The Automobile

CARE AT DUSK WILL CUT TOLL OF ACCIDENTS.

It is said that "regulation of street traffic" was one of the duties industriously performed by Marcus Aurelius Antonious, Emperor and Commissioner of Public Safety of the Roman Empire, A.D. 161. Ever since those ancient days traffic has been getting heavier and heavier until now it would seem that the point of traffic saturation has about been reached.

But there is a big difference in respect to volume of fatalities that occur in these days as contrasted with Roman Empire times. Then a couple of chariots might collide with little possibility of any one getting seriously hurt. Now, however, the man in an automobile is operating a heavy and powerful vehicle which can readily become a medium of considerable mortality.

About fifty deaths per day or 18,000 per annum, with 100,000 accidents that deal out no death, only injuries, is the record of auto fatalities in America. The question that must be aswered is "How can these automotive disasters be reduced to a minimum?" The answer is not so difficult as is the task of getting folks to recognize the answer and act accordingly.

The answer to a large extent is "careful driving." People who operate automobiles must exercise more care if such accidents are reduced. But there is another answer and that is, "careful walking." All the responsibility for auto accidents cannot be laid up against the drivers. Some pedestrians are far more reckless than the most reckless drivers. They court death by the way in which they violate traffic rules.

ONE OF CHIEF EVILS.

One of the chief evils which affect the auto accident situation is drunkenness. Other causes included reckless driving, speeding, under age, violation of highway law, causing accidents, couldn't read signs and wrong plates.

If a motorist really desires to avoid accidents let him consider the following points: In the first place when going driving he should be sure his machine is in first-class condition. That will insure better control in an emergency. Then he can well afford to drive at a moderate rate of speed. A moment or two saved by reckless speeding is not efficiency, for speeding may result in a smash that will put both the driver and his car out of commission for several days perhaps for several months. Hurrying to get ahead of a train, a street car or another vehicle saves only a moment or two at the ultimate destination. The gain is not worth the price when there is danger of accident.

The best drivers are especially careful at dusk. There is then neither enough daylight nor sufficient artificial light to make objects distinguishable at ordinary distance. Slow up for all turns in the road. Blind corners are dangerous. When it is impossible to see what is coming from around the corner be prepared to stop. Sound horn a short distance before reaching the intersection.

Use chains whenever there is danger of skidding. Install chains on both rear wheels or none at all. One chain is sometimes worse than none.

Drive slowly at bridges. A bad rut or a stone in the road may throw a driver's car against the structure. When attempting to pass another vehicle going in the same direction start turning out to the left at least seventy-five feet to the rear. If you get too close your view of the road ahead is obstructed and you may turn directly in front of another car coming toward you. When you have passed a car do not cut back into the road nor slow down too soon.

BE CAREFUL WHEN BACKING.

Always be careful when backing. Sound your horn, signal other cars and look back to see where you are going. Mirrors are valuable at all times. Bumpers also have a safety feature not to be overlooked. Clean wind-shields give the driver a clear view ahead. Every car should have a wind-shield wiper which will prevent snow or rain from obstructing the driver's view.

When driving, do not attempt to carry on a conversation with others in the car. Small children should preferably sit in the rear of the car and certainly they should never be held in or between the arms of the driver. Safe driving demands the full and undivided attention of the driver. Be sure to signal when driving toward or away from the curb. The traffic officer has a difficult job at the best, and drivers should make every effort to assist him. He is responsible for all accidents which happen at his station.

Do Not Pick the Flowers.

Mr. Goodell was reputed to be the largest landowner in the country, and it seemed selfish in him to put signs on his fences that read: "Do not pick the flowers." Surely he ought not to begrudge a few flowers to the boys and girls who loved to wander over his grassy fields and through his flower-besprinkled woods. In fact, he seldom saw his own flowers, for his business in the city took all his time. Why should he deny them to the children?

To tell the truth, it was Mrs. Goddell who was responsible for the signs. She had been an eager student of botany in her school days. She loved flowers passionately and wanted everybody else to love them.

