

An Editorial

Safety: A Future

Thoughts of home, the folks, that wonderful sweetheart and all the fun waiting undoubtedly are permeating every brain cell of study-weary Aggies on this the eve of the mass exodus.

All these dreams of happiness can be snuffed out in one terrifying moment of grinding metal, shattering glass and twisted bodies.

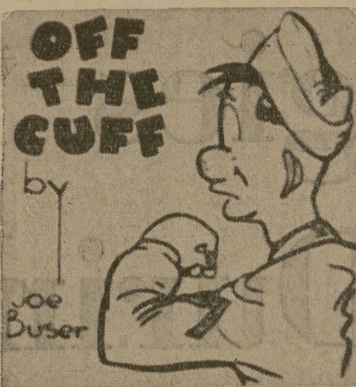
Will every Aggie live to see his dreams come true, or will that girl, his parents and friends be standing by a casket Christmas Day instead of eating turkey and celebrating the birth of Christ?

Think about it! Is 10 minutes saved worth never marrying that dream girl or never achieving the success that will make parents and friends proud?

If nothing else, think of highway safety from a selfish angle. Probably after another 20 years most of those who will die during the holidays will be forgotten.

Would it satisfy the selfish pride of anyone to feel he was dying as a relative unknown, having made little impression on the world around him?

For either reason, it pays to be safe and stay alive.



As a rule, this bit is designed to create laughter.

But there's nothing funny about dying.

So here's a few safety rules to remember when driving home-ward:

1. Don't lose your head—let someone hold your beer when you go around corners.
2. Never dim your lights—there might be some cars coming.
3. Take curves on the left—it's less crowded—Usually.
4. Say goodbye to your roommate before leaving. It may be some time before you see him again. Indeed!



"I know there's nothing I can say to keep you guys from speedin' and being reckless going home! All I can say is 'goodbye'—It won't be the same without you!"

State Capital NEWS

By Vern Sanford

AUSTIN, Texas — "Give the Gift of Life" is the slogan for Governor Price Daniel's Christmas Safety Campaign.

"I plead with every Texan to assume normal, adult responsibility for driving his car with utmost care. It's the very least any of us can do. And the greatest think we can do is 'Give the Gift of Life for Christmas.'"

DILEMMA REMAINS — Whether a school district should follow state or federal law in regard to integration is still an open question.

A federal judge declined to rule on the issue for the Dallas school board. A state law, passed last spring, says a school will lose state aid if it integrates without a local election. A federal court has ordered Dallas schools to integrate Jan. 27.

Members of the Texas attorney general's staff appeared at a hearing to argue that a lower federal court could not set aside a state law.

But the integration order remains, leaving Dallas and other districts with similar problems, without an answer.

SKYWAY Drive-In Theatre
 THRU FRIDAY
 "Man On Fire"
 With Bing Crosby
 Plus
 "Run For The Sun"
 With Richard Widmark

CIRCLE
 THURSDAY & FRIDAY
 ELVIS PRESLEY
 JAILHOUSE ROCK
 Also
 "Beast of Hollow Mountain"

Death in Various Forms Lingers on Highways

By E. V. WALTON
 Battalion Guest Writer

What is death? It is hard to know, exactly, for it is many things. It can be sight and sound, speed and smell, the seen and the unseen, or the unknown chemistry in the mind of man.

On the highways, death is mostly hurry. Or a gambler would say that Death is fool's odds—long odds. If you drive 70 miles an hour, instead of 60, you may save less than 10 minutes in one hour's driving. But you gamble then. Long odds. You bet over a quarter of a million minutes in each remaining year of your life that you can make ten or less

... your life against the length of time it would take to sing a psalm at your funeral.

Or death may be the unseen. The truck just beyond the curve or over the hill seconds away, but unseen. The unknown just beyond the beam of your headlights when you overdrive their range.

It can be the seen, too. The glistening of rain on wet pavement waiting for speed and brakes or the touch of a toe on the accelerator. Death is patient. It waits in the glaze of snow or ice on the pavement. Pretty, innocent-looking and so terribly sudden!

Death can be smell. Hot oil pouring from a smashed motor. The reek of gasoline and battery acid or the smell of fire and then the worst stench of them all—

Horrible and unforgettable.

Sometimes it is air. Imprisoned, tortured, heated, and hammered inside a tire at 70 or 80. Seeking release, a weak spot in the tire—an old nail puncture, a cut or a flaw, any place to blow out. When it happens, it is Death.

Death can be a thing of the mind. A worry about an unpaid bill, a quarrel, or a sick child can cause a moment's incoordination or inattention to speed and weight and mass. A violation of the laws of physics, punishable by Death. It can even be anticipation of a sweetheart's kiss or the welcome light of the family window if it impells excess speed, a chance on a hill or a gamble around a curve.

