

No. 10 *Doornes* *Four about Alutael Pags*

TYDSKRIF VAN DIE SUID-AFRIKAANSE PADVEILIGHEIDSRAAD

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FACTS ABOUT ALCOHOL

- Is alcohol a stimulant?
No. The apparent stimulation is due to lessening of the inhibitions by the narcotic action of alcohol.
- Can you detect alcohol on a person's breath?
No. We smell the flavoring of the drink but not the alcohol. Pure alcohol, gin and vodka leave no telltale breath.
- Is alcohol a good remedy for snake bite?
No. A person bitten by a snake may be in shock which is increased by the depressing action of alcohol.
- Is alcohol a member of the anaesthetic series of drugs?
Yes. Alcohol is chemically related to ether, chloroform and other anaesthetics.
- Does alcohol increase the visual acuity or the acuity of other senses?
No. As little as 0.04% of alcohol in the blood may reduce visual acuity as much as wearing of dark glases after sundown, and other senses are also less acute.
- Will taking a drink of water the morning after the night before when considerable wine was drunk produce intoxication?
No. The person may become sick but he is not intoxicated.
- Is it a good policy to take a few "shots" of whiskey to warm one up just before being exposed to very low temperatures?
No. The feeling of warmth after drinking is caused by the dilation of the superficial capillaries. This condition is associated with rapid loss of bodily heat.
- Can one accurately prophesy the percentage of alcohol in the blood knowing only the amount of alcohol that a person drinks?
No. To even guess at what the concentration might be, one would have to know, not only the amount of alcohol consumed but would also have to know over what period of time this amount was imbibed.
- Does loss of judgment and the ability for self-criticism occur before there are obvious symptoms of intoxication?
Yes. The person is not aware of his shortcomings although careful psychologic examination may indicate marked loss of efficiency.

(American Medical Association).

HOW SWEDES CHECK DRUNKEN DRIVING

A REGULAR swoop by traffic police is one of the ways in which Sweden keeps drunk drivers off the roads. It is not unusual, according to a South African newspaper columnist (The Star) who visited the country recently, to see 40 traffic officers with dogs and patrol cars stopping every single car passing down a street. Every driver is obliged to breathe into a special chemically treated balloon and those whose breath turn the chemicals green are loaded into a van and taken to the police station for blood tests.

"Penalties for drunk driving are severe. Any motorist found to have more than 0.05 per cent alcohol in his blood will land in prison for anything from one to six months or pay a fine, averaging R200.

"Besides this, he loses his licence for a year and gets it back only at police discretion.

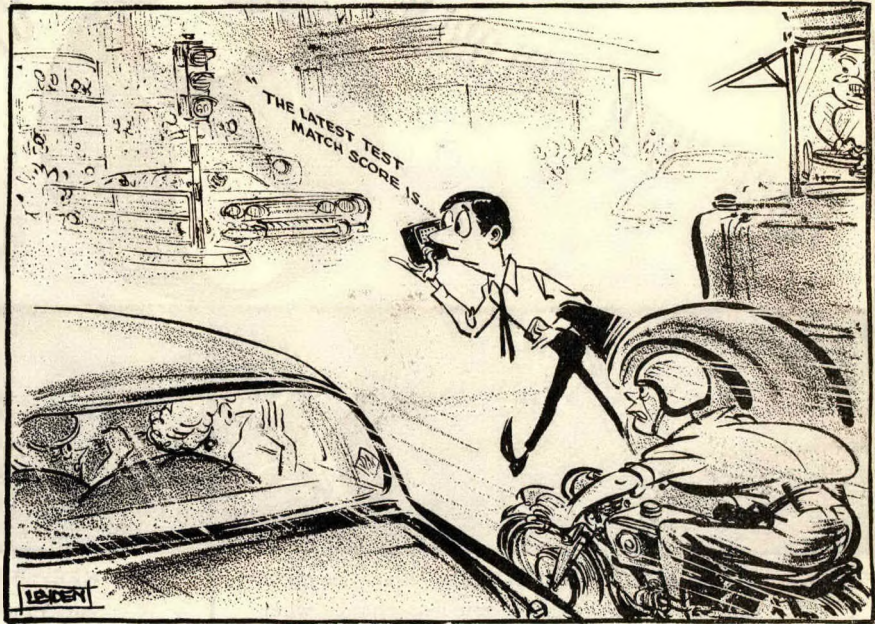
"The result is that the Swedes have developed a strong national conscience over drink and driving and since 1956 their drastic measures have arrested the growth of road deaths."

Drunken driving carries a real social stigma. A young Swedish businessman, who had been sent to prison for one month for this offence told his family and friends that he was going away on holiday.

"Social habits have also been adjusted to confirm with the law. After a party the visitor usually finds a fleet of taxis to take the guests home.

"No one there who had drunk above the limit — one whisky or one strong beer — drove himself."

"Despite the fact that there are some things about the system that people do not like (anyone who suspects a motorist has been drinking can report him to the police, for instance), generally it does seem to work."



LOOK BEFORE YOU LISTEN

Modern traffic hazard — the pedestradiotrician.

Natal Daily News.

Unieke Skool vir Leerling-Bestuurders

'n **SKOOL** waar leerling-bestuurders heeltemal gratis die bestuurkuns kan meester word, sal binnekort in Windhoek gestig word. Selfs die brandstofverbruik en die gebruik van voertuie sal niks kos nie.

Volgens mnr. Con Katzke, direkteur van die Padveiligheidsorganisasie van Suidwes, word hierdie skema deur sy Organisasie, in samewerking met 'n aantal garages, aangepak in belang van padveiligheid en die gemeenskap. Daar word gevoel dat 'n te hoë persentasie jong bestuurders in ongelukke betrokke raak — waarskynlik omdat hul opleiding onvoldoende is, die voorliefde om te vinnig te ry van leermeester na leerling

oorgedra word en daar baie min, indien enige, aandag aan padveiligheid geskenk word.

By hierdie nuwe skool sal aspirant-motorbestuurders onder deskundige toesig kan leer om 'n motor, vragmotor of trekker te bestuur. Streng aandag sal geskenk word aan die padkode, padtekens en handseine, die inhoud van die padverkeersordonnansies en eerste hulp. Verder sal hul vermoë om kleur te onderskei, afstande te skat, die oë by wisselende omstandighede aan te pas en in die nag te sien, ook getoets word.

Die skool sal geleë wees op 'n heeltemal afgekapte perseel en gevaar van botsing met ander verkeer is dus uitgesluit. Die minimum ouderdom vir toelating is vier maande voor die viering van die agtiende verjaarsdag.

(Inligting verkry van „Die Suidwester“).

The trouble with children is they're either a lump in the throat or a pain in the neck.

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