

STATE AUTOMOBILE LAW

DEFINING RIGHTS OF DRIVERS OF MACHINES AND OTHERS

Published for the Benefit of the Automobile Owners, the Public Generally and Officers—Read it.

An act to provide for the registration and identification of motor vehicles, and to regulate the use of public highways by such vehicles and persons passing such vehicles, and to provide penalties for the violation thereof.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do Enact.

Sec. 1 The term and words "motor vehicles," used in this act, shall be construed to mean all vehicles propelled by power, other than muscular power, except traction engines and such motor vehicles as run only upon rails or tracks. The term and words "highway" or "public highway" shall be construed to mean any public highway, township, county or State road, or any country road, any public street, alley, park, parkway, driving or public place in any city, village or town. The term and words "business portion of any city or village" shall be construed to mean the territory of a city or incorporated village contiguous to a public highway which is at that point either wholly or partially built up with structures devoted to business.

Sec. 2 Every person now owning or hereafter acquiring a motor vehicle shall, for every vehicle owned by him, file in the office of the Secretary of the State a statement containing the name and address, with a brief description of the vehicle so owned by him to be registered, including the name of the maker, factory number, style of vehicle and motor power, on a blank to be prepared and furnished by said Secretary of State for that purpose. Upon the filing of said statement, as aforesaid, said Secretary of State shall register such motor vehicle in a book or index to be kept for that purpose and assign it a distinctive number, and shall forthwith issue and deliver to the owner of such motor vehicle a certificate of registration, together with a seal, of aluminum or other suitable metal, which said seal shall be circular in form approximately two inches in diameter, and shall have stamped thereon the words "Registered Motor Vehicle No. North Carolina," with the registration number and any other data deemed necessary by the Secretary of State inserted therein, which said seal shall thereafter at all times be conspicuously displayed on the motor vehicle to which such number has been assigned. The said certificate of registration shall contain the same words and number as the seal, and shall further contain the name of the owner of the vehicle so registered as aforesaid, his address, the name of maker of the said vehicle, factory number, style and motor power, and the date of registration, which date of registration shall be the day on which the application is received at the office of the Secretary of State. Such certificate of registration shall remain in force for one year from and after the first day of July of each year. Applications for renewal of any certificate of registration shall be made to the Secretary of State any time within thirty days previous to the date of the expiration of such certificate, and if no application for a renewal is received during the time above mentioned the Secretary of State shall cancel such certificate and reissue the number. For the registration and issuing of a certificate and seal a fee of five dollars shall be paid to the Secretary of State, and a fee of one dollar for each renewal of the same: Provided, no registration of motorcycles shall be required: Provided further, that of the fee of five dollars paid to the Secretary of State three dollars shall be paid by the Treasurer of the State to the Treasurer of the county in which the owner of said automobile resides, to be used for the public roads in said county.

Sec. 3 Upon the sale of a registered motor vehicle, registered in accordance with the above section, the vendor shall return to the Secretary of State within ten days from the date of such sale his said certificate and seal, and such certificate shall be canceled and the number reissued by the Secretary of State: Provided, that the vendor may, upon application at the time of returning such certificate and seal, have a new certificate issued to him, containing the original registration number for a motor vehicle described in such application and owned by him and which is not licensed under the law. A fee of one dollar shall be paid to the Secretary of State for the issue of such

new certificate, which shall remain in force until the first day of July following the date of issue.

Sec. 4 In addition to the conspicuous display of the seal, as provided in section two of this act, it shall be the duty of the owner of each and every motor vehicle at all times, to have displayed upon the front and rear of the body of such vehicle, in such manner as to be plainly visible, the number assigned to it by the Secretary of State, said number to be in Arabic numerals, black on white ground, or white on black ground, and not less than three inches in height, and each stroke to be of a width not less than one half inch, and also as a part of said number the name of the State, in full or abbreviated, and of the same color and on the same ground as the numerals, the letters of the name to be not less than one inch in height. There shall also be displayed upon every motor vehicle in use upon any public highway during the period from one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise two lamps in the front of said motor vehicle, showing a white light, visible within a reasonable distance in the direction with such vehicle is proceeding, and also a red light in the rear of said motor vehicle and visible for a reasonable distance in the reverse direction: Provided it shall be unlawful to display more than one registration number upon the rear of such motor vehicle or a number which does not entitle the holder thereof to operate such motor vehicle upon the public highway of the State.

