

Pedestrian Fatalities Becoming Highway Problem For State

Drivers, long the principal object of attention of the State Highway Safety Division, are about to yield to pedestrians the dubious distinction of being highway safety problem No. 1 in North Carolina.

This fact cropped out in a survey traffic injuries and fatalities on North Carolina streets and highways during 1939, this survey showing that 331 pedestrians were killed in this state last year. This was more than one-third of the 943 highway fatalities recorded in North Carolina in 1939. In addition, 1,021 pedestrians were injured in this state during the twelve months period ending December 31, 1939.

Already, the Highway Safety Division records show more than a score of men, women and children have been killed this year while walking, playing or working on North Carolina streets and highways.

Official records of 1939 accidents in the state reveal that of the 331 pedestrians killed, 101 were walking in the roadway, 56 were playing or working in the roadway, 49 were crossing the highway, 29 were crossing between intersections, and 5 were crossing at intersections.

The survey shows further that of the 331 pedestrians killed last year, 25 had been drinking, one had a physical defect, 2 were confused by traffic, and one's view was obscured. The other 302 were apparently normal, and their deaths were the aftermath of the disregard of some simple everyday safety practice, either on their part or on the part of drivers.

At the time they were hit: 33 were waiting for or getting off street cars or busses.

11 were coming from behind parked cars.

5 were stepping from curb.

2 were getting on or off other vehicles.

4 were standing in safety aisles.

1 was hitching on a vehicle.

Apparently, pedestrians in North Carolina are in need of protection from their own carelessness as well as from the negligence of drivers.

And what can the pedestrian do to protect himself? Here are some safe walking rules which the Highway Safety Division stresses:

- 1. Carry or wear something white at night to help drivers see you.
 - 2. Cross only at crosswalks, keep to the right in the crosswalks.
 - 3. Before crossing—look both ways, be sure the way is clear before you cross.
 - 4. Cross only on the proper signal.
 - 5. Watch for turning cars.
 - 6. Never go into the roadway from between parked cars.
 - 7. Where there is no sidewalk and it is necessary to walk in the roadway, walk on the left side, facing oncoming traffic.
- These are good rules to follow at all times, but the Highway Safety Division advises: "Be doubly alert at night. It's then that most pedestrians are killed."

Finnish Premier Lauds Red Cross

Washington—Risto Rytty, Finnish Prime Minister, cables thanks to the American Red Cross for their relief supplies—amounting to 18 tons of anesthetics—which have been moving into Finland since the outbreak of hostilities.

Chairman Norman H. Davis, in announcing the Finnish Prime Minister's cable, states that Finnish relief supplies from the American Red Cross are moving rapidly out of New York in answer to urgent requests from the Finnish Red Cross. As an emergency measure, the first medical supplies needed by the small northern nation were purchased in London and transported by plane to Helsinki, it was explained.

Supplies now en route to Helsinki, Mr. Davis said, include ten motor ambulances, 25 hospital tents with a capacity of 50 patients each, and large quantities of medical supplies and clothing. In addition, \$30,000 worth of miscellaneous drugs and 20,000 blankets are being readied for shipment in New York, he said.

Deernapping Continues

Releigh, Feb. 5.—This is the deernapping season in North Carolina. In Pisgah National Forest, traps which resemble overgrown rabbit traps, snare deer, which are then transferred to other game refuges.

The State Game Division also is trapping deer at Fort Bragg, world's largest artillery reservation, and moving them to other areas. The 135,000-acre reservation so far has already furnished a large number of animals for transplanting.

BeeKeeper Has Work To Do In Mid-Winter

Bees are inactive at this season of the year, but the beekeeper should not go into hibernation, says C. L. Sams, Extension apiculturist of State College. Now is a good time to clean and repair equipment not in use, and new equipment should be secured and made ready for installation before the spring rush, he advised.

Sams does not think that the cold weather this winter will seriously cripple the beekeeping industry in North Carolina. "Most of the colonies are in good shape, and if they are left alone the bees will come through", the specialist stated.

He strongly advised against attempting to feed bees during cold weather. It may be possible to slip a comb of honey into the hive during the warm period of a mild day, but if the store of food was sufficient at the start of the winter season, the bees will survive the frigid blasts, Sams declared.

