

U.S. Paid Tremendous Price For Accidents During 1953

CHICAGO (AP)—This is the tremendous price the United States paid for accidents in 1953: Killed, 55,000. Injured, 9,300,000. The cost: \$9,100,000,000.

The bill was added up today by the National Safety Council which noted that the 1953 accident death toll was 1,000 below the 1952 total. But it also noted that it was more than three times as great as the toll of U.S. dead during the entire Korean war.

The motor vehicle held its place as the No. 1 accident killer. Traffic deaths numbered 38,300. That was a gain of one per cent over 1952.

The traffic total was the third largest in history, exceeded only in 1937 and 1941.

Fatalities in home accidents numbered 28,000, a decline of 1,000. Accidental deaths at work were unchanged at 15,000.

Ned H. Dearborn, president of the council, stated that "no civilized nation can long endure this tragic and disgraceful waste of manpower and resources from accidents that are avoidable."

But there were some relatively bright spots in the otherwise grim array of statistics.

DEATH RATE LOWER

The 1953 death rate for accidents of all types was 60 per 100,000 population, lowest on record. Nevertheless, one out of every 16 Americans suffered a disabling injury last year.

The 38,300 traffic deaths were

recorded during a year when the number of vehicles on the road and the number of miles they travelled reached an all-time high. Thus the death rate per 100,000,000 vehicle-miles was estimated at seven—lowest rate on record.

Traffic accidents resulted in about 1,350,000 non-fatal injuries. Falls brought death to 20,200 persons, one per cent fewer than in 1952. Burns cost 6,400 lives, a four-per-cent decrease. Firearm fatalities rose four per cent to 2,450. Drownings were unchanged at 6,800.

The estimated economic loss of \$9,100,000,000 covers both fatal and non-fatal accidents. It includes wage losses, medical expenses, insurance costs, production delays and damage to equipment and property.



A PRIVATE ENTRANCE and hot and cold running water are selling points of this new-type bathtub. Mr. Per Bergman of Stockholm, Sweden, its inventor, explains that the door is especially designed for the halt and the lame.

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MacMillan Profit Up

VANCOUVER (CP)—Net profit of \$2,691,300 was reported by MacMillan and Bloedel Ltd. for the quarter ended Dec. 31, 1953, almost identical with the figure for the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

In the final quarter of 1952, net profit was \$2,682,620. Net earnings per share of \$.51 was the same for both quarters.

Net sales and operating revenues in the final quarter of 1953 was \$30,750,888, compared with \$29,639,157 in the corresponding quarter of 1952.

Last quarter 1953 was the first whole quarter during which the second unit of the Harmac pulp mill was in operation. Higher profits resulted from this source but these were offset by lower profits in other departments of the company, management reported.



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All Opposition Parties Expected To Oppose Postal Rate Increase

OTTAWA (CP)—A government proposal to increase first-class postal rates is expected to meet opposition.

The legislation giving effect to the one-cent-an-ounce increase starting April 1, comes up for debate today in the Commons. Progressive Conservative, CCF and Social Credit parties voted against the increases last month when they were outlined in a resolution preliminary to the bill.

The bill would increase the letter rate on the first ounce to five cents from four on mailings between postal districts and to four cents from three on mailings within a postal district. The rate on additional ounces also would be increased one cent an ounce.

The government also plans to eliminate the seven-cent air-mail rate within Canada and proposes to carry all first-class mail by air wherever facilities are available.

Wednesday the Commons spent most of its half-day mid-week sitting debating a government motion to eliminate private members' business on Wednesday—starting Wednesday. After protests from all three opposition parties, the motion was withdrawn by Citizenship Minister Harris, government House leader.

He said, however, that the government will introduce the motion again later, asking that government business be given precedence over private members' business on and after Wednesday, Feb. 17.

This would leave only one hour on Tuesdays and Fridays for private members. Private members' Mondays previously were eliminated.

Telephone Campaign Under Way

HULL, England (Reuters)—The campaign has started here for a vacant House of Commons seat, and the heat is on—over the telephone.

Tonight, and every night until Feb. 11, you just dial Hull 21835, and you get a 60-second heart-to-heart talk from each of the candidates.

If you happen to dial into the beginning of Conservative candidate Patrick Wall's recording, you'll hear this:

"Yes? Patrick Wall speaking. Oh, it's you. I'm glad you phoned because it means you're interested in the by-election."

After Wall has told you what he stands for politically he says, "Hang on a minute, my wife wants a word with you." Then his attractive wife, Sheila, 28, comes to the phone with a plug for her husband.

Wednesday night a reporter dialled 21835 and the first thing he heard was Labor candidate Charles Bridges shouting, "Get out." Bridges hadn't meant to be rude. He was merely saying that the election gave the voter a chance to tell the Conservative government to change its class policy—"o. get out."

The telephoning campaign service is carried from 8:15 to 11 p.m. every night except Sunday over Hull's phone system—the only privately-owned one in the country.

The phone election campaign service is donated by the Hull phone company.

At the last parliamentary election in this area Bridges was defeated by Conservative candidate R. K. Law by 7,583 votes. Law became a baron in the New Year's honor list and therefore had to give up his Commons seat. Polling is Feb. 11.

The government Wednesday Prime Minister St. Laurent to had planned to have the House raise the salaries of cabinet consider a bill sponsored by ministers.

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Shoe Stores	3.7
Department Stores	4.3
Hardware Stores	1.4
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