Sec. 5 No motor vehicle shall be used or operated upon the public highway after July first, one thousand nine hundred and nine, which shall not display thereon a registration seal, and on the rear of said motor vehicle a number as provided in section four of this act, or which shall display thereon a fictitious seal or number or a seal or number belonging to any other vehicle.

Sec. 6 Non-resident owners or operators of motor vehicles shall be subject to the same requirements and laws as resident owners or operators: Provided that the nonresident owner of a motor vehicle passing through the State of North Carolina shall not be required to register his vehicle as provided in this act.

Sec. 7 No person shall operate a motor vehicle upon the public highway after July first, one thousand nine hundred and nine, unless such person shall have complied in all respects with the requirements of this act. In no case shall a person operate a motor vehicle in this State when intoxicated, or in a race, or on a bet or wager, or for the purpose of making a record: Provided nothing herein contained shall prevent racing on private race courses or tracks.

Sec. 8 All fees paid to the Secretary of State as provided in this act shall be paid into the State Treasury monthly. The Secretary of State shall provide all blanks, books and seals necessary to the furthering of this act, securing the same, as far as may be, from the State Printer, and all other necessary expenses incurred by him; and necessary extra clerical assistance not exceeding three hundred dollars per annum, shall be paid by a warrant of the auditor upon the treasurer.

Sec. 9 No person shall operate a motor vehicle upon a public highway at a rate of speed greater than is reasonable and proper, having regard to the traffic and use of the highway, or so as to endanger the life or limb of any person or the safety of any property, and shall not, in any event, while upon any highway, run at a higher rate of speed than twenty-five miles an hour and within the corporate limits of all cities and villages the rate of speed shall not be greater than eight miles an hour in the business portion of any such city or village and not greater than twelve miles an hour in all other portions thereof, subject to the other provisions of this act and to local regulations.

Sec. 10. Upon approaching an intersecting highway, a bridge, dam, sharp curve or steep descent, and also in traversing such intersecting highway, bridge, dam, curve or descent, a person operating a motor vehicle shall have it under control and operate at such speed not to exceed five miles an hour, having regard to the traffic then on such highway and the safety of the public.

Sec. 11. Upon approaching a horse or horses or other draft animals, being ridden, led or driven thereon, a person operating a motor vehicle shall slow down to a speed not exceeding eight miles an hour and give reasonable warning of its approach and use every reasonable precaution to insure the safety of such person or animal, and in case of a horse or horses or other draft animals, to prevent frightening the same.

Sec. 12 Any person operating a

motor vehicle shall, at request or on signal from a person riding, leading or driving a horse or horses or other draft animals, guide such motor vehicle to the right of the wrought or traveled portion of the highway and immediately bring such motor vehicle to a stop, and, if requested, shall cause the motor of such vehicle to cease running and to remain stationary and noiseless so long as shall be necessary to prevent accident and insure the safety of others; and it shall also be the duty of any male chauffeur or driver of any motor vehicle, and other male occupants thereof over the age of fifteen years, while passing any horse or horses or other draft animals which appear frightened, upon the request of the person in charge of and driving such horse or horses or other draft animals, to give such personal assistance as would be reasonable to insure the safety of all persons concerned and to prevent accident.