Mrs. Simmons was calling on Mrs. Goodell one afternoon when the conversation drifted to wild flowers. Mrs. Simmons had the reputation of asking for what she wanted and, true to that reputation, she asked Mrs. Goodell directly: "Why does your husband put up those signs? It does no harm to let the children pick a few flowers where there are so many."

"I'm glad you asked the question," said Mrs. Goodell, "for I have long thought that the signs were misunderstood. They were put up at my request, and not that the children should be denied the flowers but rather that they might have them. Flowers that children pick soon wither in their hands and are thrown away. The seeds do not mature, and in a little while the flowers are gone. The large yellow lady's-slippers that adorned the swampy places of my girlhood home are almost gone. The bloodroot, the wood anemore, the yellow violets and the Dutchman's breeches are fast disappearing.

"Unless our wild flowers are allowed to reproduce themselves by seeding we shall soon have none. Cattle, horses and sheep are thinning them out. The greatest joy in flowers is not in picking them and throwing them away withered, but in seeing them growing in their natural surroundings. We want the children to enjoy them, and we also want them to think of other children who will come after them."

Freckle Facts.

The presence of coloring matter under the skin is not confined to the Negro or colored races, but is common to all.

In the darker races it is, of course, much more abundant, probably due to the stimulating action of the sun. The pigment or coloring matter is found in the fourth of the five layers of skin of which the epidermis or outer skin is composed.

It has long been thought that the browning of the skin is due rather to the sun's light than to its heat. In recent years it has been proved that this effect is caused chiefly by the ultra-violet rays present in sunlight.

Sentence Sermons.

The Punctual Man—Wastes a lot of time waiting on the tardy ones.

—Usually has good credit at the bank.

—Finds it easier to be the master of his time.

—Never mortgages to-morrow's success to to-day's delays.

—Does not confuse busy-ness with business.

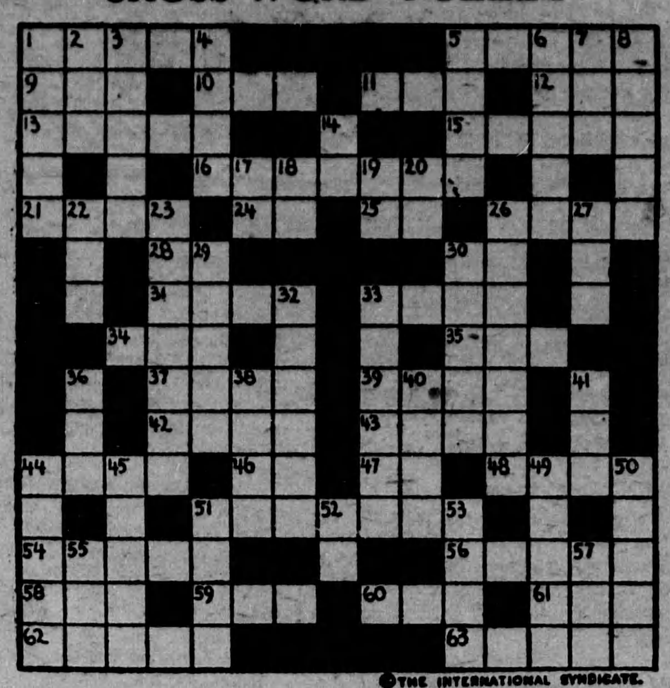
—Makes a better employee than the brilliant man.

Soon learns how to eliminate the non-essentials.

Wood in a Newspaper.

It takes a block of wood two inches wide, three inches high and four inches long to supply the pulp in a twenty-four-page newspaper. A cord of wood, it is estimated, informs 3,600 persons of the day's news.

