

## Hitch Hikers Create Problem

The gesturing, upturned thumb, universally recognized highball among wanderers of the highway is strictly frowned upon in North Carolina. Fact is, it's against the law.

However, like many statutes, the ban against soliciting rides from motorists on public roadways has fallen by the wayside. For one thing, the transportation free loaders have decreased in number, thus drawing enforcement eyes to more pressing problems. And too, nearly everybody drives nowadays since the department of motor vehicles knows officially of 1,226,339 vehicles. Among non-drivers, the old time shank's mare traveler is virtually unknown. Transients feel, if they don't own cars, there are plenty of others who do. Thus the declining, but aggressive corps of hitch hikers who unknowingly flout the law regularly.

College students are perhaps the worst offenders according to the state highway patrol. At football games they all but commandeer slow moving cars, creating additional hazards for hard pressed officers directing traffic. Fortunately a stern warning, with a hint of indictment, breaks up this gay game—sometimes. And it would indeed be an unobservant driver who failed to notice the platoon of Wake Forest student-thumbers who line upper Person street in Raleigh every afternoon. The young Deacon law students may not know it yet, but they are breaking a duly enacted state law.

The same situation prevails in West Raleigh where dozens of State college students bend their thumbs and break the law. In education centers throughout the state, weekend thumbers create minor traffic problems.

If there is a regular semi-organized corps of hitch hikers, it would be students, say extensive travelers. And while most safety officials condemn the practice, it's often overlooked in blanket preparations for highway safety promotion. The department of motor vehicles produces no statistics on fatalities and injuries among hitch hikers. That some few are injured, and perhaps killed, every year goes without saying. Thus an appeal to those who thumb rides regularly to "cease and desist" is probably the best answer.

For the academic minded the manual of motor vehicle laws, in one short paragraph, presents the state's point of view on hitch hiking. In section 20-175 it reads: "No person shall stand in the travel portion of the highway for the purpose of soliciting a ride from the driver of any private vehicle."

And for the hair-splitters, the "travel portion" of the highway means right up to where the pavement ends at the shoulder.

## Scout Drive Short of Goal

The Boy Scout drive in Carteret county has netted to date \$1,850. That amount is \$150 short of the goal set this year at \$2,000.

Of that total, \$814 was contributed in Beaufort, \$950 in Morehead City, \$65 in Newport, and \$21 inarkers Island.

Boy Scout workers are still hoping to raise the \$150 they fell short of the goal. They will continue efforts to raise that amount during the next few days.

Co-finance chairman of the county drive were N. F. Eure, Beaufort, and Dr. S. W. Hatcher, Morehead City. Contributions may be made to either of these men or to any person active in scouting.

The Carteret county drive was held in conjunction with the drive of the East Carolina council of the Boy Scouts of America, of which the county group is a part.

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## Court

(Continued from Page 1)

with running the stop sign at Queen and Cedar st.

Abraham Williams, colored, was charged with court costs on a charge of operating without an operator's license.

Evelyn Garrison, colored, was ordered to pay court costs on a charge of malicious prosecution after she asked for the withdrawal of a charge of assaulting a female against Jack Garrison, colored.

Judge Mason ordered a capias issued for the arrest of William Lawyer Hardesty, colored, who failed to appear to answer a charge of public drunkenness, being in a place where he had no right to be, resisting arrest and striking an officer.

## Elizabeth City Band to Appear

Elizabeth City high school's famed "100,000 band" will accompany the school's football team here tonight when it meets Beaufort at the athletic field. The band will perform between the halves of the game.

The 100-piece band is considered to be the best high school musical organization in North Carolina. The group is particularly noted for its intricate maneuvers and its spectacular uniforms.

The band travels in three buses. A fourth bus carries equipment and provides dressing room for the players. The band's expenses are underwritten by a resident of Elizabeth City.

The Beaufort band will play in pre-game ceremonies, leaving the time between the halves to the visitors. The Beaufort band will also parade downtown this afternoon.

## Morehead House Ruined As Fire Sweeps Dry Roof

The home of Charles Holland, 18th street, Morehead City, was ruined Wednesday night when a fire swept the roof of the dwelling. Morehead City firemen worked for two hours to extinguish the blaze.

The fire was believed to have started when an over-heated chimney flue set fire to the dry shingles and tar paper of the roof. The roof burned completely before firemen could bring the fire under control.

