

Urges Drivers to Recognize Traffic Signs

Can you read sign language? If you can't, then it's a matter of life and death that you learn it quickly, Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley advised Birmingham drivers this week.

"You don't have to be an Indian, though, to learn this sign language. It is the kind that appears on signs along the highway to warn you of danger," Moxley said. Almost 60 per cent of the drivers involved in fatal accidents

were violating a traffic regulation at the time, according to national statistics; he pointed out. And three out of every four pedestrians killed were violating some regulation.

"Signs of Life" Program
Such disregard of the "signs of life" is the reason for a nationwide campaign this June to impress upon the public the standard shapes of signs so that their meaning will be easily recognized. Better understanding of the meaning of sign shapes, signals and pavement markings will promote better observation and increased safety," he stated.

The key word in the "signs of life" educational program is **RODEEC**. This coined word is a reminder of the meaning of high-

way sign shapes, Moxley explained.

Round for warning of the approach to a railroad crossing, it is an "alert" signal.

Oblong for most regulatory signs. Such signs are backed by law as well as common sense.

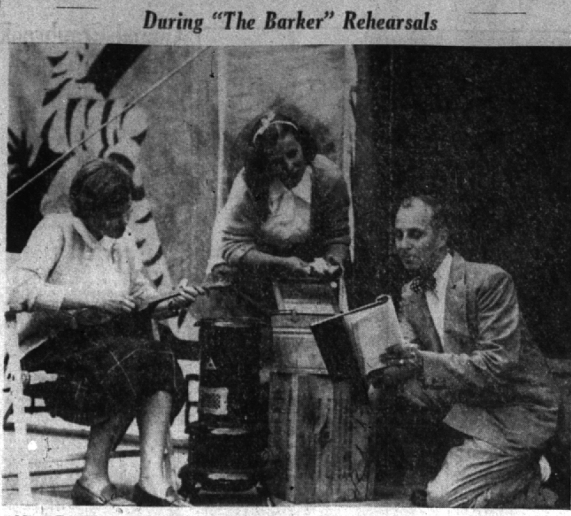
Diamond-shaped signs warn of dangerous, or potentially dangerous, conditions just ahead.

Eight-sided, octagonal signs mean **STOP**. It is not just a warning to slow down.

Rosobuck means you are at a highway-rail crossing. Be sure all tracks are clear both ways.

"Remember **RODEEC** when you are behind the wheel, and you will have mastered the sign language which might save your life," Moxley concluded.

Original street lights were fiber torches.



During "The Barker" Rehearsals
Mary Beresford and Mrs. Ota C. Thompson pause during a song rehearsal for "The Barker" to listen to Jervis B. McMechan who is directing the St. Dunstan's Guild musical play about carnival life which opens a four night run this evening in the Greek Theatre at Cranbrook.

"The Barker" has been adapted by Sheldon Noble with music by Marlene Kohlaast and Wiley Hitchcock. The two pianos, which will provide the music for the show, will be played by Mrs. Kohlaast and Will Perry, graduate music student and orchestra leader at the University of Michigan.

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The SCORE PAD

By Jim Gray
(Sense and nonsense at the bridge table. Other jottings.)

Some enchanted evening . . . (Enchanted? Perhaps. But at any rate it was an extra special evening. An evening I had waited for . . . for so many hopeless weeks, months. My evening. It was here at last.)

You may see a stranger . . . (I saw her. I stared at her. I watched every move she made because I was so afraid she would leave before . . . Oh, she was not exactly a stranger. I knew her name. I had seen her. I knew her mannerisms and her gestures. But until this wonderful . . . this magnificent evening I had never had reason for . . .)

Across a crowded room . . . (And it was crowded. And close. Stifling. But I was likely conscious of it. I didn't care. They pressed me into the corner where I had retreated during the last few telling minutes. But over the

bobbing heads I could still see her . . .)

And somehow you'll know . . . (I knew. But they didn't. They were waiting for something—for it. I wasn't waiting for it. I knew I had known for some time. Finally a few caught on and gave me a half-wondering look. Then some stared at me and laughed in disbelief. I ignored them. I brushed them aside and started across the room toward her.)

You'll know even then . . . (I began to sing silently to myself. She was standing beside a table. As I approached the table I started to speak . . .)

That someone you'll see her . . . (Suddenly she thought struck me—would she believe me? Would she think I was lying? I stared wildly about me. Perhaps I had better find some person to support me . . . After all, it was only my bare word . . .)

Again and again . . . (No. There would be no again. At least not for a long long time. It had to be now, this instant. So I tapped her lightly on the arm. And the words finally came out. "Listen, Marie. Never mind the wisecracks just give me the money."

I won this silly bridge tournament.")