On the subject of package bees, or caged swarms, the apiculturist said: "To profitably start hives from packages, they should be secured from six to eight weeks before the main honey flow begins. For the Piedmont section of the State, this would be about March 1 to 15.

"Many beekeepers use package bees to strengthen weak hives, in which case they need not be bought quite so early. At this time of the year such bees must be purchased from further South, and the price is approximately \$1.00 per pound of bees. With a queen included in a three-pound package, this is about 15,000 individuals.

"This is a minimum number of bees that is recommended for starting a new hive, and they would have to be fed liberally until early plants begin furnishing nectar."

New Disease Attacks Irish Potato Tubers

Here's a warning to North Carolina Irish potato growers. From Howard R. Garriss, assistant Extension plant pathologist of State College:

A new bacterial wilt disease, called "Bacterial Ring Rot," has attacked Irish potatoes in 25 States, and disastrous losses have been suffered in several areas. The disease is spread through seed potatoes; therefore, Tar Heel growers should be careful where they buy seed potatoes, and should take definite steps to control the disease when it is found.

The disease attacks the tubers, causing a grayish to brownish discoloration of the vascular ring, which is quite often followed by soft rot with a final loss of the whole tuber. Symptoms in the field are first noticed at 80 to 90 days after planting, or just before the tops are to die. A rather sudden withering of the tops takes place with final brown and dry rot.

To prevent spread of the disease, Garriss recommends that the knife being used to cut the potatoes be sterilized frequently by dipping for a few seconds in a germicide disinfectant solution, or be dropped into boiling water for a short time. Experiments have shown that if you cut through a potato with ring rot, the next day and sometimes more healthy potatoes cut with the same knife will become infected.

"If possible, get seed from a local source that is free from the rot," the Extension specialist advised. "We have at State College, will be glad to furnish the available information on disease-free sources. It is wise to buy from a State with good certification system, and to buy with a 10-cent check and get the seed potatoes that are not infected with the disease. If you think the disease is present, treat the seed pieces by dipping them into a solution of Soudan-Bel or Mercural (prepared according to manufacturer's directions), and dry before planting."

Fishing At Mattamuskeet

New Holland, N. C.—In spite of cold weather, fishermen are getting good catches at Lake Mattamuskeet. A party of three recently reported landing 52 crappie and 22 bass, weighing from one and a half to four pounds.

Regulations for fishing the lake continue unchanged. A special fishing privilege fee of sixty cents applies daily at the biological survey refuge, and fishermen must have guide or use a guide's licensed boat. All guides are listed with Casar Chudwick, chief game protector at New Holland.

Minimum lengths are ten inches for bass, six inches for perch, with daily bag limit of 8 bass and 25 perch. There are no restrictions for blackfish, carp and other coarse fish.

Insects cannot move their eyes which are set in their heads like jewels in a ring. To look around, insects must move their heads.

Bishop Penick To Install Vestry At U. N. C. W. College

Greensboro, N. C., Feb. 13.—Rt. Rev. Edwin A. Penick, Bishop of the diocese of North Carolina, will visit St. Mary's house, the Episcopal Student House at Woman's College Sunday evening at 6:45 o'clock and install the new student vestry.

The newly elected vestry is composed of: Misses Alice Calder, Wilmington, president; Helen Mulican, Walnut Cove, vice-president; Katie Hawes, Atkinson, secretary; Helen Sweet, Scranton, Pa., treasurer; Bessie Powell, Miami, Florida; Vallie Anderson, Gastonia; Julia Pepper, Walnut Cove; Helen O'Bryan, Beaufort; Louise Boatman, Norton, Kansas; Betsy Trotter, Winston-Salem; Harriet Jones, Raleigh; and Dorothy Griffin, Charlotte.

Rev. J. A. Vache, rector of St. Andrew's Church, is chaplain and Miss Margaret Fletcher is student secretary at St. Mary's House.

Answers To Timely Farm Questions

QUESTION: What is the best ration for feeding pigs?

ANSWER: There is no one best ration, for it is possible to increase the net returns from the herd by selecting each season some combination of feeds that will make a well balanced, efficient ration at a minimum cost. A more or less standard ration that produces good results consists of corn, tankage or fish meal, and a mineral mixture. However, substitutes that are more economical can be made for some of the ingredients. The amount and kind of substitutes are given in Extension Circular No. 238, "Raising Hogs in North Carolina" and copies of this circular may be had free upon application to the Agricultural Editor at State College.