Sec. 13 Whenever a person operating a motor vehicle shall meet on a highway any other person riding or driving a horse or horses or other draft animals or any other vehicle, and there being no occasion to stop, as above provided, the person operating such motor vehicle shall reasonably turn the same to the right of the center of the traveled portion of the highway, while the person approaching shall likewise turn from the center of the traveled portion of the highway so as to pass the motor vehicle on the opposite side of the center of the highway to which the motor vehicle has been turned, and any person so operating any motor vehicle shall, at the intersection of a public highway, keep to the right of the intersection of the centers of such highways when turning to the right and pass to the right of such intersection when turning to the left.

Sec. 14 If a vehicle drawn by a horse or horses or other draft animals or a motor vehicle be overtaken by any motor vehicle and the person in charge of such motor vehicle expresses a desire to pass, it shall be the duty of the driver of any such vehicle or motor vehicle so overtaken as aforesaid to turn either to the right or to the left of the center of the wrought or traveled portion of the highway and give the person so making the request an opportunity to pass; but, in passing, the person in charge of such motor vehicle and the other male occupants thereof over the age of fifteen years shall give such assistance as they are able to the occupant or occupants of the vehicle they are passing, if assistance is asked and in thus passing the chauffeurs, drivers or operators shall use all due care to avoid accidents.

Sec. 15 In case of accident to person or property upon any public highway, due to the operation thereof of any motor vehicle the person operating such motor vehicle shall stop and give such assistance as can be given, and shall, upon request of the person injured or any other person, give such person his name and address and, if not the owner, the name and address of the owner of such motor vehicle, together with the registered number thereof.

Sec. 16 Local authorities may, notwithstanding the provisions of this act make, enforce and maintain such reasonable ordinances, rules or regulations concerning the speed at which motor vehicles may be operated in any park or parkway within a city or incorporated village, but in no case to permit a greater speed than this provided in this act and as a condition thereto such local authorities must, by sign at each entrance of such park and along said parkway, conspicuously indicate the rate of speed permitted or required, and may exclude motor vehicles from any cemetery or grounds used for the burial of the dead.

Sec. 17 Nothing in this act shall be construed to curtail or abridge the right of any person to prosecute a civil action for damages by reason of injuries to person or property resulting from the negligence of the owner or operator or his agent, employee or servant of any such motor vehicle, resulting from the negligent use of the highway by them or any of them.

Sec. 18 Any person violating any of the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and anyone who shall be convicted thereof or who shall plead guilty to any complaint for the violation thereof shall be punished by a fine not exceeding fifty dollars and costs of prosecution or by imprisonment not exceeding twenty days, or both; for the second offense or any subsequent offense he shall be punished by a fine not exceeding fifty dollars and costs of prosecution or by imprisonment for not exceeding thirty days, or both, and upon conviction for the third offense the certificate of such owner shall be canceled for the space of six months.

Sec. 19 All police justices of any

city or justices of the peace of any township where any such violation shall occur shall have jurisdiction to hear, try and pass sentence for any and all violations of any of the provisions of this act.

Sec. 20 Any police officer of any city, any marshal, deputy marshal or watchman of any incorporated village or any sheriff or deputy sheriff of any county or any constable of any township shall have full power and authority within the limits of their jurisdiction to arrest any person known personally to any such officer or upon the sworn information of a credible witness to have violated any of the provisions of this act, and to immediately bring such offender before any justice of the peace or officer having jurisdiction, and any such person so arrested shall have the right of an immediate trial and all other rights given to any person arrested for having committed a misdemeanor, and, if such hearing cannot then be had, be released from custody on giving his personal undertaking to appear in answer for such violation at such time and place as shall then be indicated, secured by the deposit of a sum equal to double the maximum fine for the offense with which he is charged, or in lieu thereof by leaving the motor vehicle being operated by such person with such officer, or, in case such officer is not accessible, be forthwith released from custody on giving his name and address to the officer making such arrest and depositing with such officer a sum equal to double the maximum fine for the offense for which such arrest is made, or, in lieu thereof, by leaving the motor vehicle being operated by such person with said officer: Provided, that in such case the officer making such arrest shall give a receipt in writing for such sum or vehicle and notify such person to appear before the most accessible justice of the peace or other officer having jurisdiction (naming him) on that or the following day, specifying the place and the hour. In case security shall be deposited, as in this subdivision provided, it shall be returned to the person depositing forthwith, on such person being admitted to bail.

