

Must Highways Be Rebuilt To Meet Craze For Speed

The United States Good Roads Convention met at Memphis recently, and as one might expect there was a good deal of discussion about the automobile traffic on the highways.

More than one speaker predicted that within the next three or four years the present system of highways will be obsolete—obsolete as to surface, obsolete as to width and obsolete as to curves. "Build highways for faster cars, for faster cars are sure to come," was their cry.

Among other things it was declared that highways must go through the same evolution as did the railway tracks; that all curves and grades must be eliminated, bridges and viaducts widened, and cities skirted so that tourists can avoid passing through cities if they don't want to enter them.

If these things are to come about in the United States, they must come about in Canada, too, because automobile traffic is international, and U.S. cars enter Canada by the hundreds of thousands every year. We want them to come.

But if the whole highways system of this country has to be scrapped to meet the increasing power of cars, the authorities will have to do some hard thinking.

In the first place, more speed means more accidents. If curves and grades are eliminated that will counteract some but there are plenty of other factors that cause accidents which must increase the total.

There are too many accidents now, and if automobile conditions are to be changed, they should be changed in the direction of removing the causes.

The horse has not yet gone the way of the dodo. For many farmers he has his place on the highways, and if the roads are to become mere speedways, there lies a fruitful source of mishaps.

If our fine highways have to be scrapped and rebuilt almost as soon as they are completed, where is the money to come from? When will they have to be built again? It would be like pouring money into a bag with a big hole in the corner.

The Hon. George S. Henry, Minister of Highways in the Province of Ontario remarked recently that he did not know why faster and faster cars are being built. Who does?

Ten years ago there were few cars on the market capable of great speeds for ordinary use. Today, manufacturers vie with each other in turning out autos that will do their sixty, seventy and eighty miles an hour. Why?

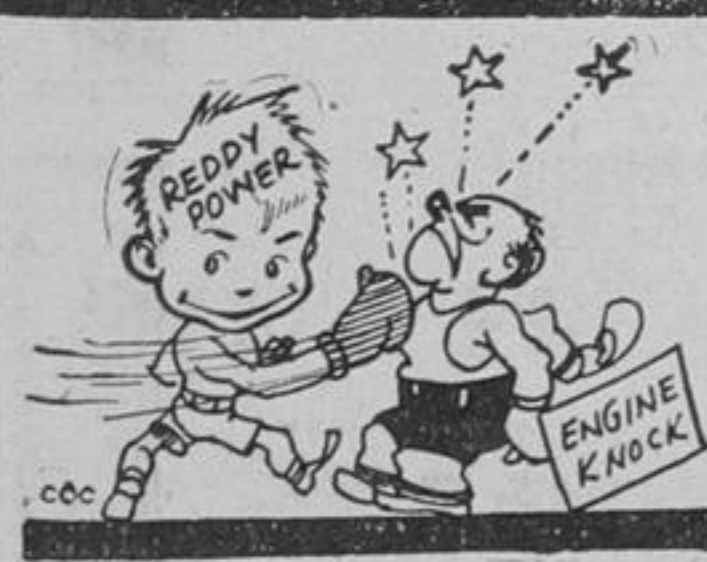
The speed limit in Ontario is 35 miles an hour. In many of the States it is 40. There is a proposal afoot to abolish the speed limits altogether.

Who wants these high speeds? Mostly "flaming youth," who are not happy unless they are stepping hard on the

gas pedal and burning up their tires and the roads, madly careering to reach some place which they are really in no particular hurry to get to.

An automobile manufacturer has declared that five years from now there will be cars on the roads capable of doing one hundred miles an hour. Again, why?

All this craze for speed must bring about the condition of things which the delegates to the Memphis convention foretold. The people of Ontario will have to pay for these improvements of the highways, and unless the governments of the United States and Canada get together to protect the pockets of the tax-payer, motoring for pleasure will be a thing of the past, deaths will increase, because, however straight and wide the roads are, cars at such high speeds will get out of control, there will still be the fiend who must "cut in" to get a few yards ahead, and the auto will become the curse that increasing numbers of people say it is now.



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Modern Convenience For Every Farm

Farm homes everywhere can have electricity without delay and can begin to immediately enjoy the benefits of city life as represented by electric lights and running water, says a recent city newspaper editorial under the caption: "Ease for Farm Life."

