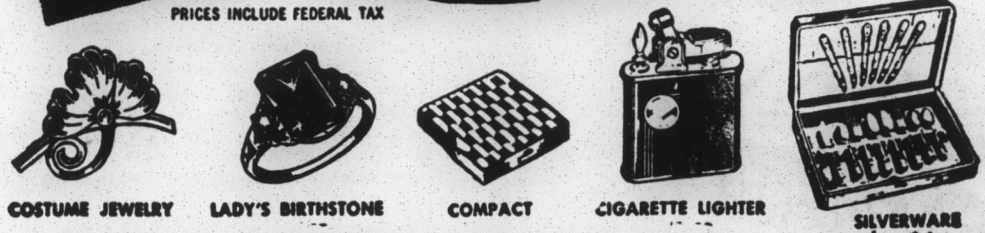
USE **CAMPEN'S JEWELERS** Christmas LAY-AWAY PLAN!

**BULOVA**  
The Gift of a Lifetime!

PRICES INCLUDE FEDERAL TAX

- DIRECTOR expansion band \$35.75
- AMERICAN GIRL 17 jewels \$49.50
- THAYER self-winding 17 jewels sweep second hand \$49.50
- RONA \$27.50
- ADORABLE 17 jewels expansion bracelet \$59.50
- BRIGADIER 21 jewels expansion band \$69.50

**\$1.00 WILL HOLD ANY GIFT UNTIL CHRISTMAS**



**CAMPEN'S JEWELERS**  
Edenton, N. C.

**EASY CREDIT TERMS**