

### Pool Water Heater Is Most Wanted New Equipment

What specific piece of swimming pool equipment is most avidly desired by residential pool owners? Pool water heaters, according to a recent survey. Evidently pool owners would like to swim even more than they do, and water heaters stretch their swimming season by several months in most areas of the nation.

In conjunction with the new air inflated or rigid frame pool enclosures they can add from six to nine months to the usual three-month swimming season north of the frost line.

MOST HEATERS are gas-fired, but several electric models have come on the market for areas with

lower electric power rates. The survey recommended putting in a heater with every new pool installation, or at least substituting in service lines so a heater can be added later.

The average heater costs about 10 per cent of the total pool cost, but may triple or quadruple the use period.

The world-famous Indianapolis Speedway, paved with 3.2 million bricks in 1911, is now coated with smooth asphalt. The 1962 Memorial Day race was the first of the 500-mile classics to be run since the resurfacing job was completed.

Farmers in the U. S. and Canada use polyethylene plastic film, derived from petroleum, to lengthen the growing season. The plastic mulch conserves ground moisture, keeps soil warmer, and practically eliminates weeds.



### On European Tour

Bill Calhoun, of 4316 Pine Tree Trail, Bloomfield Hills, observes a model of an Iron Curtain guard tower during his recent visit to Radio Free Europe headquarters in Munich, Germany. Bill, a student at Bloomfield Hills High School, is on a National Association of Student Councils Tour for International Understanding. Support by contributions from the American people to the Radio Free Europe Fund, RFE, is a pri-

vate, non-profit network of 28 powerful transmitters which broadcast more than 2700 program hours of accurate news, information and entertainment each week to the more than 80 million captive people in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Bulgaria. These Iron Curtain countries rely on RFE as their strongest link with the truth and the Free World.

### 1962 Traffic Heaviest In Michigan's History

Michigan is experiencing the heaviest annual travel season in its history, the State Highway Department reports.

State Highway Commissioner John C. Mackie said "conservative" estimates by Highway Department traffic engineers show that statewide traffic volumes during July were eight to 10 per cent over traffic during the same month last year.

"On the basis of current figures, we now expect a six per cent increase in statewide travel this year," Mackie said. The average increase during the last 10 years has been 3.6 per cent.

EARLIER THIS year, Mackie forecast an increase of five per cent, the biggest increase in travel since 1955 when traffic was up 8.4 per cent over the previous year.

Mackie said statewide volumes during the first six months of 1962 were up 3.6 per cent over volumes for the same period of 1961. Based

on previous experience, this indicates traffic volumes for the year will be up about six per cent.

Traffic volumes were up through-out the state except in the western half of the Upper Peninsula where it was down three per cent. Eastern Upper Peninsula traffic was up nearly nine per cent.

Other increases during the six-month period included: Northwest lower Michigan, up 1.6 per cent; Northeast lower Michigan, up 3 per cent; West Central lower Michigan, up 6.1 per cent; East Central lower Michigan, up six-tenths of one per cent; Southwest lower Michigan, up 6.7 per cent; South Central lower Michigan, up 2.5 per cent; Pontiac-Port Huron area, up 2.7 per cent.

"On the basis of these increases, we expect motorists will drive an estimated 35.4 billion miles in Michigan this year," Mackie said. This would represent an increase of more than two billion miles over

### Freeways May Reduce Rising Insurance Costs

The possible effects of Michigan's growing super-highway system, which have been the subject of state safety conferences during the past two weeks, include some implications for everyone's car insurance cost.

To the extent that the freeways maintain a reduced accident volume as they continue to attract increased traffic loads they may contribute much to curbing the rising accident losses which determine car insurance cost.

They also can be expected to continue to relieve accident-loss exposure on many areas of both urban and rural routes as new sections of the super roads are opened and draw through traffic off of presently congested streets and highways.

THE FOUR-LANE divided roads which include limited access almost guarantee elimination of head-on collisions and greatly reduce the possibility of intersection accidents, both of which are major sources of loss on two-lane rural highways with ordinary intersections.

Some factors of accident-loss potential require increased motorist attention, however. Experience with the freeways in other states has included a sharply increased volume of loss from high-speed rear-end collisions and run-off-roadway accidents which occur in avoiding rear-end crashes.

These generally are attributed to reduced attentiveness of drivers resulting from prolonged high-speed travel, and to failure to maintain spacing between cars adequate for high-speed emergency stops.

ANOTHER effect of sustained freeway driving, which can cause accident-loss off the freeways, is a tendency of drivers to misjudge their speed when they reenter congested local traffic areas.

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