

An Editorial Prayer

Dear God:
 Give us the foresight to drive slow enough and true enough so that Thy Supreme Judgment will not have to pin the cloak of guilt on our front bumpers for maiming or death.
 Thousands of us will be streaking homeward in a few days to see our families and our friends. Please see that no life is ground out under the sign of the "Texas Aggies."
 Help us to do our part to make sure this is truly a Merry Christmas.

— Jim Bower

Minor Repair Bills Pay In Long Run

By LELAND BOYD

Keeping a car in safe mechanical condition is within the reach financially of nearly everyone, according to estimates for auto-repair at a leading firm in Bryan.

The firm's service manager quoted the following rates in answer to the Battalion's inquiry:

- 1. Brake adjustment—\$1.50.
- 2. Brake re-lined — \$24.50.
- 3. Brake Shoe life is at least two years.)
- 4. Wheels balanced—\$1.50 each plus balance weights.
- 5. Lights adjusted—50 cents each.
- 6. Head lamp replaced—\$2.70.

Texas Lawmakers snipped a sliver off the accident rate when the Motor Vehicle Inspection Law started compelling motorists to have their vehicles brought up to safe mechanical operating condition in 1952.

Department of Public Safety figures show that accident rates for unit mileage have dropped about three percent after the law became effective.

The inspection fee is \$1. Even though mechanical failures do not enter into accident causative agents in a prominent position as indicated by both local and statewide data, having a mechanically safe car builds a feeling of security, drivers agree.

They say, especially after an accident happens, "It is better to be safe than sorry."
 So many find it wise to have regular checks made to locate danger spots before leaving on trips.

What's Cooking

The following organization meets this afternoon.

5:30

American Institute of Chemical Engineers meets at the front steps of the MSC for Aggeland picture. Class A uniform and coats and ties will be worn.

US Backs British Gold Reserves

PARIS, (AP)—The United States last night was reported backing moves that will allow Britain to count on an extra two billion dollars for its gold-dollar reserves.

Actions already taken have had a tonic effect on the value of the pound in the world's money market, and the stability of Britain's worldwide money system known as the sterling area.

Eager Beaver studying to be an ENGINEER? PHYSICIST? MATHEMATICIAN?



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The Battalion

The Editorial Policy of The Battalion Represents the Views of the Student Editors

The Battalion, daily newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and the City of College Station, is published by students in the Office of Student Publications as a non-profit educational service. The Director of Student Publications is Ross Strader. The governing body of all student publications of the A.M. College of Texas is the Student Publications Board. Faculty members are Dr. Carroll D. Laverty, Chairman; Prof. Donald D. Burchard, Prof. Tom Leland and Mr. Eennie Zinn. Student members are John W. Gossett, Murray Milner, Jr., and Leighus B. Sheppard, Jr. Ex-officio members are Mr. Charles Roeder, and Ross Strader, Secretary. The Battalion is published four times a week during the regular school year and once a week during the summer and vacation and examination periods. Days of publication are Tuesday through Friday for the regular school year and on Thursday during the summer terms and during examination and vacation periods. The Battalion is not published on the Wednesday immediately preceding Easter or Thanksgiving. Subscription rates are \$3.00 per semester, \$6.00 per school year, \$6.00 per full year, or \$1.00 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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HOTRODDING WRECKED this car because the men in it were "dragging" on the highway. They weren't killed but it wasn't due to their own precautions. They learned their lesson the hard way. How will you learn yours?

Non-Dimmers Pose Constant Danger Threat To Drivers

By BARRY HART

How often have you cursed the "bright-lights" driver that persists in keeping his headlights on high and right in your eyes after dark?

Besides the discourtesy on the part of the driver who seems to be completely oblivious of his "dime", approaching another car without bringing your beams down is extremely dangerous to both drivers.

A suddenly blinded driver, a split second of control lost, a car edges over the middle stripe and a peaceful drive becomes a death trap. It happens every day.

As dangerous as the drunken driver or the speed merchant, road courtesy is a vital lesson for any automobile operator and one the really good driver knows and appreciates. A good rule for night driving is to use "highs" only when really needed and keep that left foot near the dimmer switch. An oncoming driver, blinded momentarily by your bright lights is a potential killer.

But keeping your lights out of other drivers' eyes is only one of many forms of courtesy for any motor vehicle operator.

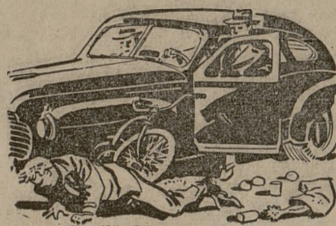
The importance of hand signals cannot be over looked in any discussion of automotive courtesy, especially in city traffic where that arm out the window can be the difference between a safe turn and a collision. This should be done even in cars equipped with automatic turn indicators, for that little blinking light can easily go unnoticed in bad weather or a tight situation.

A lot of people, who can be gentlemen in every facet of the word on foot, turn into virtual animals once behind the wheel of a modern automobile, seemingly disregarding all kindness and forms of civility. Sweeping down the

highway they take a sadistic pleasure in speeding up to keep another car from passing, running yellow lights and whipping in and out of heavy traffic, just barely edging back in when another car approaches.

It's nothing but pure politeness when a driver slows down to allow a car to get into the left lane for a left turn, or stops and allows another motorist a chance to pull into a line of traffic, some things many drivers never consider.

A little good humor and gallantry on the road may save a life and even if it doesn't it will be appreciated by other drivers. Courtesy is contagious.



