

### Law For Laypersons

(Written by Charles C. Lewis, Assistant Professor of Law, Campbell College School of Law for the North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers and distributed as a public service.)

#### HIT AND RUN Part I

Would you know what to do if you suddenly found yourself in a motor vehicle accident? Assume that no one was injured, but your car and the one you collided with were pretty badly damaged. You might think of calling a policeman, particularly if you knew the accident was not your fault. You would also probably find out who owned the other car and where the driver lived. On the other hand, you might be so shaken by the accident that you would do nothing at all.

A motor vehicle accident, even one not involving injury to a person, is a serious thing, and North Carolina's General Statutes provide exactly what you should do. GS 20-166 first states that you should immediately stop your vehicle at the scene of the collision and then give your name, address, operator's license number and registration number of your car to the driver of the other vehicle. The other driver, of course, should give you

the same information. If you did not stop as required by law to provide this information, you would be a "hit and run driver", about which you occasionally hear in the news.

What about calling a policeman? Usually in a two car accident, one party will call a policeman, but North Carolina General Statutes GS 20-166.1 requires that you must report the collision to the police by the quickest means possible if the total property damage done to the vehicles is \$200 or more. The policeman must then investigate the collision and file a report with the Division of Motor Vehicles which will tabulate and analyze the report so that it can polish statistical information based on the number, cause and location of highway accidents. The policeman may, of course, also charge you or the other driver with the violation of North Carolina's traffic laws.

The penalty for the "hit and run driver" who fails to stop as required by law is very stiff. He may be fined or imprisoned for a period of not more than two years, or both, in the discretion of the court. The failure to report the accident to the police if the total property damage is \$200 or more is another offense, which is

punishable by a fine or imprisonment, or both.

"This article is written as a matter of general interest only. It is not to be construed as legal advice, and you should not rely on the statements made in the article to govern your actions in any specific case. If you have a particular question or problem, you should contact an attorney."

#### ELECTRIC SAVINGS

Checking the refrigerator door gasket can mean energy savings.

Door gaskets become brittle and lose effectiveness with age. When that happens, they lose their good seal, say NCSU agricultural extension specialists.

**ANTIQUES WANTED:** Cut glass, Orientals, dolls before 1928. The Dashers Antique, Bat Cave, N. C. 704-625-4608. adv. 29 — July 11, pd.

#### Hilton Head

Beautiful and spacious 3 BR, 3B, Condo with 2 Har Tru tennis courts and swimming pool available June 28 — July 6. \$550 Everything included. Contact Box E, Tryon, N. C.

## AMWAY

For Products and Information  
I. J. Kuster

### Spain & Portugal

17 days  
\$1487.00

Personally escorted  
by Betty Wilson

Departure Oct. 2nd from Greenville. Enjoy 17 days, Historical Portugal visiting Lisbon, Nazare, Fatima & Setebul—Spain and the glories of Toledo, Granada, Cordoba & Seville., not forgetting the Costa del Sol. & a night in a Pousada in Portugal!

Sound exciting?  
Call us for details



237 Trade St.  
Tryon, NC 28702  
704-859-5856

Are Your Clothes **BECOMING** to You

or

Should They **BE COMING** to us?

### Brocks Cleaners

Phone 859-9265

## On Display

### Silverlok Security Chests

At Home Protection For Your Valuable Silver



This May Well Be The Least Expensive Insurance You Can Buy.

Sure, your silver and other valuables are "insured" but can they really be replaced?

Tread Corporation, the leader in the manufacturing of explosive storage magazines and maximum security storage containers, announces the introduction of the Silverlok Security Chest designed specifically for protection of silver and other valuables. For further information and a detailed brochure, contact:

## Blue Ridge Weavers

TRYON, N. C.

### JUNE SALE SAVE 44%

Rytex Deckle-Edge Vellum Personalized Stationery

8.95 regular \$16

The Aug W Smith Co

Spartanburg, S. C.

# REWARD!

## \$100.00

## LOST DOG

For the return or information leading to the return of a very large Alaskan Malamute Husky at 130 lbs, grey and tan in color. Answers to name Na-Nook. Missing in the Saluda-Tryon area. Phone 1-704-749-5471 ask for Bill Vassil.