QUESTION: Is it too early to plant garden crops in the open?

ANSWER: Spring plantings in the open depend primarily on the temperature requirements of the different crops. The hardy crops such as cabbage, kale, mustard, lettuce, parsley, spinach, onions, and the smooth-seeded garden peas will stand hard frosts and may be planted in the open six to eight weeks before danger of killing frost is over. Crops classed as half-hardy such as asparagus, beets, celery, turnips, radishes, chard, cauliflower, and Irish potatoes will stand light freezes, but usually should not be planted until three or four weeks before the date of the last killing frost. All warm-season crops should not be planted until all danger of frost is past.

QUESTION: When should broilers be started on a fattening feed?

ANSWER: Broilers are usually started on the fattening ration about seven to ten days before they are to be sold. The birds should be approximately one and one-half to one and three-quarters pounds each when fattening begins. All other feed should be discontinued and a special ration given for the fattening period. However, this period should never exceed more than 12 days. There are two recommended rations for the fattening period. The first contains six pounds of corn meal and four pounds of flour, standard middlings, or ground oats. The second ration is made by mixing six pounds of corn meal, two pounds of wheat shorts, and two pounds of ground oats. Skim milk or buttermilk should be used in either of these rations to mix a sloppy feed that will pour readily from a bucket.

Pickpockets Are Clever, But You Can Outwit Them

Carry your wallet in your hip pocket? It's a cinch for the pickpocket artist, who can filch it with a dozen tricks of the trade. It'll be a lot safer in an inside pocket, according to Myron M. Stearns, who discusses in the current issue of the Rotarian Magazine ways to safeguard your money. "If you have money in any outside pocket, and pickpockets spot it, they'll probably get it unless your suspicions are aroused," Stearns warns. "Keep alert in crowds, and move instantly when you're jostled. Leave at home all money you don't actually need. If you carry your money in an inside pocket, vest pocket preferred it'll be safer than elsewhere. To cheat the crook, you must know the way the crook works; test him at his own game, Stearns writes. "If a man sticks a newspaper under your chin, suspect him. Beware of the man who asks for a light and lets you hold the match while he bends over to use it. You can't be too suspicious in a crowd—if you value your money."

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N.C.U.C.F. Receipts \$32,112,105.24

Raleigh, Feb. 5.—Receipts for the North Carolina Unemployment Compensation Fund through February 2, reached \$32,112,105.24, which includes \$31,428,143.71 in contributions on employer payrolls and \$683,961.53 in interest on the balance on deposit in the U. S. Treasury.

Benefits to unemployed workers in North Carolina in the two years of 1938 and 1939 and through February 2 amounted to \$12,919,068.78, which leaves a balance in the State fund of \$19,193,036.46. This balance is divided between the "pooled" fund and the employer individual account funds.

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Mass Refrigeration

Kinston, N. C.—Fishermen on the North Carolina coast claimed record catches, when thousands of fish, blown from shallow creeks and sounds by a midwinter gale, were left stranded along the banks. Frozen by the frigid weather the fish were perfectly preserved for all who wished to pick them up.

One fisherman recorded \$80 worth of trout, mulet and other fish from Pantego creek. Another man chalked up a singular unofficial record when he gathered up 2,000 frozen trout on the banks of the same stream.

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White Squirrel

Elizabeth City, N. C.—With one of the first snows in years falling near Elizabeth City, it looks as though even the squirrels have been reading about the Russian-Finnish war and the Finn's camouflaged uniforms. Lately a pure white squirrel was shot and placed on exhibit at the local newspaper office.

Some scientists say that fish cannot distinguish colors and that they will snap at a red fly as quickly as at a green fly. But the scientists will never be able to convince some fishermen that fish don't know their colors.

49-Pound Rockfish

Hobucken N. C.—Harmon Mayo of Hobucken cooperates with North Carolina publicists who beat the drum for year round fishing in the Tar Heel state. Last Thursday, Harmon, fishing from the Hobucken bridge, pulled in a 49-pound rockfish on a 241-pound, fresh water test line.

Tobacco

Delayed by snow and cold weather, farmers have rushed work on their tobacco plant beds with the coming of recent favorable weather reports farm agents of the State College Extension Service.

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