## Little Symphony Drive Will End Tomorrow

The Little Symphony drive will continue through tomorrow, according to Glenn Adair, president of the local group.

The canvassers are hoping to raise enough money this year to sponsor one adult concert and two children's concerts. Previously, only one children's concert has been held.

The Little Symphony is a part of the North Carolina Symphony and has played here in previous years.

Contributions may be made by calling the Chamber of Commerce office in either Beaufort or Morehead City where requests will be forwarded to Adair or other workers.

## State Nurses Pay Visit to County Health Department

Two visitors from the state board of health nursing division, Miss Grace Mattis and Miss Ann Lamb, were at the county health office last Wednesday, according to Dr. N. Thos. Ennett, county health officer.

Dr. Ennett says that the nurses were here to discuss general nursing problems but also to discuss particularly the new venereal disease center set up in the health department at Wilmington. The center at Wilmington is the one which serves Carteret county, according to Dr. Ennett.

## License Examiner Moves Morehead City Location

The driver's license examiner, G. W. McLawhorn, reports that he will, as of next Monday, be in a new location in Morehead City.

He is moving his office from the Sound Chevrolet building in Morehead City to the highway patrol office off highway 70 west of Morehead City.

The move came after the Department of Motor Vehicles was ordered to operate under the State Highway Patrol.

Hours for obtaining a driver's license in Morehead City are from 8:30 to 5:30 on Monday and Tuesday of each week.

## Operator Has Busy Time

Centralia, Ill. (AP)—Marie Foltz got experience on her first day at the Valmeyer, Ill., telephone switchboard that would equal that of some veteran "hello" girls. A small tornado roared up the valley into Valmeyer. In quick order the new operator handled fire and ambulance calls before lines went down and her switchboard all but blacked out.

## Death Payments Rise in State

North Carolina families received \$21,535,000 in life insurance death benefit payments in the first nine months of this year, compared with \$19,399,000 in the corresponding period of last year, the Institute of Life Insurance reported today. The number of policies becoming claims in the first nine months was 195,200, which compares with 192,820 in the corresponding period of 1951.

"The tremendous increases in life insurance ownership since World War II are reflected in these current payments," Holgar J. Johnson, Institute president, said in announcing the figures. "For the country as a whole, death benefits paid in the first nine months of this year were \$84,768,000 greater than in the corresponding period of last year and 41 per cent more than in the first nine months of 1945. Life insurance ownership has increased 80 per cent in the past seven years."

Death benefit payments in this state in the first three quarters of 1952 compare with \$13,242,000 in the corresponding period of 1951.

Of this year's nine month aggregate death benefit payments in this state, \$14,280,000 was under \$3,853 ordinary insurance policies; \$3,416,000 was under 2,061 group life insurance policies; and \$3,839,

## Regiment Wins Top Honor in 22 Months Korean Duty

With the U.S. 22d Division in Korea (AP)—Men of the U.S. 3rd division's 7th infantry regiment have won five Congressional Medals of Honor, the nation's highest decoration, and 2,210 other awards in 22 months of fighting in Korea.

The Distinguished Service Cross, second highest award, has been bestowed on 14 soldiers of the regiment since it was committed to action in November, 1950.

Other decorations include: 326 Silver Stars, six Legions of Merit, 13 Soldiers Medals, 676 Bronze Stars with "v" device for valor, 977 Bronze Stars for meritorious service and 201 commendation ribbons.

## Kite Follows Sting

Greencastle, Ind. (AP)—A double-trouble humblebee swooped into Mrs. James McIntyre's garden, stung both her and her dog. Then the dog bit her.

900 was under 13,436 industrial insurance policies.

For the nation as a whole, \$1,368,664,000 was paid out as death claims under 1,139,548 policies in the first nine months of this year, compared with \$1,283,896,000 under 1,102,943 policies in the like period last year. Of this year's payments, \$837,858,000 was under 331,524 ordinary policies; \$286,505,000 was under 131,369 group policies; and \$184,301,000 was under 676,650 industrial policies.

Iowa to Advertise Des Moines, Iowa (AP)—Iowa joins the states propagandizing their products, scenery or other virtues next year. Iowa's motor license plates for 1953 will carry the words "The Corn State."

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