Sec. 21 The Secretary of State shall cause to be printed each and every year a list of all motor vehicles registered under the provisions of this act, and shall mail a copy of said list to the sheriff of every county and mayor of every town and city requesting a copy: Provided further, that a copy of said list shall be furnished upon application to any person requesting same upon the payment of one dollar. Said list shall contain the names of all persons registering vehicles, their place of residence, the make of vehicle and the registered number of the same.

Sec. 22 That all laws and clause of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Sec. 23 That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification, but shall not apply to New Hanover County.

Ratified this the 6th day of March, A. D. 1909.

From the Twenty-three Sams.

1. My wife is my boss. I shall not deny.
2. She maketh me to lie down behind the bed when swell company comes, and she leadeth me behind up Main street.
3. She restoreth my pocketbook after she spent all of its contents for hobbie-skirts and theatre tickets, and she leadeth me in the main aisle at church for her new hat's sake.
4. Yea, though I walk more than halt the night through dark rooms with a crying baby, I will get no rest for she is behind me, her broomstick and her hatpin they do everything else but comfort me.
5. She prepareth a cold snack for me, then make a beeline for an aid society supper. She anointeth my head with the rolling pin occasionally. My arms runneth over with the bundles before she is half done with her shopping.
6. Surely her dressmaker's and millinery bills shall follow me all the days of her life, and I will dwell in the house of my wife forever.—Urish, Mo., Herald.

Reflections of a Bachelor.

A man who will brag about how much money he has rarely ever has it. Money is a snail for speed till it gets to you, when it becomes a streak of lightning. It's not so hard to be reasonably sick if you don't have to be nursed by any of your relatives. You can tell when a woman is going to have a new gown by how she keeps worrying about what the weather will be on the day it is ready. Some men are just plain, ordinary deceivers of their wives; then there is the one who makes his believe he can't bear to have her go away from him on a visit.

THE MOVING PEOPLE

THEIR MOVEMENTS IN AND OUT OF TOWN

Those Who Have Visited Louisburg the Past Week—Those Who Have Gone Elsewhere for Business or Pleasure.

Wm. Bailey spent Monday in Raleigh.

J. E. Thomas spent Sunday in Norfolk.

B. H. Perry, of Henderson, spent Monday in town.

Miss Virginia Foster left Monday for Panacea Springs.

R. S. White, of Raleigh, is visiting at W. H. Ruffin's.

B. W. Brown, of Raleigh, spent Tuesday night in town.

P. B. Griffin spent Thursday in Henderson on business.

Miss Hattie Hart, of Littleton is visiting at J. H. Johnson's.

B. G. Hicks and family are spending the week at Ocean View.

R. P. Taylor and W. H. Furgurson went to Wake Forest Monday.

Capt. P. G. Alston spent a few days at Ocean View last week.

Miss Sallie Williams is visiting friends in Middleburg this week.

R. W. Hudson returned from a business trip to Norfolk Saturday.

A. F. Johnson, wife and little daughters spent Monday in Raleigh.

Miss Pattie Aycooke is visiting friends and relatives in Henderson.

Rev. Baylus Cade, of Shelby, was a visitor to Louisburg the past week.

Mrs. F. B. McKinne left Thursday to visit her people at Turnersburg.

Miss Beattie Cary, of Petersburg, is visiting her aunt, Mrs. W. H. Ruffin.

Miss Florence Caffett, of Rocky Mount, is visiting Miss Ruby Lancaster.

H. L. Candler left Wednesday for a few days stay in Johnston county.

E. C. Perry, of Raleigh, came over and spent Sunday with his people here.

D. F. McKinne and S. B. Nash are spending several days at Panacea Springs.

Mrs. F. W. Hicks and little son, are visiting her people in Nash county this week.