CROSS-WORD PUZZLE



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HORIZONTAL

1—Early form of an insect
5—A kind of lily
9—Girl's name
10—Lacking moisture
11—Note of the dove
12—Ever (poet.)
13—Russian national drink
15—Changes in position
16—An acclamation of praise to God
21—Sad or evil destiny
24—Interjection
25—To have existence
26—A tribe
28—In the year of our Lord (abbr.)
30—Prefix meaning "with"
31—The bird of peace
33—Bereft, without friends
34—Gained
35—Generation
37—Suffix expressing quality or state
39—An inland body of water
42—Trim, orderly
43—Conception, mental image
44—Girl's name
46—Personal pronoun
47—Latin for "for the sake of example" (abbr.)
48—Solitary
51—A noted living French philosopher
54—To move smoothly and easily
56—Unmounted, as a gem
58—Personal pronoun
59—Male child
60—Boy's name
61—To go wrong
62—Abounds
63—To make fast, as a rope

VERTICAL

1—Lead-colored
2—Unnecessary activity
3—Wireless
4—Hebrew ornament (Gen. IV 19)
5—Stupor
6—A horizontal surface
7—Famous Southern general in Civil War
8—Malicious burning of property
14—Fourth musical note
17—Interjection
18—Interjection—"Stand as you are!"
19—Province of Canada (abbr.)
20—Point of compass (abbr.)
22—Possessive pronoun
23—The Virgin Mary
26—To convert from fluid to solid
27—An insect
29—Receiver of a gift
30—A small rail-bird
32—A church festival
33—Symbols of Easter
36—Definite article
38—Identical
40—A musical direction meaning "slowly" (abbr.)
41—A metal
44—Lacking in weight
45—Racket, row
49—One of various European thrushes
50—A small hallway
51—Girl's name (familiar)
52—Proceed
53—Without feeling, as if dead
55—To give a deceitful impression
57—Historical period

How to Keep An Umbrella.

The late chief justice of British Columbia, Sir Matthew Baillie Begbie, combined with more notable qualities uncommon shrewdness and humor in the small affairs of life. At a time when many complaints were heard of the theft of umbrellas from public places a friend asked him how he managed to keep possession of his—a very handsome umbrella with a chased silver handle.

The judge evaded the question, but a week later they met again in the cloak room of a court. The judge called his friend's attention to the umbrella rack, which contained half a dozen umbrellas of all sort and conditions, and asked which of them he considered was least likely to be taken "by mistake." The friend pointed to one that, although of fair quality, had no handle.

"That's mine," said the judge and, taking a beautiful silver handle from his pocket and screwing it on the cripple, added: "Now you know how I keep my umbrella."

Houses for Our Souls.

Make yourselves nests of pleasant thoughts. None of us yet know, for none of us have been taught in early youth, what fairy palaces we may build of beautiful thought-proof against all adversity. Bright fancies, satisfied memories, noble histories, faithful sayings, treasure-houses of precious and restful thoughts, which care cannot disturb, nor pain make gloomy, nor poverty take away from us,—houses built without hands, for our souls to live in.—Ruskin.

The Physical Basis.

Dr. Eliot, of Harvard, says that he has spent little time during his nine decades in thinking about his state of mind or body, and he advises young men not to indulge in the ingrowing and deleterious habit of introspection. It is sound and warrantable counsel. What we all need to realize is that a good many major and minor worries dismiss themselves like a ground mist dispersed by the morning sun when we put and keep the bodily machine in excellent repair.

Much of the disease of the soul which produces morbid and lachrymose mortals is the direct outcome of easily rectifiable physical conditions. The outlook on life is tingued by the way we feel. Our nerves react to a proper or improper regimen of sleep and food. A man who gets in a tantrum and flings his job, along with a taunt, in the face of his employer may be the victim of maladjustments in his home life which are not publicly advertised. The woman who is dreaded among her neighbors as having the tongue of a fiend is like a puppet pulled by jangling and intertwisted wires, moving her to gestures and postures that are really not essential in her nature. She does not rule her being; she is the unhappy creature of a physical condition, and when that is corrected, as if by a miracle the trouble disappears.

A man travelling amid high snow mountains was moved by their majesty and beauty to a sense of their eternal peace and illimitable strength and felt rebuked by a sense of his own littleness in the worshipful presence of nature. But when he came to snowfields and glaciers the wind blew down his tent, snow six days on end whirled and whooped about him, the poetry faded out of the landscape. When Shackleton's men rowed 800 miles in an open boat across wild Antarctic waters to Elephant Island they lost the beauty of the sea; it became hideous.

