

Stopping Distance On Ice, If Chains Used, Greater Than Driver Thinks

25 MPH Takes Same Number of Feet As 50 On Dry Highway

How fast is it safe to drive on ice and snow? With winter weather here, the National Safety Council has attempted to answer that question in a new report issued by its committee on winter driving hazards.

Considering only the road surface itself, the council offers this advice: To provide the same stopping ability available on dry pavement at 50 miles per hour: 1. Speed on ice must not be higher than 25 m.p.h. with reinforced tire chains or 15 m.p.h. with special winter tires.

Speed on packed snow must not be higher than 25 m.p.h. with reinforced tire chains or 15 m.p.h. with special winter tires. The council warns that these speeds are a measure of stopping traction only. Visibility, traffic and other varying conditions can make even these speeds hazardous, it says, so the rule of common sense should always be followed.

The council's committee, composed of 35 testing experts in the field of automotive and traffic safety engineering, based its conclusions in its report on many years of testing on frozen lakes, airport runways and actual highways.

The best self-help for the motorist, are reinforced tire chains, according to the report. Under some conditions, special winter tires also may be helpful.

Reinforced tire chains cut braking distances in half on both snow and ice. Stopping distances on ice increased seven times on ice and nearly four times on packed snow, as compared with regular tires.

Reinforced tire chains, which have projecting teeth of steel on each cross chain, are very effective on glare ice in reducing braking distances, opposing side slip and increasing forward traction, as compared with regular tires. They also provide good stop-and-go traction on snow but comparatively poor resistance to side skids.

Some special winter tires, according to the report, "serve a dual purpose under certain weather and road conditions, particularly when snow or sleet is soft and not too deep."

However, the overall improvement of even the best tires

tested is not great enough to warrant less care or precaution when driving on slippery surfaces.

"Considering the hazards involved, drivers should realize also that a majority of the winter tires tested were poorer or little better than regular tires."

Childbirth Today Safest In History

Childbirth has never been safer.

Forty years ago, over six women in every thousand deliveries died.

Today, the figure is about one in a thousand.

That is the lowest maternal death rate for any country, large or small, and the lowest in the history of obstetrics.

The sulfas, antibiotics, the blood banks, and last but not least, better obstetrics, are responsible for this great saving of life.

Evolution during the past half century from the field of midwifery to a position as one of the three major subdivisions of medicine and surgery, has brought about a well-defined understanding of obstetrics.

Today's treatment in obstetrics has two main objectives.

First is the prophylactic treatment to prevent as much as possible the advent of complications.

Second is the call for definitive treatment for complications when they develop.

The three principal causes of maternal deaths have been puerperal sepsis, hemorrhage, and toxemia.

Puerperal sepsis has been reduced to an almost obsolete disease, with only one death in 32,000 deliveries as reported by one hospital.

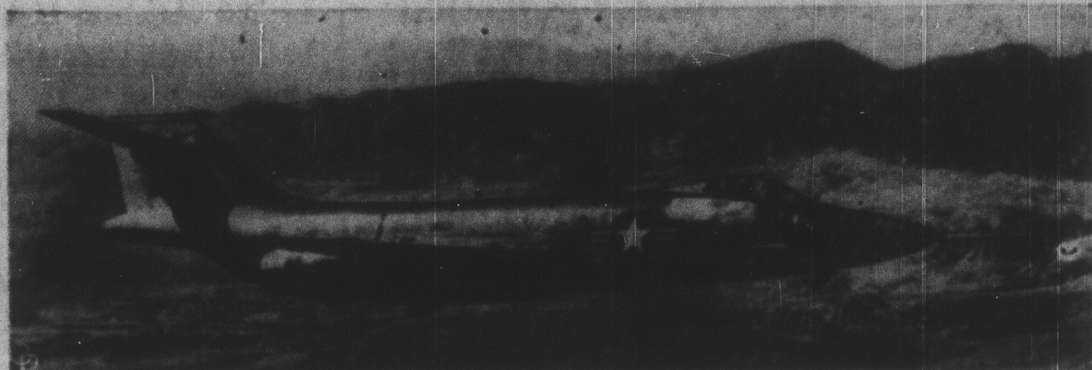
Hemorrhage is going the way of puerperal sepsis with the blood grouping factor making blood replacement relatively safe.

Toxemia has also been reduced and further improvements are expected.

The practice of obstetrics has advanced during the past fifty years to the point that having a baby today has become safer than at any time in history.

