

Practice Democracy In Your Driving

Dallas-Franklin Names Queen

High School Elects Anne Woickowski

Dallas-Franklin Township high school is the first to elect and announce its May Queen. Anne Woickowski was voted the honor by tenth, eleventh and twelfth grade students Tuesday afternoon, with Lois Simon as maid of honor.

Marian Elenchek, Marilyn Mosier, Jane Owens and Thais Rozelle will be senior attendants.

Deanna Townsend and Nancy Dickson were voted by the junior class as attendants. Barbara Narbut and Joan Riaubia by sophomores.

Date is set tentatively for some time during the week of May 11, as early as weather permits.

Anne Woickowski is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Woickowski, Trucksville RD. Lois Simon is daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Simon.

Sometimes we take democracy a little too much for granted and forget to practice it. Take driving, for example—

Surprisingly, some American citizens have the wrong slant on democracy. The only thing these people understand about democracy is that it's supposed to give them certain rights and liberties—"for free." But that isn't the way democracy works.

In our democracy every right has its obligations and responsibilities. Anyone who claims his rights without also assuming his responsibilities is taking something that doesn't belong to him. This is the side of democracy that many people don't seem to understand. What we call "rights" really aren't "rights" at all. They are privileges. They are granted with the understanding that they will be treated as privileges—or else will be forfeited.

Yet the way we sometimes abuse our privileges is very strange. We seldom have any hesitancy about accepting our "rights" as a matter of course—in fact, some people go around demanding them. But when it comes to the responsibilities involved—well, we're too apt to let others worry about them.

That's just the way it is with many people who drive automobiles. They sometimes forget about the things they're expected to do in return for the privilege of driving. They overlook the responsibilities they contracted for when they were given their drivers' licenses.

Rules and Self-Enforcement

Good drivers voluntarily observe traffic rules! When you practice this kind of self-enforcement you're practicing democracy in driving.

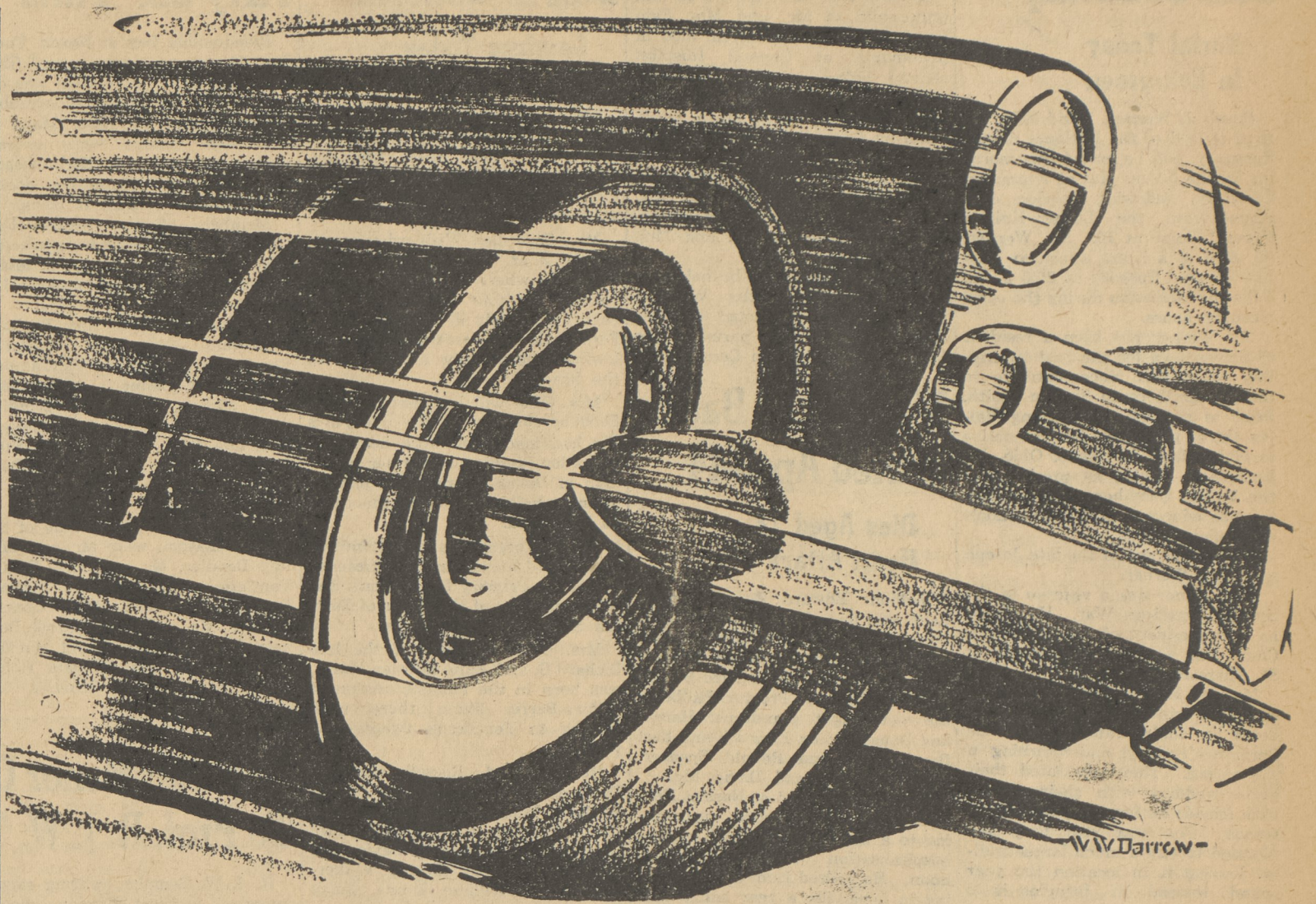
It's a sure bet that the very drivers who resent traffic rules are the ones who need them most! But rules are necessary also for the driver upon whom they don't have to be enforced. Here are the reasons:

1. They are a protection against the illegal, dangerous, and irresponsible conduct of some drivers.
2. They make for uniformity in driving practices.
3. They give some assurance of controlled power on the highways—particularly when this power is in the hands of drivers who don't exercise good judgment.
4. They serve as guides for drivers who want to do the right thing at the right time.

Listed below are the most important and widely accepted general rules that govern driving. These are "regulation" practices. Supplement them with the traffic laws of your state and community and use them as guides for practicing democracy in your driving.

Basic Highway Rules

1. Give clear warning well in advance of your intention to cause any interference with the normal flow of traffic. (By hand, by mechanical device, by position shift of car.)
2. Observe and take warning from the signals and the significant movements of others. (Cars, pedestrians, bicyclists, and animals.)
3. Observe and obey the authorized signs and automatic signals which are provided to guide and control traffic.
4. Drive on the right side of the roadway.
5. Pass to the right of those approaching you.
6. In general, pass to the left when overtaking.
7. Give way to those who are trying to overtake and pass you.
8. Overtake and pass other cars only when the view ahead is unobstructed and shows ample clear room for the the passing maneuver.
8. A car moving on a highway or street of major importance has the right of way over the car crossing or entering from a minor road or private driveway.
10. A car approaching an intersection shall yield the right of way to any car which has already entered the intersection from a cross street.
11. If two cars approaching on different streets reach an intersection at the same time, the car on the left must yield the right of way to the car on the right.
12. A car must yield the right of way to pedestrians crossing at intersections or on any marked crosswalks.
13. A car making a left turn must approach and start such turn from the center lane or left side of its half of the roadway.
14. A car making a left turn must yield the right of way to all cars moving in the opposite direction which its turn might block or hinder.
15. A car making a right turn must approach and start such turn from the curb lane or right side of its half of the roadway.
16. Park your car off the traveled way, where it will not interfere with the normal flow of traffic or obstruct the view of other drivers.



WHAT PRICE SPEED?

Speed—excessive, reckless speed is the greatest killer stalking the Nation's highways today.

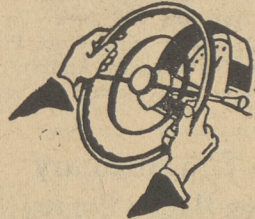
In one out of every two driver accidents resulting in deaths and injuries, speed is directly responsible for this carnage on the highways. Other lethal causes, such as cutting in and out, passing on curves and hills, driving off the roadway, are indirectly the result of quick bursts of speed.

And the speed death toll is climbing! Faster roads, super-powered cars urge drivers beyond their human limitations to a quicker and more frequent rendezvous with Death.

Rural highway fatalities due mainly to speed soared from 22,000 in 1949 to 28,200 in 1952 and over 31,000 in 1953. Those are the dead—and for every death count fifty injured, maimed, crippled for life.

Is this the price you and others are ready to pay for the momentary thrill and the ever-present danger of death from speed? It takes only a split second to change speed exhilaration into speed tragedy.

The decision is in your hands—be sane, be sensible, slow down and live!



STATE POLICE SAY

When considering safety on the highway, it is not of too much interest in how intelligently the driver is as in how intelligently he drives.

Slow Down - Lives Are In Your Hands!

First rule for SAFE DRIVING is SEE CLEARLY!

Dr. A. S. Lisses

OPTOMETRIST

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