

"Speed Kills" Is Not A Slogan, But A Fact

Raleigh - "Speed Kills" is more than a traffic safety slogan in North Carolina. It is a well established fact.

Figures compiled by the Driver Education and Accident Records Division of the Department of Motor Vehicles show that during 1968 excessive speed was the primary cause in more than one-third of all fatal accidents in the state.

Investigating officers listed speed as the cause in 570 of the 1,417 fatal accidents in

which causes could be established.

The second most prevalent cause of fatal accidents during the past year was driving to the left of the center line. Officers cited this violation as the primary reason for 339 accidents involving deaths.

Failing to yield the right of way and reckless driving were the next most frequent causes with 123 and 97 accidents respectively.

Other leading causes of deaths on the state's street and

highways were drunken driving, failing to stop for stop signs, improper passing, improper turning, disregarding traffic signals and following too closely.

Motor Vehicle Department officials point out that frequently several driving violations are involved in a single accident and that their statistics single out only the most obvious cause. They point out, for example, that drinking is a contributing factor in over 50 percent of

all fatal accidents, but that speeding or other improper driving, possibly resulting from the drinking, is recorded as the specific cause of the accident.

Raleigh - More people were involved in fatal traffic accidents during 1968 if they (1) drove on Saturday on a rural paved road, (2) drove during the fall months between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. and (3) were between the ages of 25 and 34.

If you compounded any of these conditions by drinking or exceeding the speed limit, your chances of not being around to read this zoomed. Drinking was a factor in over one-half of all fatal accidents and speeding was the primary cause of more than one-third of those accidents during the past year.

Saturday was by far the most dangerous day to drive in 1968. A total of 418 occurred on this favorite travel day—129 more than on the next most dangerous day, Sunday. Wednesday was the safest day to drive with just 122 fatal accidents.

September was the most

dangerous month of the past year, followed closely by December and October. July and November ranked fourth and fifth. In each of these months, more than 140 fatal accidents were recorded.

Traditionally, the late afternoon and evening hours are the most dangerous for highway travel. The past year was no exception. The period from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. accounted for 317 of the year's 1,583 fatal accidents. The three hours from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. ran a close second with 313 accidents involving death, followed by the 10:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. period with 272. The safest time for travel was from 4:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m.

Drivers between the ages of 25 and 34 accounted for 525 of the fatal accidents in North Carolina during 1968. They were followed by the 20-24 age group with 435. The 35-44 year olds recorded 335 fatal accidents. Teen-age licensed drivers were credited with 332. Five fatal accidents involved drivers under the age of 16.

Rural paved roads were the most dangerous arteries of travel in the state during

People, Spots In The News



'SHRINE OF THE BOOK' is this modernistic structure built in Jerusalem to house Dead Sea scrolls.

NEW DIMENSIONS, in portable TV sets, that is, are modeled by Eugenie Wingate at RCA sales convention. The 12-inch set's dimensions are 11x15x10, while Eugenie's...



MR. 'UNIVERSE' of 1969 is Frank Zane, pictured at Sunken Gardens in St. Petersburg, Fla.

THE VERY TOP: Bob Seagren of University of Southern California clears 17 feet 6 inches for new world indoor pole vault mark at Inglewood, Calif. He's the Olympic gold medalist in the event.

Civilian GI Bill

Representative Ogden R. Reid (R-NY), said he would draft a proposal for a "civilian GI Bill" to enable needy students to attend college. Although he suggestion is viewed favorably by most congressmen, the chances of formal enactment this year are almost nonexistent.

Foreign Labor Wages

The Labor Department has announced plans requiring an hourly minimum wage of at least \$1.60 be paid all foreigners entering the United States on work permits. The \$1.60 federal minimum wage does not apply to all occupations and the pay scale will be adjusted to their occupation.

Fixed Broker Fees

The Justice Department has recommended that the fixed commissions now charged buyers and sellers of stocks be abolished within five years. At the end of this time, the size of commissions charged by stock brokers would be determined by competition between brokerage houses.

Proposal Rejected

Paris - The United States was met with stony rejection of what it called its first concrete proposal to start the new full-scale Vietnam talks on peace. U. S. Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge proposed immediate re-establishment of the demilitarized zone buffer between North and South Vietnam and an offer to work toward agreement on mutual withdrawal of foreign troops.

Boys Find Money

Camino, Calif. - Four teenagers were having a spree spending money found in an outmeal box in an abandoned shack until their foster father discovered their sudden wealth. The boys had spent \$270 of the \$950 found. Now the sheriff wonders where the money should go since the owner of the shack was murdered four years ago and the property has changed owners.

Military Academies

The Defense Department says that it was seeking more Negro and other minority group men to apply for admission to the military service academies. Pentagon officials said one reason minority enrollment was small was that many were not aware of the opportunities open for all races.

Patronize TIMES Adv.

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