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FASTEST U. S. AIR FORCE JET FIGHTER UNVEILED



THE F-101 VOOODOO, the U. S. Air Force's long-range supersonic fighter is unveiled in a test flight over the Edwards Flight Test Center in California. The new plane is reported to be one of the fastest and most powerful in existence. It can carry atomic weapons and be refueled in flight. An Air Force spokesman said it will be assigned to the Strategic Air Command. (International Soundphoto)

Not Many Snakes Really Poisonous Despite Tradition

Of 2,500 species of existing snakes throughout the world, a mere 200 are a danger to man.

The World Health Organization has just presented some data on the subject. It is estimated that some half a million persons are bitten annually by snakes, poisonous or otherwise.

In this country, there are really only three important poisonous snakes: rattlesnakes, copperheads and water moccasins, aside from the coral snakes seen in the southern part of the country.

Snakes of the Elapidae family are widespread in the tropics and they include the Old-World cobras, mambas, death adders and tiger snakes.

The one poisonous snake in the British Isles is the common viper or adder, but there have been only seven deaths caused by the snakes in England in the past 50 years.

There are no adders in Ireland. Snake bite causes about 20 deaths a year in the United States and while there are many snake bites, specific treatment with antivenin minimizes fatalities.

Compare this number with an estimated 25,000 deaths a year from snakebite in Asia, 4,000 for South America, and more than 1,000 for Africa.

It is impossible to give a close estimate of the number of deaths due to snake bite throughout the entire world.

There are 1,225,000,000 people

Improperly Wired Christmas Tree Greatest Danger, Say N. C. Chiefs

Zone 1 Firemen Make Plea to Public to Be Sure Wiring, Circuit Capacities Sufficient for Lighting

"We think that we shall never see a hazard greater than a tree—a Christmas tree that's improperly wired."

Such was the opinion this week of chiefs of Zone 1 of the Volunteer Firemen's Assn. of Cambria County & Vicinity. Zone 1 is composed of companies in Northern Cambria County area, and include Coalport and Clymer.

Over many holiday seasons, marred by fires, the volunteers have learned to view Christmas trees as potential torches.

Light fixtures have steadily improved in recent years and most of the risk has been removed, the fire chiefs concede. But even the "safe" fixtures are dangerous if they're installed carelessly.

Here are "do's" and "don't's" provided by the volunteer firemen for both indoor and outdoor decorations:

Examine all wiring before plugging it to power sources. Check insulation. If there are frayed spots, don't splice, patch and tape. Play it safe. Buy new wire.

Make sure all connections fit tightly. Correct any wobbly plugs. Avoid "octopus" plugs—those containing multiple outlets for extensions. In any case, never dangle an "octopus" over a tree limb.

In outdoor lighting use weatherproof sockets and cords. Never arrange wiring where water may drain into a connection.

If wires must be stapled to walls or clapboard, make sure all staples are insulated.

Keep bulb sockets away from metal reflectors. Locate trees away from radiators, stoves or registers, preferably in corners, so that they may be anchored to the woodwork.

Mount tree base in a container with from six to eight inches of water.

Never leave tree lights burning in an unoccupied house.

Don't let children trim trees without adult supervision, and never let them play with lights.

Reserve an entire circuit for huge, dazzling outdoor displays. Don't depend on extension cords hooked into circuits already in use inside the house.

In any case, indoors or outdoors, check circuit capacities to avoid overloads. This is tricky, but most homes are equipped with 15 ampere fuses and circuits capable of transmitting around 1,600 watts.

Standard tree lights consume 75 watts each—but added to these are other lamps or appliances linked to the same circuit. If wattage totals more than 1,600 watts, prepare for a blackout.

But if your regulation 15 amp fuse does blow out, NEVER install a bigger, more powerful fuse. This simply overloads the wiring.

Instead, turn off other lights and appliances until tree circuit is able to feed Christmas lights consistently without power interruptions.

Finally, when in doubt, call an electrician.

KDKA Purchases Pittsburgh WDTV Television Station

\$9,750,000 Involved Subject to FCC's OK

Westinghouse Broadcasting Co., Inc. of Pittsburgh, a Westinghouse Electric Corp. subsidiary, last Friday purchased Pittsburgh television station WDTV from Allen B. DuMont for \$9,750,000.

Sale of the station, on the air since Jan. 11, 1949, and the first TV station in Pennsylvania, is subject to the consent of the Federal Communications Commission.

