

Safety on the Highways is Everybody's Business



...what's back if you're not around to spend it?"

At the present time, four Canadian provinces now have legislation providing for compulsory inspection of motor vehicles, but with some variations.

Inspections in Nova Scotia, Manitoba and British Columbia are designed to have a registered vehicle checked by a shop or garage before it is allowed to operate on the road. The system is hampered by a shortage of facilities and funds, enforcement is increasing.

BATTERY NOT AT FAULT

Many starting failures actually are not. The trouble often is caused by abnormal conditions in the ignition system which causes the batteries to become run down while the driver is attempting to get the car started.

Vehicle Maintenance is a Part of It — and a Moral Responsibility

New developments like the new Washington, D.C. road test help cut the highway accident toll in the U.S. Limited access roads, both in city and in rural areas, are safer to travel on than conventional thoroughfares. Also, they take the strain out of driving, and travel time dramatically.

The Department of Statistics publishes annually a document with the opening title "Motor Vehicle Traffic Accidents." Its cover is a page of statistics presented in neatly tabulated form, the arithmetic of the chaos on our highways. It doesn't take a statistician to get the message.

Reducing the fatalities to their simplest form, there are more accidents, more people being injured, more deaths, and total property damage is increasing, every year.

To become a statistician, you hardly have to be a professional. The place to start is in making sure that your car is in first class mechanical condition. This is good advice from the Vehicle Safety Committee of the Canadian Highway Safety Council which also tells us that nine per cent of all motor vehicle accidents in Canada are caused by mechanical failure.

Here's How to... Enjoy Better Hot Weather Performance

Summer-time living may be pleasant for people but the hot weather may be a little more trying for your car. Unless proper maintenance precautions are taken, you can prevent summer breakdowns by following the following tips:

- (1) Permannent anti-freeze coolant must be used. Do not use water. Drain and flush the cooling system. Then replace with new antifreeze or water and new rust inhibitor to protect the cooling system.
- (2) Make sure all drive belts are properly tightened.
- (3) Check the radiator cap to make sure it releases pressure according to manufacturer's recommendations.
- (4) Make certain engine idle speeds are set as proper specifications.
- (5) Have radiator and hoses checked for leaks with a pressure tester.
- (6) Check coolant circulation by observing the coolant in the radiator while the engine is running. If there's no circulation during slight operation, the thermostat may be defective.
- (7) Check tightness of pulley hub on water pump and pump shafts.
- (8) Check overflow tube for possible obstructions.
- (9) Remove any foreign matter from cooling fan.

DON'T Monkey Around



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Henry Ford Museum at Greenfield Village has some of the world's largest collections of antique cars (25 years or more). (Photo by Philippe Halpman)

Car Care Required for Warranty Benefits

Contrary to what many owners may think, the five-year or 50,000-mile warranty on American cars is not necessarily a "pay-off" if trouble strikes. Under the new warranties, owners are required to have certain preventive maintenance outlined in the owner's manual to keep the warranty in force.

These services fall into two groups. One, services to be performed at specific mileage intervals. Two, services that should be performed on an "as needed" basis.

As far as the warranty is concerned, maintenance services can be performed at a garage, service station, or dealership — whichever is most convenient.

All that's needed is to have the service man furnish verification of the work done, the material used and the date and time the service was performed so that the selling dealer can validate the warranty.

The importance of the regularly-scheduled services such as oil changes, spark plug adjustments and cleaner spark plugs and carburetors.

where the vehicle operates, usually include such things as brake system checks, engine tune-ups, and wheel alignment, to name a few.

A tune-up every year or 10,000 miles is a particularly important maintenance service. Operating a car in an out-of-tune condition can rapidly accelerate engine wear.

For example, worn plugs and points can lead to partial combustion. Some of the unburned fuel in the cylinder will wash the cylinder walls, and the oil from the cylinder will permit undue scumming of the cylinders and pistons.

When unburned fuel gets down in the crankcase and dilutes the oil, the oil can't do its job of protecting bearing surfaces or keeping valve lifters working freely and quietly.

Also related to partial combustion is varnished valve stems and guides causing sticking valves. If a piston should strike a partially open valve, a broken piston, a bent valve, and an expensive repair bill may result.

Far beyond keeping your car in top condition, planned care of your car through regular visits to your service man is a good way to make sure

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