

Stop, Look and Listen!

Don't Call Car Smashups Accidents! Lawbreaking Is Cause of Most Deaths

The word "accident" is a phony if it's used to describe what happens when cars collide with each other or run down pedestrians.

It's also utter nonsense to regard people who cause these crashes as poor and unfortunate victims of circumstances.

These two fallacies, the experts say, are serious handicaps to our national traffic safety effort.

Because people believe these false ideas, we are losing the battle to save lives on the highway and find ourselves in a traffic emergency.

Most of our so-called auto accidents aren't that at all. They are caused occurrences, and the causes are easily identifiable.

Chief Cause

What are the chief causes of crashes? They can be lumped into one large and simple category—**LAWBREAKING.**

A comprehensive study by a leading auto insurance company reveals that a fantastic number—88 per cent—of last year's highway victims died because of traffic law violations!

This study by Lumbermens Mutual Casualty Company shows that lawbreaking killed 33,700 of last year's more than 38,000 highway victims.

These 33,700 could have been alive and with their families today if the persons who were responsible for the fatal crashes only had obeyed the law.

Commenting on the study, James

S. Kemper, chairman of Lumbermens, said that nine out of 10 traffic fatalities could be classified more accurately as "manslaughter or suicide by homicidal highwaymaniacs."

"How can a death that results because of a violation of the law really be classified as an accident?" Kemper asked.

Typical Reports

Ask any police officer trained in traffic investigation and he'll tell you from personal experience the terrible toll exacted by lawbreakers. Or look into reports of typical accidents such as the following to see the vicious results of breaking traffic laws:

—Three youths killed in high speed crash. (Car traveling 90 m.p.h. Speed limit was 65.)

—Driver and woman companion killed when car loses race to railroad crossing. (Violating speed law, ignoring flashing signals.)

—Six killed in head-on collision. (One car straddling center lane.)

—Eleven persons were killed in these three so-called accidents. They might be alive today if the persons responsible had been truly law abiding citizens. So could 33,700 other people who were killed last year.

Double Standard

When it comes to the law, we Americans have a peculiar double standard. Supposedly we're a nation dedicated to the law and to obeying it. We believe it is good

that men obey the law and it is bad when they break it—except for traffic laws, that is. We have a different standard for that.

You've heard many people brag about how fast their cars will go. Almost surely they had to break a speed law to prove it.

You've also heard people brag about how they can spot police officers in their rear-view mirrors. They're proud, apparently, that they can break the law and get away with it. But they holler if they are caught by a police officer they didn't see.

Yet behavior such as this is socially acceptable—despite the fact that more than 30,000 people die annually because of lawbreaking on the highway.

It's a fact that most drivers are careful and are law abiding most of the time. The regular and flagrant lawbreakers are in minority, but they're a constant threat to all other drivers on the road.

Any time a driver violates a traffic law, he's a potential killer. You could be his victim.

"The vast majority of drivers who are law-abiding deserve protection from the small but dangerous group of homicidal highwaymaniacs," Kemper asserted.

"If this group of potential killers won't obey the law voluntarily, strict and impartial enforcement of realistic traffic laws and stern justice must be employed to deter them and to protect others." (Next week: What Can Be Done.)

DALE CARNEGIE

AUTHOR OF "HOW TO STOP WORRYING AND START LIVING"

WHEN John M. Green, Jr., 408 Main Street, Franklin, Tennessee, graduated from college he held a degree in Mechanical Engineering. For four years he had been taught to figure out problems of all kinds. So constantly was he told to be prepared and get the best and most correct answer to any problem.

But when graduation came he faced the greatest problem that had ever come to him: What job to take and where. He had the choice of going into the insurance business with his father or getting an engineering job. He decided to go into the insurance business.