A joint statement by DuMont and G. William A. Price, president of the Westinghouse parent company, said that a petition seeking formal FCC approval will be filed immediately. Until the FCC acts, WDTV will continue to operate as a DuMont station on VHF Channel 2, which is picked up in a number of communities in Northern Cambria area.

Chris J. Witting, Westinghouse Broadcasting president, said in a statement issued in New York, that the FCC will be asked to permit the WDTV call letters to be changed to KDKA-TV.

Westinghouse owns and operates station KDKA, the nation's pioneer station in radio.

"In WDTV, Westinghouse purchased the most valuable single television station property in the nation," Witting said.

Westinghouse made radio history when it went on the air with KDKA in Pittsburgh 35 years ago. If the FCC authorizes

the sale of the Channel 2 station, Westinghouse will also control one of the very first TV stations in the nation.

Robert Doran Again Elected President Of Spangler Fire Co.

Robert Doran was elected to a third term as president of the Spangler Volunteer Fire Company at a meeting last Thursday night in the Spangler Fire Hall.

Other officers are as follows: Robert Caldwell, vice president; Urban Weaver, recording secretary; John J. Whalen, treasurer; George Kutor, financial secretary; Ernest Tronzo, elected fire chief; Joseph Stuart, first assistant chief; Fred Williams, second assistant chief; John Caldwell, squad truck engineer; Arden Shovevatt, engineer for Pumper 1; and Edward Whalen, engineer for Pumper 2.

Named to the board of directors for one-year terms are Howard Bowersox, Mike Pallone, James J. Dumm, John Lantry and Fred Williams.

Mr. Doran and Robert Caldwell

were appointed to the recreation committee, and Frank Pallone and Alex Laska were named to the press committee.

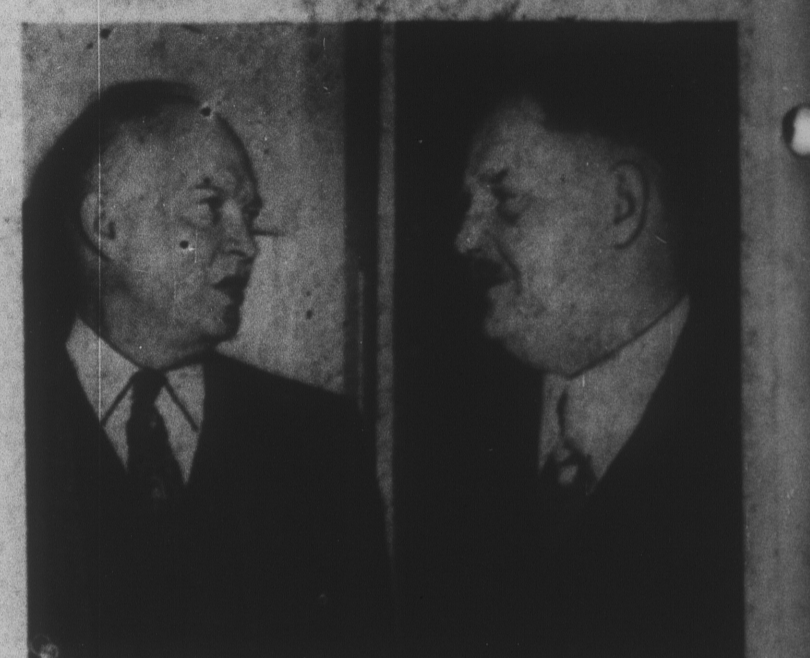
The company's annual envelope drive for funds is being continued. Persons still having envelopes were asked to send contributions to the fire hall.

Elmer R. Gaydosch

Elmer R. Gaydosch, aged 69, of Youngstown, Ohio, formerly of Bakerton, died November 29 in Youngstown, Ohio, following a heart attack at work. He was born Jan. 8, 1905, in Lockport, a son of Andrew and Mary (Kruczkowsky) Gaydosch. Surviving are his widow, the former Katherine Bakish; his father, and three daughters: Mrs. Irene Kovalchik, Columbus, Ohio, and DeLores and Mariens, both at home.

Funeral services will be held Dec. 2 in Youngstown. A woman will spend a dollar's worth of gasoline, to save 25 cents on a purchase.

AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR VISITS IKE



JULIUS RAAB, Chancellor of Austria, and President Eisenhower confer at the White House on moves the United States might make to persuade the Soviet Union to sign the Austrian state treaty. The pact would end the occupation of Austria by the U. S., Russia, Britain and France. Chancellor Raab made a brief tour of the White House.

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