
TRAFFIC SAFETY

Safety on the State's highways had a high priority on Governor Tawes' executive agenda. He not only expressed dismay at the incidence of traffic deaths but used the power of his office in attempting to stem the highway slaughter. Public education was the keystone in the Governor's program and he made numerous addresses on this subject, some of which are included in this collection.

In addition to educational activities, the Governor sought legislation and took administrative steps aimed at reducing the State's annual highway death toll. Constructive actions toward that end included the reorganization of the Department of Motor Vehicles, strengthening of the State Police, the establishment of a point system, the use of drunkometer tests, creation of a fund to aid high schools offering driver education programs, and the establishment of State-wide driver rehabilitation clinics. During the Governor's first term, a special committee was appointed to study the need for a State automobile inspection law, later enacted.

ADDRESS, GRADUATION EXERCISES MOTOR FLEET SUPERVISORS INSTITUTE

COLLEGE PARK

April 10, 1959

At the outset, I should like to extend congratulations to all the graduates of this Twelfth Annual Motor Fleet Supervisors Institute. You and the officers of the Institute deserve the highest praise for the interest you have shown and the work you have done in the prevention of highway accidents.

Governor Abraham Ribicoff of Connecticut, whose crusade for traffic safety brought nation-wide fame to himself and to his state, has called killing by automobile plain "murder." At first blush, this appraisal seems a little harsh. Yet, it is hard for me to make the distinction between the man who kills with a gun and the man who kills in the negligent operation of a motor vehicle.

A feeling of horror and shame grips me every time I read the