

Auto Seat Belts May Save Life

K. H. SUTHERLAND, M.D.
County Health Officer

In the United States during 1960, some 38,200 individuals were killed in motor vehicle accidents. California accounted for 3,723 of these victims and Los Angeles County for 860. Although the provisional 1961 statistics on automobile fatalities for the nation are about 2 per cent lower than the 1960 figure, the same is not true for Los Angeles County, which shows a 16 per cent increase. The sad part of it is that a great many of these deaths could have been avoided if safety belts had been used.

The value of seat belts as a safety device was demonstrated in aircraft during World War II, but it was not until 1949 that technical studies on the advisability of their use in automobiles really got under way. By the middle 1960s, the results of work conducted by the Automobile Crash Injury Project at Cornell University were published, and it was revealed that the use of safety belts reduced motor vehicle deaths by 30 to 35 per cent.

IT IS understandable that not all persons using seat belts can escape death when involved in an automobile accident, but, in the accidents studied, only 2.6 per cent of car occupants using the safety belt died, whereas 12.8 per cent of the individuals not using them were fatally injured.

The reason given for this was that unless safety belts were used the victim was frequently thrown out of the car and killed, and that the chances of fatal injuries were therefore 5 to 6 times greater if ejected from a car in case of an accident than if held within it.

SO CONVINCED are local public authorities and safety experts on the wisdom of the use of the seat belt that all official cars in Los Angeles County have been equipped with two front seat safety belts for the past three or four years.

California has also passed a law, now incorporated into the State Vehicle Code, which makes it compulsory for all 1962 cars sold in the State to be equipped with anchors (hardware) for two front seat safety belts, thereby making the installation of the belt less expensive for the owner.

Wisconsin, as an example of a State still more safety minded, has passed a law which makes it compulsory to install safety belts in all new cars sold within the State. Again, this applies only to the driver and one front seat passenger.

ALTHOUGH emphasis is placed on the installation of safety belts in the front seat, safety belts should also be installed for rear seat passengers including children. It has been proven that rear seat passengers, when thrown over the front seat, hit the dashboard or windshield with even greater force than front seat occupants. The reason given for this is that by the time rear passengers come sailing through the air the car has slowed, and the impact is more forceful since it becomes more like a collision with a fixed object.

In the opinion of the director of the Cornell Research

Public Notice

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS
No. 450-931
In the Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the County of Los Angeles.
In the Matter of the Estate of JANE MARIE STROHECKER, Deceased.
Notice is hereby given to creditors having claims against the said decedent to file said claims in the office of the clerk of the aforesaid court or to present them to the undersigned at the office of
Newborn & Hitchcock
2211 Torrance Boulevard
in the City of Torrance, in the aforesaid County, which latter office is the place of business of the undersigned in all matters pertaining to said estate. Such claims with the necessary vouchers must be filed or presented as aforesaid within six months after the first publication of this notice.
Dated JAN 30, 1962
ROBERT F. STROHECKER
Executor of the will of said decedent.
Newborn & Hitchcock
Attorneys-at-Law
2211 Torrance Boulevard
Torrance, California.
T-2, Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22, 1962

DOES GETTING UP NIGHTS MAKE YOU FEEL OLD?
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Project, any child aged four or over should be able to open the belt in the event that it is required in a particular emergency.

SOME MOTORISTS are afraid to use safety belts because of the possible danger of being trapped in a car that catches fire or is submerged in water. However, these occurrences are comparatively rare. In any case, it takes only a second or two to unfasten a belt, and in these cases, the belt may be the means of enabling the victims to retain consciousness. Experts do not think the safety belt adds appreciably to the danger in

these particular instances, and it has been demonstrated that it does lessen the chances of injury of any sort by some 60 per cent.

Head-rest installations are also being considered by some automobile manufacturers and this safety equipment would do much to prevent the whip-lash injuries that are not prevented by safety belts.

A seat belt does not prevent injury in all automobile accidents, but if properly installed and fastened it does prevent serious injury in the majority of them, and that is surely enough to justify their installation in all motor vehicles.

Local Banker 25 Years in Profession

Torrance banker Gale M. Gardner hits another plateau in his career this week as he celebrates his 25th anniversary with Bank of America.

Gardner is assistant manager of the statewide bank's Torrance branch. He joined the bank as a messenger in 1937 at its Los Angeles Clearinghouse and moved to Hollywood main office the following year, where he worked his way to a junior officer assignment.

He was assigned to the Wilshire-Sweetzer branch in Los Angeles in 1947 and promoted to lending officers there six years later. He was advanced to his present assignment last year.

BORN IN ST. LOUIS, Missouri, Gardner came to the Los Angeles area as a youth, graduated from high school here and has since earned a certificate from the American Institute of Banking, educational wing of the American Bankers Assn.

His only time away from banking was during World War II when he traded his teller window for a helmet and served three years with the Army Signal Corps.

Gardner has been active in the Burbank PTA and Community Chest and in scouting. His hobbies include bowling, tennis and baseball.

He and his wife, Marjory, have two children: Leslie Ann, 16; and Stephen, 10.

Army Pfc. Charles W. Lauterbeck, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lauterbeck, 21120 Dalton Ave., is also scheduled to participate in Exercise Great Bear.

Lauterbeck, a rifleman in Company E of the Infantry at Ft. Wainwright, Alaska, entered the Army in September 1960 and completed basic training at Ft. Ord, Calif.

Chace to Install Harbor Chamber Officers Feb. 28

Supervisor Burton W. Chace will install Harbor District Chamber of Commerce officers Feb. 28 in San Pedro.

Chairman of the event will be L. O. Griffiths, chairman of the World's Fair Committee of Los Angeles County.

Being installed are Carl J. Hoffman, president; Reed Christianson, Al Code, Otho Cordray, Ove Hoyer, and Mrs. Ann Sorin, vice presidents; Robert Dunbar, treasurer, and Ruth Peterson, secretary.

The event will start with a social hour at 6:30 p.m., at 203 W. 22nd St., San Pedro. To observe the organization's 47th year, a tour of the harbor is planned from 7 to 10 p.m.

Princeton University began its 215th academic year last fall with its first woman student. She's Sabra M. Meservy, mother of three.

In an unofficial newspaper poll to select a national bird for Canada, the Canadian goose won resoundingly.

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Heavy plastic pail with easy pouring spout, complete with rust-proof metal handle. Big 10 quart capacity for all-purpose use.

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SAVE 50c **79c**

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Rubber tipped bobby pins that spring back to shape. Lowest price for this necessity!

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Keeps shoes in individual order. Can be stacked on closet shelf.

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Sturdy shoe rack holds 9 pairs neatly; ends closet floor clutter.

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See-through, strong plastic bags with 2-hook metal frame and zipper opening holds up to 12 Value garments.

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Best for steam iron, for every use that calls for distilled water! REG. 25c • PLUS PACKAGE

ENAMELED TOILET 99c
Sturdy wooden toilet covered with enamel in your choice of color.

UTILITY TRAY 39c
Sturdy, all metal 3-tier table-top tray with electric outlet to keep coffee or foods warm.

METAL • U.S. MADE LEAF RAKE 88c
Top quality U.S. Steel with full row of twenty spring teeth. Made for years of service. \$1.49 VALUE

KING SIZE • PLASTIC CONTAINER 29c
Holds a full 64 ounces! Big, sturdy plastic food container with tight-fitting cover. REG. 39c

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