

# Professional Truck Drivers Give Safe Driving Technique

Professional truck drivers with miles of highway travel experience know many facts about driving safety that the average drivers fail to realize.

"If at all possible, don't start your trip without having had enough rest before you leave. If you had to study all night, let someone else drive for you," advised Wayne McCollum, a senior at A&M and summer truck driver for Beard Transfer and Storage.

THERE ARE MORE WAYS to get ahead of the rush than speeding. A thermos of coffee and a few sandwiches prepared before you leave will eliminate the time usually used in attempting to get a quick meal on your trip, he suggested.

Walker Johnston, a professional driver for Connally Brothers Aero Mayflower agency and recipient of a five year safety award, said, "Know the conditions of the road and if the road is wet or icy, allow extra distance for stopping and above all, don't follow too close."

"NO DRIVER SHOULD attempt to drive over a distance of 100 miles without stopping to relax and get out from behind the wheel. When you sit behind the wheel and have a straight road ahead of you, you will unnoticeably become somewhat hypnotized.

So stop every once in a while to relax," added Johnston.

If you live a long way from home and are intent on getting there without stopping often, switch drivers when you get tired. One man can't do it without placing himself and others on the road in danger, added McCollum.

"WHEN YOU'RE SLEEPY, the only sensible thing to do is to pull over and sleep awhile. You don't have to sleep long to be-

come refreshed; usually 15 minutes will be enough.

Jim Beard, owner of Beard Transfer and Storage, said, "Don't get yourself in a position where you will be prone to have a wreck, such as following too closely. Speeding and passing on hills accounts for about 90 per cent of the highway accidents. If you are forced to drive on icy roads, try the shoulder of the road and reduce your speed; this will help the car get traction."

## Highway Department Officials Suggest Reasonable Caution

"If reasonable caution is exercised in driving on streets and highways during the Christmas holidays, no one should have any trouble because of road conditions."

These were the words of Texas Highway Department officials in Bryan this week as they discussed road conditions throughout the state. Milton L. Pack, engineering clerk in the permit office, said that while the road conditions are not dangerous, careless driving could make them extremely hazardous.

Construction work is being carried out on approximately 180

projects throughout the state, with the majority of the work being surfacing, grading, laying bases, and structural work.

On State Highway 6, between Navasota and the Waller County line, structure, base, and surfacing work is being done. Temporary detour routes will be set up around the construction work being done on U.S. 84 six miles north of Snyder. These exemplify the types of road conditions to be found throughout the state, said Pack.

Ninety-six people are expected to become fatalities in traffic mishaps in Texas over the Christmas holidays.

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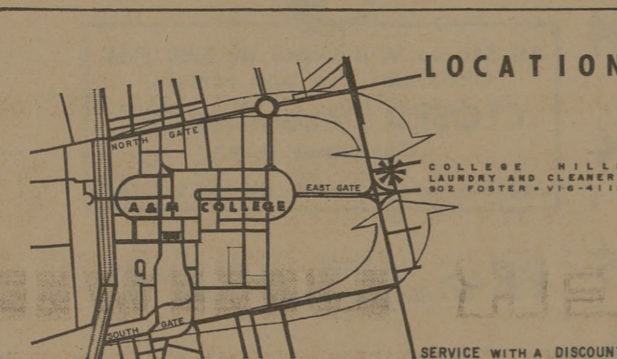
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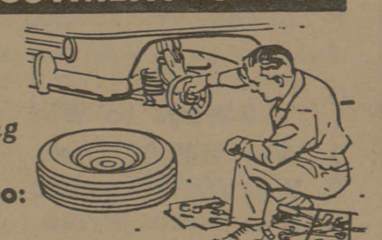
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