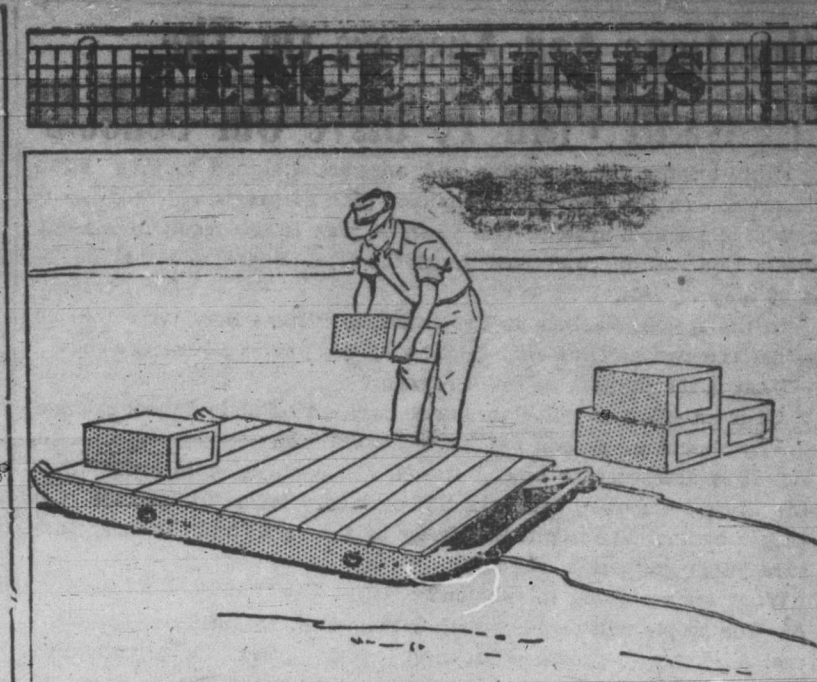


CARNEGIE

Soon his school friends began coming to see him, telling him how well they were doing in the engineering field. He began to worry about whether he had made a wrong decision when he graduated, but just couldn't seem to get the answer. The more he thought the more he worried.

As time passed and his worrying continued, he got into Boy Scout work and then into the Jaycees. As he worked with these organizations and spent more time in doing the work, he noticed that he had stopped worrying and was really enjoying himself.

He still is active in the Scouts and Jaycees and never catches himself worrying. So he believes that the best way to lick worries is to get so busy you don't have time for them.



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YOUR brain budget

- The remora is (a) land animal; (b) bird; (c) fish.
- Tenuous means (a) clinging; (b) slender; (c) experimental.
- Sunset Crater is in (a) Utah; (b) Nevada; (c) Arizona.

ANSWERS
1. Fish.
2. Slender.
3. Arizona.

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NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TO EFFECT PAYMENT NORTH CAROLINA YANCEY COUNTY

Know all men, and particularly the heirs of S. W. Shuford, that as authorized by the power of sale conferred upon me in that certain deed in trust executed by S. W. Shuford and wife, Minnie Shuford, on the 10th day of October, 1947, and which is recorded in the office of the Registry of Deeds in Yancey County in book 31 at page 531, and default made in payment of the debt secured, and demand made upon me by Northwestern Bank to sell the property therein described:

Having three times sold the land and the bid having been raised, I shall again offer for sale at the East Door of the Court House in Burnsville, at 11 o'clock a. m., on the 18th day of August, 1956, one or both of the following described tracts of land, I shall offer the first tract of land for sale and if it brings a sufficient amount to pay the indebtedness, cost, taxes, I shall not sell the second tract, but in event it does not bring enough to pay the indebtedness, I shall offer both tracts for sale. Lands are located in North Carolina, Yancey County, in South Toe Township, adjoining lands of Albert Ballew and others, and described as follows:

FIRST TRACT—Beginning at a white oak at an old corner in the Bowditch line and standing on the N. bank of Laurel Branch and runs N. 55 W. 56 poles to a stake at or near a pine stump; thence N. 87½ E. 45 poles to a stake in the Bowditch line; thence S. 2½ W. with said line 862.3 poles to the beginning, containing 19 acres, more or less.

SECOND TRACT—Beginning at a stake at the S. W. corner of the John Griffin tract and running S. E. with highway number 104 to a stake at the branch; thence up and with the branch N. 40 E. 7 poles and 18 links to a stake in the W. A. Simmons old line; thence N. with said line to the John Griffin line; thence with the John Griffin line westwardly to the beginning, containing 3 acres, more or less.

This August 1, 1956.
R. W. WILSON, Trustee.
Copy posted at Court House Door in Burnsville on Aug. 1, 1956
August 9 and 10

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