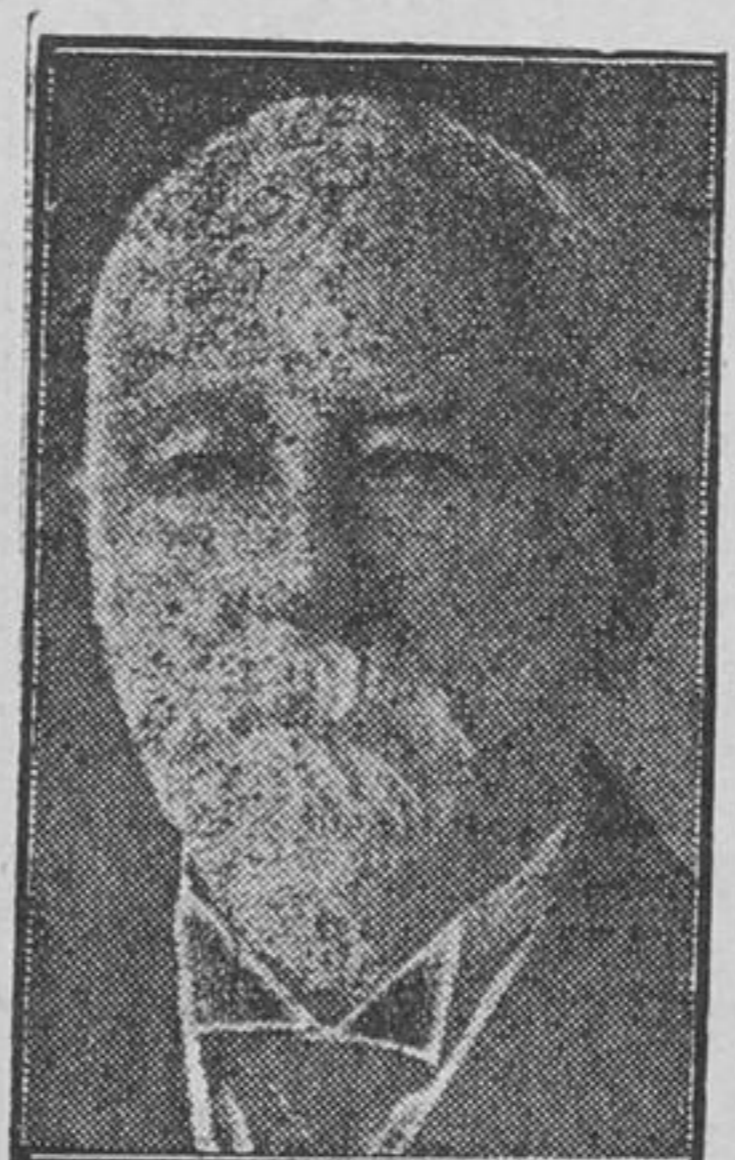
"To the average city dweller, accustomed to the many conveniences of this modern day," says the editorial, "it seems incredible that in the Province of Saskatchewan, for instance, out of a total of 117,781 farms, only 2,336 have the advantage of electricity. Or out of the 77,130 farms in Alberta, only 1,441 are electrified."

"You, Mr. and Mrs. City Dweller, would complain aloud if you had to work or read by the meager, eye-impairing light of a coal oil lamp, carry water by the bucket from an outside pump, cook in the hot summer months over a blazing range, heat your bath water by the kettle on the kitchen stove."

"But Mr. and Mrs. Farmer, in the main have unthinkingly taken these life-shortening hardships and many others as the penalty of farm life."

"There is no reason the farm dweller should consider himself less fortunate than his city cousin, and there are indications that the day of enlightenment is near. The farmer need not live near a power line to have electricity in his home. An individual farm plant does the job as well. And proper sanitation, running water, light that will not impair the eyesight, an electric refrigerator to preserve his foods, in fact all of the health-preserving and labor-saving conveniences that prolong life and make it happier, are his."

Gang killings are easy to understand when your caller's children begin to smash the furniture.



RT. HON. W. S. FIELDING
Outstanding Canadian statesman who died in Ottawa on Sunday last in his eighty first year. A former premier of Nova Scotia, he was called to Ottawa and served for seventeen years as Minister of Finance in the governments of Sir Wilfred Laurier and Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King.

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Through the co-operation of the Business Men listed below, we will reproduce a series of educational articles endeavoring to bring about a better business relationship between resident and merchant in the town, and thus bring about a more progressive community in which to live.

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HAVE CONFIDENCE IN YOUR TOWN
Why do you live in Richmond Hill?
Perhaps it is because your parents lived here before you and you never thought to move. More likely it is because you saw a chance to invest to good advantage here, or earn a good living, or establish yourself at a moderate expense where your family and yourself could have all the advantages of a live community.

You found desirable churches, schools and business interests.
You realized that Richmond Hill was a progressive community and a desirable place in which to live.
Certainly you would not live here if you thought that you and your family would be much better off somewhere else. If you did you would be foolish, for your first duty is towards your family.

Richmond Hill has progressed in the past because the merchants of the town and other civic enterprises have received the support of the residents. On the continuance of this patronage depends the future success of the community. If the merchants are not supported they will retire from business and your money which should go to building up the town will go to other centres to place them in front of Richmond Hill.

However, this is impossible if local residents buy their goods at home. You have confidence in your town, else you would not be living here. You believe that the town will advance. Do your bit by buying in Richmond Hill. Keep your dollars at home. They minimize your taxes and increase the value of your personal investments. Buy in Richmond Hill.

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