

38,000 Lives Sacrificed Every Year

In a single year traffic accidents in the United States claim the lives of some 38,000 people and critically injure close to 1 1/2 million. It happened last year and it can happen in 1961.

Last year the \$6.4 billion that is cost Americans in traffic accidents could have

bought and paid for one-third of all the farm machinery in the nation.

In just one year, accidents of all types kill about 11,700 rural residents and injure about a million. Nearly half the deaths are caused by traffic mishaps.

Over the last ten years, 58,000 rural residents met death and 2 million were injured on the highway. Fatal accidents for the decade increased by 26 per cent.

Each year more than 1,000 persons are killed in farm

last 8 years, the death rate has climbed 50 per cent. One-third of tractor fatalities occur on the highways.

Following are the most troubling characteristics of rural traffic:

Three out of four traffic deaths occur on rural roads and highways.

Traffic crashes are the leading cause of accidental death among rural youths under 25 years of age.

The night traffic accident rate is more than double the daytime rate on rural roadways. Most dangerous period is 2 to 4 a.m.

Accidents do happen close to home. Facts reveal that 65 per cent of all fatal accidents occur within 25 miles of home.

Night driving is considerably more hazardous than day driving in rural areas. Night fatal accidents on the main rural roads reach a peak rate between 2 a.m. and 4 a.m.

Safety Expert Gives Rules For Farmers

A safety leader has called on the nation's farmers to exercise all possible care in the use of farm machinery.

Howard Pyle, president of the National Safety Council, cited a recent Indiana study showing that nearly one in six nonfatal farm accidents involves farm machinery other than tractors.

Pyle's remarks were made in connection with the 18th annual National Farm Safety Week. The event, sponsored by the National Safety Council and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, will be observed July 23-29.

"The increased complexity of today's farm machinery," said Pyle, "makes understanding of its safe handling all the more important. I urge farmers to observe safe practices in the use of both

ling equipment."
 * Always turn off machinery before servicing.
 * Replace all shields and guards after servicing—these are there for your protection.
 * Take a work break every couple of hours.
 * Never refuel machinery while the motor is running or hot.
 * Wear simple, close-fitting, comfortable work clothing.

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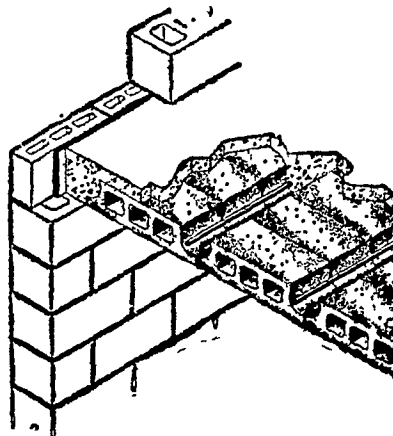
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