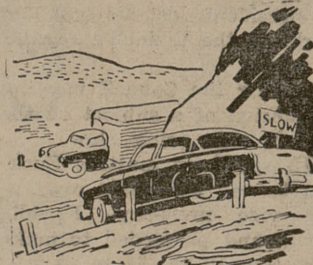
DRIVE CAREFULLY

365 Days A Year

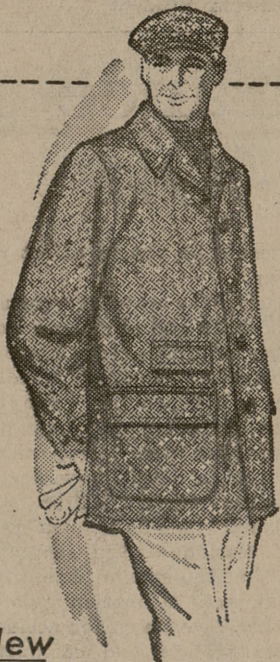
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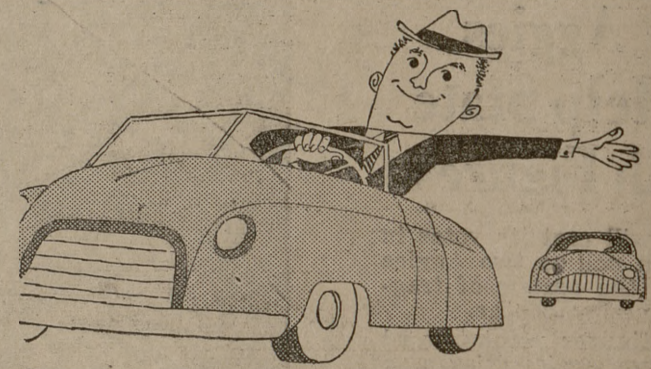
\$19.95

The Exchange Store "Serving Texas Aggies"

Kiwanis Toy Drive Lagging Behind

College Station started getting the Christmas spirit early, but may need a "shot in the arm," according to John J. Sperry, chairman of the Kiwanis Club underprivileged children committee. The drive for toys for these College Station children that has been in progress for several weeks will end next Tuesday.

"We have received about 200 items, including two bicycles, but we feel that we have had only a fair response," said Sperry. "We are behind last year's drive, and we ask again that the community donate toys which will add to these children's happiness at Christmas."
 The drive is expected to end next Tuesday.

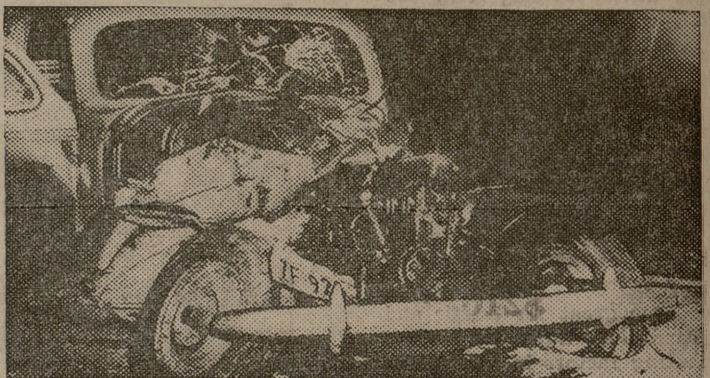


Mind your motor manners—and live! You'd be surprised how many accidents are prevented by highway courtesy. So, think of the other fellow—in passing, on hills, around curves. Drive among your neighbors as you'd have them drive by you! Chances are you'll live longer. And so will your neighbors!
 Be Careful—the life you save may be your own!

DAVIS AUTO SUPPLY
 E. 23rd. & Washington, Bryan

WANT THE TRUTH?

Up to 6,000 traffic-accident deaths this year won't be "accidents" at all!



Forty thousand Americans will die in traffic accidents this year, according to the present mounting rate. And nearly six thousand of those deaths will be crimes—because of driver negligence—according to the FBI!

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP STOP THESE TRAGEDIES

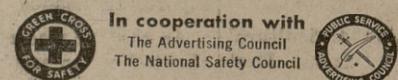
1. Drive safely and courteously yourself. Observe speed limits and warning-signs. Where drivers are careful and obey the law, deaths go DOWN!
2. Insist on strict enforcement of all traffic laws! Wherever traffic laws are strictly enforced, deaths go DOWN!

Support your local safety organization

Published in an effort to save lives

Texas Central Life Insurance Co.

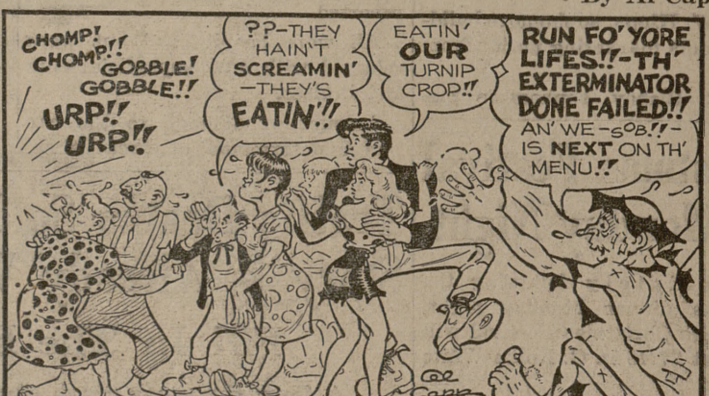
HOME OFFICE 1506 College Ave. Bryan



L'L ABNER



POGO



By Al Capp

By Walt Kelly