May Deprive Traffic Violators Of Licenses In Effort To Stop Deaths

If suggestions made the past week at conferences between members of Governor Herbert R. O'Conor's Traffic Safety Committee and W. Lee Elgin, Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, should become effective, many violators of regulations of the automobile laws will find themselves without operators' licenses for five days for offenses they formerly were able to escape by paying a fine.

The conferences have discussed the feasibility of suspension of operator's licenses for a period of five days for such offenses as speeding, reckless driving, and running through boulevard signs and red lights. In cases where the offender has a previous mark against his record, Commissioner Elgin contemplates a suspension period of longer duration, from fifteen to sixty days.

While it was realized that such suspensions would work a hardship on persons who need their cars for transportation to and from their places of employment, it was felt, nevertheless, that with sufficient warning to operators of motor vehicles, they would guard themselves against arrest and conviction on all serious motor vehicle charges. This regulation would in no way affect the penalties now in force for hit-and-run, operating under the influence of liquor, and other charges of this nature that carry penalties stipulated in the laws of Maryland.

A. B. Metzer, Chairman of the Enforcement Committee of Governor O'Conor's Safety Council, attended the conferences and is now making a study of the suggestions.

In a radio broadcast in the interest of Traffic Safety, Charles T. LeViness, Chairman of the Board of Liquor License Commissioners of Baltimore, said:

"In my work in liquor control problems in Baltimore, I have become increasingly aware of the great public importance of banning drunkards or heavy drinkers from the roads entirely. The operation of the automobile is not a right inherent to all of us, such as the right to live and to be reasonably free in our movements; but it is a privilege granted by the state only after the applicant for an automobile licensee takes and passes an examination as to his qualifications. Having once passed such an examination the motorist does not then obtain an irrevocable privilege from the State. His license to drive may be suspended for improper conduct on the road or may be revoked entirely, in the discretion of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. More wide-spread use of this important safety weapon would in my judgment go far to secure the aims to which the Governor and his Traffic Safety Committee is dedicated."

Mr. LeViness further brought out the details regarding a person whose license has been suspended for drunken driving. This person after a period of three months may make application for reinstatement. Thus in some cases drivers whose licenses have been revoked two or three times are still operating upon the highways.

He said, "Greater care in administering this phase of the Motor Vehicle laws would permanently remove from the highways those persons known to be dangerous; and such action would not only be a boon to traffic safety in the State, but also would be in many cases a most beneficial thing for the driver himself; and it may be the means of saving his own life."

Today And Tomorrow

Continued from page one

point in learning to read before then, for books were not available to the common people and newspapers were impossible. When people began to read they began to think. The more readers, the more new ideas for a new world, and the more ready people are to adopt new things and ways. That is why I feel sure the readers and thinkers of tomorrow will make a different sort of world than we dream of now.

LIFE . . . . . tomorrow

The one certain prediction any body can make about the world of tomorrow is that people will live longer and get more enjoyment out of living. Whether they will as a whole be wiser is another question. They will know more, be better educated, but that they will manage the intricate problem of human relations any better than we do is not at all certain.

Human nature, in its fundamental aspects, does not change. There have been good people and bad people, misers and spendthrifts, industrious and lazy, honest and crooked, selfish and generous, since the beginning of time. The proportion is about the same now as it was in ancient Greece.

However, I think I see signs that the process of evolution is at work in human relations as it is in the sphere of material things. Characters are never changed, except for the worse, by revolution; but as we learn to tolerate the difference between our ideas, beliefs and behavior and those of our neighbors, we will evolve, in time, a more peaceful and happier world.

The House Of Hazards

--by Mac Arthur

GOVERNOR ACTS TO SAVE EMPLOYERS OF MARYLAND $1,000,000

Fears of Maryland employers that they would be called upon to pay an extra $1,000,000 in social security taxes during the coming year, because of a discrepancy between the State and Federal Social Security Acts, apparently are baseless, according to plans announced by Governor O'Conor. To obviate the expected extra tax, Maryland corporation heads had contemplated asking Governor O'Conor to call an extra session of the Legislature in order to bring the State Law into line with the Federal statute, which had been amended since the adjournment of the Maryland Legislature this past April.

There will be no reason for a special session now, according to Governor O'Conor. Arrangements have been tentatively completed, he announced, with officials in Washington, in line with similar arrangements effected by several other states, by which the due date of the tax on salaries over $3,000 will be postponed until April, 1941, with the understanding that the Act would be amended at the next regular session of the Legislature in 1941. "Immediately upon discovering this situation," said Governor O'Conor, "I took steps to see that every effort was exerted to prevent the payment of unnecessary taxes by Maryland employers. The Maryland Unemployment Compensation Board has had numerous conferences with Social Security officials, and I personally have taken part in discussions with the various officials."

HOOPER'S ISLAND SENIOR 4-H CLUB

The Girls' 4-H Club of Hoopers Island High School met on December 6, 1939. The following officers had been elected:

President, Isabell Tall; vice-president, Isabelle Rippons; secretary - treasurer, Drusilla Parker; Reporter, Roberta McLaughlin.

The meeting was called to order by the president. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the secretary. Mrs. Wallace Ruark was elected as our leader. The business meeting was adjourned and turned over to Miss Hattie E. Brooks, our demonstrator. She showed us how to make oatmeal nut cookies. The meeting adjourned to meet the next time with Mrs. Ruark.

Roberta McGlaughlin,
Reporter

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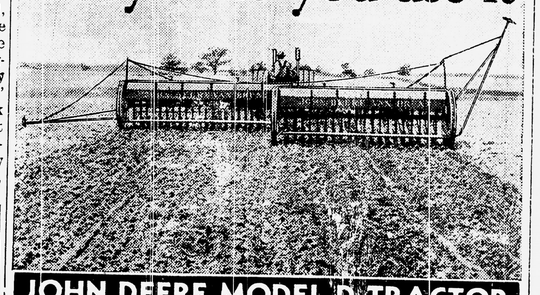

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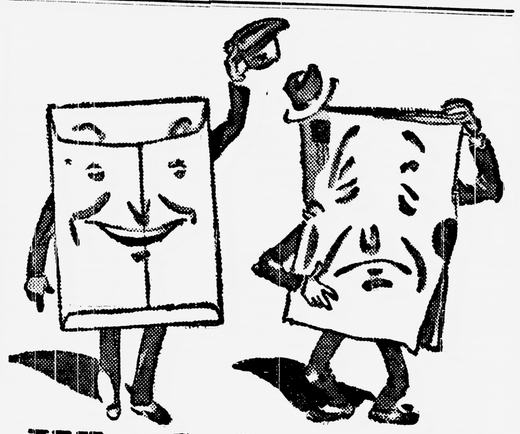

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