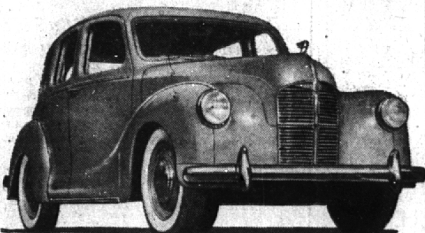
OAKLAND COUNTY DUPLICATION BRIDGE RESULTS:
Birmingham, Community House, Wednesday evenings. Open to the public. June 8. (Howell game.) First: Jim Gray and Myrtle Rummel. Second: Henry Georgia and Ted Nellis.

Pontiac. Hotel Waldron. Monday evenings. Open to the public. June 6. (Howell game.) First: Ted Nellis and Henry Georgia. Second: Florence Kraus and John Rosobuck.

Over 5,500 air transport hours were logged by the Navy's Fleet Logistic Support Wings in the past half year for special missions providing rapid and flexible support to essential military activities.

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Around The Cracker Barrel

In this Age of Economic Flapdoodle we come to that period of the year which is dominated by Commencements and Father's Day. The merchants will publish huge ads admonishing us not to forget dad, on his day, and the commencement orators will use their same old speeches—polished up to "meet modern conditions." I've often wondered what it would be like to have one of the graduating students deliver the Commencement address; it would have the virtue of freshness, and from it we elders might well learn something. Such a youthful commencement speaker would likely point out to his elders some of their mistakes, and the graduates could leave the commencement exercises with a feeling that they had already been heard. For instance, suppose such a commencement address was given. It would probably go something like this:

"The Graduating Class of 1949 is extremely thankful for two things: First, that we are graduating, and second, that we are not required to listen to a stuffy address telling us all what we have to do to make a bright new world.

"We are very young, and it will be some time before we are in positions of responsibility. We cannot be expected to correct the many mistakes you, our-elders, have already made. Therefore, this is an occasion when we can tell you, our elders, what you can and should do before we come to your station in life.

"You have spent a lot of money in educating us, hoping that we will become enlightened citizens in a democracy. But you haven't done anything else but spend that money. You have very little knowledge of how your local elementary and high schools are being conducted. The only time you flare up and take an interest is when additional taxes are to be voted. You have no knowledge at all about how our colleges and universities function, or what is being taught. The only time you come to see us is for a football game, and for commencement. You don't know any of the trustees, nor do you know what they stand for. You certainly know very few of our faculty, and judge their fitness by the number of degrees they hold.

"You have not taken time to learn that we are being turned out with doubts in our minds. These doubts are about things you know are true, and have even fought to preserve. We are taught all manner of things, but we are not taught Americanism. You don't insist that we have instilled in us a great faith in this country; instead you permit an insidious type of teaching to leave real doubts. We are taught to become quibblers. We quibble over words and phrases, over left wing and right wing, but we are not taught Faith.

"You may not know it, but some of us believe in a rank sort of philosophy which would tear down the Temple of our Fathers just to kill a few cockroaches in the basement.

"There was a time when our representative government was something supported by the people, when its representatives were our servants. You have permitted it to become our master, a monster which now will graciously support us. You have permitted yourselves to become economic slaves, bedeviled by official snappers of all sorts. There was a time when you could mind your own business, but now you are lucky if you have any business of your own to mind.

"All of this couldn't have happened if you had remained an enlightened electorate, and if you had taken the time to insist that your children be educated in a confident manner instead of in a doubting manner.

"It will be too late if you wait for us to make the corrections necessary. We are too young, and we won't be heard. But you, our elders, can do many things. Here are a few:

"You've simply got to take an interest in politics. Even though this is an abhorrent thought, it is up to you to revitalize the two old political parties. Right now they are both fossilized. You must bring them to life. The politicians who have brought about our present position must be defeated for office, and must be removed from party councils. You start this in your own community, and you make mighty sure that your next congressman, your next mayor, your next school board member is going to insist upon a return—now—to the principles which made this country great.

"You'll have to insist that Uncle Sam quit wearing the robes of Santa Claus, and return to character. We can't go on supporting the whole world, under threats. You'll have to insist that the costs of government be reduced, and that all of the new foolery in economics be dumped while there is yet time. You do this by organization, and by your ballot.

"If you still want to save us all, then you'll have to take a good look at our schools and colleges. If you go on teaching us all to be doubters, then we will all fall. But if you will start a movement which will make certain the type of things we are taught, the type of teachers we have, then we can help you in your work. If you don't do this, soon, you will have been the reason for so many doubters in our populace.

"You think this is too severe, and that everything will work out all right. If you think this, then 'the glories of Freedom, which were passed down to you by your fathers, will vanish as mist before the sun. It is already later than you think. In the tranquility of this gloat, on this peaceful day in June, all is not as it seems. Hell, not fathers and mothers, because your son or daughter has graduated. But rather, let that fact be a solemn reminder to you that you are about to fail in your greatest mission in life—to pass down the glories of Freedom to posterity.

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