So our own condition changes the text in our reading of the world. Whether it is a vale of tears or a hill of sunrise depends on our will to believe, our spirit to fool; and the first thing to do is to put under the life of the soul a corporeal substance that is an effective agent. And even a frail body can be made a remarkably good servant by compliance with the rules of the greatest of games: the thrilling adventure of living a day at a time, though our eyes may contemplate eternity.

A Smile.

A single thought of kindliness,
And one small word of cheer,
Do more to help a man along
Than preaching for a year.

A single act of friendliness,
A handshake, firm and true,
Do more to help a lame dog on
Than most advice will do.

But just one word of sympathy,
With just one sunny smile,
Will mae a fellow square his jaw—
And things seem worth his while.

—P. N. Hart Scott.

Children of Jewish parents are, as a rule, well fed, well clothed, and, age for age, slightly ahead of Christian children of the same social class in intelligence.

As a general rule, arts live from eight to ten years, although specimens in captivity have been known to reach the age of fifteen.

Gloves Through the Ages.

Gloves have a curious anecdotage of their own, especially in regard to their use as symbols. Perhaps the fact that gloves were an important item in the growth of luxury during the age of chivalry has something to do with their prominence over all other articles of wear in ragard to symbolic use.

Gloves adorned with rubies and sapphires, and perfumed gloves from Spain, were part of the outfits of the wealthy people at an early period in our history, and stories of the conveyance of poison through richly ornamented gifts of this sort brought with them the ill-omened phrase of "poisoned gloves."

Naturally the poets took an early opportunity of making a prettier use of this article of apparel, and "O that I were a glove upon that hand, that I might touch that cheek!" was only one of many conceits of a similar kind.

From this it was a short step to the granting of a lady's glove to her cavalier as a symbol of his championship, and the prize of the Queen of Beauty's glove in tournaments.

The symbolism of the glove was used again between men at variance. A common way of provoking an enemy to a duel was to flick a glove across the face. A glove, too, was sometimes a mark of fealty between friends. Then there was the custom of flinging down a glove to be taken up in defiance, of which the last relic in this country was the challenge of the King's Champion to all and sundry at a coronation.

Another form of symbolism has passed into our proverbs with Cowper's "As if the world and they were hand and glove." Again, we have the phrases about "kig-glove diplomacy" and "kid-glove methods," which may be set against that "mailed fist" of which we heard too much in the first years of this century.

Sentence Sermons.

Nothing Worth While—Was ever accomplished by watching the clock.

—Can be expected of one who is always telling hard luck stories.

—Ever resulted from passing the buck.

—Is accomplished by the one who will not earn more than he is paid.

—Was ever settled by a religious controversy.

—Ever needs to be promoted by fraudulent advertising.

—Is ever gained by selling out a friend.

The Folly of Worry.

How serenely Nature rebukes the impatience of the fretful worrier. A man plants corn, wheat, barley, potatoes—or trees, that take five, seven years to come to bearing, such as the orange, olive, walnut, date, etc. Let him fret ever so much, worry all he likes, chafe and fret every hour; let him go and dig up his seeds or plants to urge their upgrowing; let him even swear in his impatient worry and threaten to smash all his machinery, discharge his men, and turn his stock loose; Nature goes on her way, quietly, unmoved, serenely, unhurried, undisturbed by the folly of the one creature of earth who is so senseless as to worry—viz., man.—George Wharton James.

Origin of Ozark.

Ozark is a corruption of the French words aux arcs, meaning "with bows," a term descriptive of the Indians who inhabited the country.

Two salesmen met in the outer office of a prospective customer. The one coming out said: "No use to see him to-day. He is not in a buying mood." The other one said: "While I am here it is my duty to see him." He got the order.

Answer to last week's puzzle.

Desolation marks this view of King's Bay, on the west coast of Spitzbergen, 630 miles from the North Pole, where Amundsen's two seaplanes will take off in their sensational Arctic dash.

MUTT AND JEFF—By Bud Fisher.

Romance Enters the Little Fellow's Life.