

For Safe Driving

Tips Are Given On How To Avoid An Auto Collision

Readers Asked To Imagine Crash Situations. Rates Of Speed Are Listed

By STAFF WRITER
What can be done to avert an auto collision? This is a question that every driver should consider as warm weather approaches and traffic fills the open highways.

Fortunately, when two cars pass each other, the drivers usually hear only a pleasing swish, but now and then their nerves are shattered by a spine-chilling crash and scream of twisting metal.

The Institute for Safer Living of the American Mutual Liability Insurance company says that there are a number of things you as a driver can do to avoid locking horns with your fellow motorist.

This may be done by imagining various crash situations as you drive along and deciding what you would do to dodge them.

- 1. A car coming toward you head on in your lane.
2. An oncoming car swerving at you from the opposite lane.
3. A car coming toward you from an intersecting street or road.
4. A car passing you and cutting in too soon.
5. A vehicle stopped or stopping suddenly ahead of you.

If it is a choice between hitting an oncoming vehicle and "hitting the ditch," that is, running off the road, the latter is usually the right choice, except where there are pedestrians.

A quick method for estimating this distance traveled per second is to multiply the speedometer reading by one and one-half.

W. W. Morris, of the Farm Bureau, preceded the demonstration with an explanation of the Reaction and Braking Chart which determines how soon a person can stop an automobile traveling at various rates of speed.

For the safe driving demonstration a 1954 Pontiac, equipped with a loudspeaker was used. Drivers were students Donald Kilpatrick, Mary Ellen Loftis, Coach D. G. Dail and Police Officer Charley Wright.

The students both drove the car at 20 miles per hour. After the signals were given it took Young Kilpatrick 19 feet to apply his brake, 24 feet to stop, for a total of 43 feet.

Miss Loftis' record was better. It took her 13 feet to apply the brake after the signal, 24 more to stop, for a total of 37 feet, slightly less than the average.

Coach Dail was driving at a speed of 30 miles per hour. After the signal he reacted in 27 feet, applied the brake to stop the car in 46 and his total stoppage was 74 feet.

Officer Wright was traveling at 40 miles per hour. He stopped in 120 feet, as compared with 124, the national average.

Principal R. T. Kimzey expressed when you think of prescriptions, think of VARNER'S.

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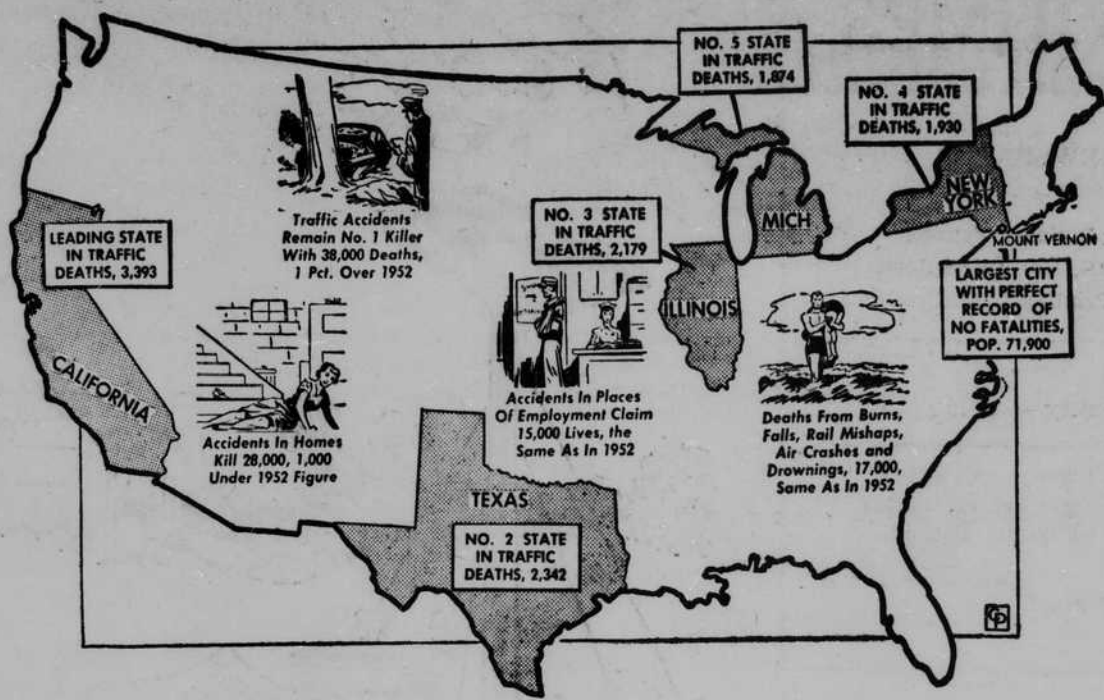
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Accident Deaths Triple Korean War Dead



How some of the 95,000 accident deaths in 1953 were distributed as indicated above. The total is more than triple the number of Americans killed in the Korean War, says the National Safety Council.

Brevard High Students See Safety Driving Demonstration

Reaction And Braking Chart Explained. Local Records Are Good

More than 500 Brevard high school students saw a demonstration on safe driving methods Thursday sponsored by the Farm Bureau Mutual Automobile Insurance company.

Arrangements for this demonstration were made by the local representative, Carl Stephens, and sponsored by the safety patrol of the school.

Prior to the demonstration a film, "Then There Were Four," was shown. In the film the importance of minor traffic violations and the large part they play in fatal accidents was stressed.

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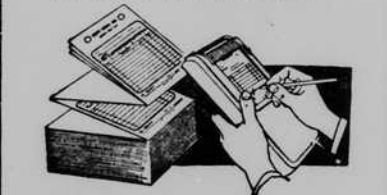
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Chances For Traffic Mishaps Increases With Registration

"As the number of registrations for motor vehicles mounts in North Carolina, so does the chances for increased traffic mishaps."

That was a statement made yesterday by Drs. E. O. Roland and Frank McGuire, local optometrists, who are in charge of the local observance of National Save Your Vision week.

"Better vision on the highways," they said, "is imperative in these times of increasing traffic on the roads."

For safer trips, they offered the following four tips to all motorists:

- 1. Keep your eyes on the road. Visual inattention is one of the commonest oversights in driving. Many smashups occur because drivers window-shop, light cigarettes, use the ash tray, tune the radio or look at a person while talking to him.
2. Keep the windshield clear at all times. Dust, fog or any type of discoloration can dangerously obstruct the driver's vision.
3. Be especially cautious while

driving in the low visibility hours of early morning and late afternoon. This is when the toll is heaviest.

4. Of course, always dim lights when approaching a car at night. And also dim lights when following a car at night.

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