Miss Hazel Morris, of Greenville, S. C., is visiting her aunt, Mrs. J. S. Lancaster.

E. S. Ford and wife left Sunday for Ocean View, Atlantic City and Niagara Falls.

D. F. McKinne returned the past week from a visit to his sister at Wilmington.

F. S. Ballard left Friday to visit friends and relatives at Greensboro and Waynesville.

Mrs. W. D. Harris and daughter, Fannie, of Wake Forest, are visiting at E. L. Harris.

Miss Lyah Perry, of Henderson, is visiting friends and relatives in town this week.

Mayor John W. Allen, of Warrenton, visited his son, A. B. Allen, here the past week.

W. H. Ruffin and wife returned the past week from a visit to Western North Carolina.

Mrs. J. R. Bunn returned Wednesday from a visit to friends and relatives at Spring Hops.

L. B. Martin, of Richmond, representing Noah's Liniment, spent several days in Louisburg.

Miss Lillian High is spending several days in Washington, N. C., visiting friends and relatives.

James Collier, the night operator for the local telephone exchange, spent Sunday in Henderson.

Mrs. W. P. Neal and family left Wednesday to spend the summer among the mountains of Virginia.

Mayor Holden, Dr. R. F. Yar-

borough and C. K. Cooke spent Wednesday in Raleigh.

Misses Hattie and Maggie S. Howell, of Tarboro, are visiting their sister, Mrs. M. S. Clifton.

W. H. Allen left yesterday for Richmond to purchase a lot of harness and other supplies for the township roads.

F. B. McKinne and wife and R. W. Bailey attended the meeting of the Raleigh District Conference at Zebulon this week.

Col. A. B. Hawkins, of Raleigh, came over Monday to visit Wm. Bailey, Esq. His many friends here are glad to see him looking so well.

"Runt" Taylor returned this week from a trip upon which he played ball with Raeford vs Raleigh, and with Dunn against two other towns. He reports good games and a fine time.

J. R. Collier, Chief Clerk of House Claims Committee, returned home Wednesday night. He says no doubt Congress will adjourn in a few days and therefore he will hardly return until the winter session.

W. A. Jones and daughter, of Piney Grove Church, and W. D. Weathers, of Prospect Church, both near Louisburg, attended the meeting of the Raleigh District Conference at Zebulon this week.

Runaway Marriage.

On Tuesday morning at the Louisburg Hotel Mr. Andrew J. Morris, of Wake county, and Miss Lula B. Pierce, of near town, were married by Rev. L. W. Swope. The bride and groom left on the morning train for their future home in Wake county.

Good Roads.

The road force has started to work on the Nashville road and are making good headway. This road as laid out and being built, will go to the right of and around the hill just the other side of Fox Swamp and come back into the old road just the other side of the Harris place. The main objects are to get the best roads with the least possible grade and such as will not wash and will stand heavy usage. The committee expects to push this work as rapidly as possible and there is no doubt but that they will do a big part of this work before the marketing time.

Automobile State Law.

In another column will be found the North Carolina Automobile law, which we are publishing both for the information of the owners of the machines, the public generally and the officers of the law. We have been requested several times to publish this and we have just succeeded in getting it. It will be seen that the driver of automobiles are expected to respect the safety of others and there are provisions to regulate the rights of automobile drivers. It will be to your interest to read this in full.

To Our Advertisers.

We are sorry that it has become necessary for us to call your attention again to the fact that we can't change advertisements brought in on THURSDAY. This ruling is not made to keep from accommodating you in the least, as it is always a pleasure to us to extend every accommodation possible, but it simply means that we will either have to cut out such changes or stop publishing the paper as it is absolutely impossible for us to do the work on the paper all in one day. It is impossible for us to see why it is that the copy for these changes cannot be sent to the office just as good in the five days previous as on Thursday and we sincerely hope that our patrons may be as willing to show an accommodating spirit toward us as we are always willing to show them.