

truck inspected promptly. Make sure it is in good condition to meet the extra hazards of Winter driving. Remember always, that if your car or truck fails to perform satisfactorily in any emergency, it may cost you your life, or the lives of some who are near and dear to you.

I have said little about the pedestrian up to now, but he or she deserves quite a lot of attention in any discussion of street and highway safety. Unfortunately, for every careless or reckless motorist, there seem to be two or three careless or reckless pedestrians. You've seen them, I'm sure, just as I have, walking serenely across busy highways, sometimes with arms interlocked, apparently not giving a thought to their personal safety. Too often pedestrians seem to take the attitude 'Let the motorist beware.'

And sometimes the motorist doesn't beware, to the everlasting injury of the pedestrian. There's no reason in the world why pedestrians shouldn't take even more care than motorists, for the pedestrian can be sure that, in any conflict with the motorist, he or she is certain to come off second best.

Particularly during the Winter months, when driving conditions often are bad, pedestrians must be on the alert to take care of themselves, and not trust to the diligence of the motorist. When walking along country roads at night, a flashlight or lighted lantern would seem to be only a reasonable precaution. Walking towards oncoming traffic seems to have acceptance among Safety experts as the safest procedure. All simple rules; and rules that you would think any pedestrian would be glad to remember, to preserve his or her own life. Too often, as we all know, pedestrians do not take the trouble to take even these small precautions.

I'm going to close on a thought that I've mentioned before, but that surely bears repetition. More than 20,000 people have been killed on our streets and roads since January 1. During November and December, when the rate is usually higher because of ice and other conditions, the grim prospect is possibly 5,000 more deaths, some of which,—100 or more—may occur in Maryland during these months, unless our combined efforts prevail.

Is it worthwhile, rushing about at high speed, inviting death, when usually we haven't any urgent reason for so doing? Is it worth endangering your own life, and those of your family and friends, just for the satisfaction of getting to your destination in a hurry? You know the answer as well as I do. We don't have to travel at the rate we do. Usually, there's no sense to it. Let's stop it for a while, at least, and see if we can't save lives. Remember, that yours may be one of the lives saved by this extra care!

I make this appeal with an urgent request that as worthy citizens you respond by thinking of your fellow-citizens and considering their welfare, their future happiness, their lives. We want your cooperation just as you would cooperate for health and fire protection in our State, because highway safety is a form of health protection just as much as measures for water and milk purification. The American sense of fair play and good sportsmanship could never be better exemplified than in this united effort for public Safety. I earnestly bespeak your aroused interest to make Maryland a Safer Place in which to live.