Death can be sound, too. The angry scream of brakes. The crunch of tortured steel. The final stillness punctuated by the drip of gasoline and the tinkle of the last falling shred of glass before the crescendo of agony begins. The bubbling sound blood makes in a torn throat or crushed chest. The final insensate moan. Death is sometimes sound—the last sound.

The record of Death is in the ink of the actuary's pen who writes "deceased" 40,000 times a year. You can find the tracks of Death in wrecking yards and funeral homes and finally in the words, "marital status—widow", or "father living? No!"

Death is many things. Can you recognize it—in time?

Guion Hall
 THEATRE
 THURSDAY & FRIDAY
A DAY OF FURY
 TECHNICOLOR
 STARRING DALE ROBERTSON
 MARA CORDAY
 JOCK MAHONEY
 WITH CARL BENSON REID JAN MERLIN
 A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL PICTURE

CAMPUS
 THURSDAY

JOHN PAYNE
 THIS IS HOW THEY SET HIM UP FOR THE KILL!
Hidden Fear
 RELEASED THIS UNITED ARTISTS
 Alexander Knox - Anne Neyland

DALLAS CHRISTMAS DANCE
 All Aged Invited
 Statler - Hilton
 Friday, Dec. 27
 8:00 p. m. 12:00 p. m.
 \$5.00 Per Couple
 Cokes Included

PALACE
 Bryan 2-8879
 TODAY THRU SATURDAY
 JOEL MCCREA
 VIRGINIA MAYO
THE TALL STRANGER
 CINEMASCOPE
 COLOR by De Luxe

Attention Graduating Seniors!
 Big Graduation Sale On Now!
 Any make, any model, sports cars or family cars.
 NO DOWN PAYMENT — 36 months to pay
 Bank rates of interest. New car warranty on new cars.
 100% warranty on all used cars.
Century Motor Co.
 423 S. Main, Bryan
 TA 3-2524

"The Touch of Elegance" in Sportswear
 BY BERKRAY

\$26.50

For today's Suburban Living:
THE COUNTRY COAT
 —warm, light, ready for anything!

This is the swagger new look of the outdoorsman—completely at home behind a wheel or a snow-shovel—warm enough for winter's worst when you button up the storm collar; cinch up the sleeve tabs. There's more than a "touch" of elegance in the splendid fabrics and tailoring—the square leather buttons—side vents—oversized flapped patch pockets. You'll wear it more than your overcoat, now till Spring!

Shown, in rugged, pepper-and-salt Donegal Tweed, with luxury satin quilt lining.

The Exchange Store
 "In Its 50th Year of Serving Texas Aggies"

THE BATTALION

Opinions expressed in *The Battalion* are those of the student writers only. *The Battalion* is a non-tax-supported, non-profit, self-supporting educational enterprise edited and operated by students as a community newspaper and is governed by the student-faculty Student Publications Board at Texas A. & M. College.

The *Battalion*, a student newspaper at Texas A. & M., is published in College Station, Texas, daily except Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, and holiday periods, September through May, and once a week during summer school.

Faculty members of the Student Publications Board are Dr. Carroll D. Laverty, Chairman; Prof. Donald D. Burchard; Prof. Robert M. Stevenson; and Mr. Bennie Zinn. Student members are W. T. Williams, John Avant, and Billy W. Libby. Executive members are Mr. Charles A. Roeder; and Ross Strader, Secretary and Director of Student Publications.

Mail subscriptions are \$3.50 per semester, \$6 per school year, \$6.50 per full year. Advertising rates furnished on request. Address: *The Battalion*, Room 4, YMCA, College Station, Texas.

Entered as second-class, MEMBER: The Associated Press, National Advertising Services, Inc., New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. Associated Collegiate Press.

The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to the use for republication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in the paper and local news of spontaneous origin published herein. Rights of republication of all other matter herein are also reserved.

JOE TINDEL Editor
Jim Neighbors Managing Editor
Gary Rollins Sports
Joy Roper Society Editor
Gayle McNutt, Val Polk City Editors
Joe Buser, Fred Meurer News Editors

A new idea in smoking...

Salem refreshes your taste

• menthol fresh
 • rich tobacco taste
 • most modern filter

Salem adds a wholly new quality to smoking... refreshes your taste just as a sudden breeze on a warm Spring day refreshes you. Rich tobacco taste with a new surprise softness... menthol-fresh comfort... most modern filter, through which flows the freshest taste in cigarettes. Smoke refreshed... pack after pack... get a carton of Salems!

Take a Puff... It's Springtime

Created by R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company