

HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE BY ALICE E. MORGAN

LET'S SHARE IT

How many lives could be saved each year if those of us who use the nation's streets and highways would share the responsibility that is ours? Thousands died and suffered injuries last year, needlessly. Pure blitheness was the cause. The best mechanical brains in the world have worked to make cars safer. The best engineering brains are constantly striving to make highways and streets safer. Why, then, does the death rate increase every year? Partly, it is due to speed. We drive our cars faster than conditions permit just to satisfy our vanity. We stop not a minute to think of the welfare or convenience of the other fellow, letting him look out for himself.

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Woodward at Forest MI 4-7930

From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

You Can't Build A Better Mousetrap! They're not the best-looking boarders a man ever had. Hack Turner said one day, "and they've got awful tempers. But I've found it pays to have 'em around."

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would rather double park directly in front of a store, than park properly and perhaps walk back a hundred feet. THERE ARE, also, those who seem to take an unbridled delight in stopping at all intersections with their car squarely across the cross walk. The pedestrian trying to get around is never sure whether to go in front or to the rear. Will the driver suddenly back up as he sees an officer approach, or will he leap forward as he sees a light change? Who knows? Drivers are not entirely to blame, although they should all share the responsibility of the open road, equally. This applies to the mechanical efficiency of their vehicles as well as to their own mental efficiency. Pedestrians, while given the right of way by law, have their own share of responsibility, also. A number of them refuse to assume it however.

THERE ARE THOSE pedestrians who step into the south-bound lane of traffic while busily looking to the north. There are those other souls who seem to like living dangerously and get their thrills by sauntering slowly across busy streets at a nice long angle.

Some states make it a law that in turning the driver must pass to the rear of the pedestrian. This motorized hop-scotch is especially fascinating in those places where one type, which is really a cross between a pedestrian and a motorist is the driver-heavy soul who drives into a diagonal parking place and then, with the door wide open, starts to get their belongings out of the car, don a top coat or fish for meter change.

ONE GROUP which has added many a gray hair to my driver's license is the scabable type. Neighbors meet in the middle of a crossing and—believe it or not—stop to chat. Mothers pass on instructions to youngsters they meet this way. Children exchange messages and recently, I even saw a man stop and pay the paper boy—right slap dab in the middle of Woodward and Brown!

THEY FORGET that backyards are for play space and seemingly sanction ball games in the middle of busy city streets. They permit children to ignore their responsibility to the point that drivers are beginning to wonder if it would be better to drive on the sidewalks and leave the streets to the kids.

Neither you nor I can drive our cars on the walk, nor would we want to. Why then must we be entirely saddled with the responsibility of youngsters playing and playing in the streets.

NO, TO MAKE streets, highways or automobiles safe and cut this horrible toll each year, we must all assume our share of the responsibility and act accordingly.

month. Farmers that kill barn owls are throwing away the best mousetraps known to man! From where I sit, when someone shows a prejudice against any group of animals or humans—it's usually just based on misunderstanding. For instance, some folks are alarmist about those of us who enjoy an occasional quiet glass of beer. Get to really know us and you're liable to find we're pretty good birds at that!

Joe Marsh

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