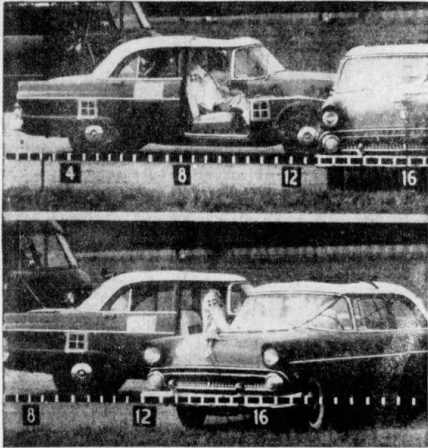


THOMAS L. ROBINSON... Publisher
 J. E. DOWD... General Manager
 B. S. GRIFITH... Executive Editor

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1955



These pictures show a crash staged by Ford engineers to measure impact of bodies against interior parts of auto in collisions. The bodies here are those of dummies built on the human scale and articulated in much the same way. The second photo shows one dummy striking a padded sun visor while the other hits a steering wheel designed to soften the force of the blow. The visor and the steering wheel are two parts of a five-item safety package Ford will offer in new models.

Editorial Correspondence

New Auto Safety Devices Offer Hope Of Sharp Reduction In Accident Toll

By PERRY MORGAN
 Charlotte News Editorial Writer

DEARBORN, MICH. FOR years the auto industry has concentrated its brains under the hoods of its products, breeding and selling horsepower. 'Tis thus that a major shift from power to safety engineering was a natural reaction this week when Ford Motor Co. sponsored a national safety conference here to demonstrate what it has done inside the cabs of its 1956 cars and trucks.

Ford has developed five items of body equipment designed to reduce the number and severity of accident injuries. It offers impressive laboratory evidence that the devices will work if the public accepts them. The devices themselves—seat belts, steering wheels shaped like deep dishes, safety door latches, rear view mirrors of safety glass, and padding for instrument panels and sun visors—are not particularly startling. Some have been offered by other companies in the past without causing much of a stir.

THE impact of the Ford program lies in the newness and detail of the research behind it and the fact that the company is going to make a massive, deliberate effort to sell safety devices. If it can sell safety it will build safety and it follows that competitors will, too. Chrysler already has matched a Ford grant of \$200,000 to the Cornell University crash research program. General Motors, the other company in the Big Three, is not participating in the Cornell program but that does not exclude the possibility that it will offer similar safety devices. The basic research that formed Ford's program is available to the whole industry.

Safety engineering has always had a place in auto manufacture. Along with zooming horsepower have come improved steering, brakes, tires and windshields that have made the automobile an altogether more reliable machine. The accident rate per mile traveled has steadily declined. But the increased number of vehicles and of miles traveled has pushed highway death and injury to epidemic proportions.

THIS new safety concept, rooted in the Cornell research and being marketed by Ford, admits the inevitability of accidents. It is concerned with protecting the driver and passengers after an accident has occurred. The safety door latch, for example, is designed to keep passengers from spilling out of the car where research indicates the chances of injury are doubled. Purpose of the safety raddling is to absorb and spread the force of a body thrown against it, thus reducing the severity of the blow. The steering wheel also is designed to spread the force of impact and to keep the driver from contact with the sharp form of the steering post. The shatter-proof glass in the rear view mirror is meant to reduce cuts and lacerations. The seat belt is designed to keep the driver and passengers from being thrown against hard surfaces.

The Cornell research indicates opened doors, the windshield structure, the instrument panel and the steering wheel assembly account for 56 per cent of body area injuries. Eighty per cent of all injured drivers are hurt by the steering wheel assembly when they are thrown against it as the result of a sudden stop. About 35 per cent of the passengers riding in the right front and center front

seats are injured on the instrument panel when they are thrown forward. Approximately four per cent of the passengers on the front seats are hurt when they strike the rear view mirror.

These percentages were derived by Cornell in a research program that uses the highways as laboratories. Specialized data is gathered by state and municipal police in cooperating states—North Carolina is one—at the accident scene. Physicians in hospitals which receive the accident victims contribute detailed descriptions of their injuries. The reporting by these groups is thorough. The police form, for example, provides information on the height, weight and sex of each occupant of the car, their seated positions, number of cars involved in the accident, estimated speeds, make, model, year and body style, type of road, road surface, type of collision and a description of exactly what happened to each occupant of the car and each part of the car during the accident. Photographs are taken to supplement the reported information.

NOW that safety devices are being introduced to the road, the Cornell program will be expanded to determine just what effect they will have in reducing injuries. Ford estimates the 1956 devices in general usage could cut injuries from 35 to 50 per cent. When Cornell arrives at a statistical estimate that information, too, will be provided on an industry-wide basis.

The testing that has followed initial research on this new safety concept has been based on staged car-with-car and car-with-barrier collision. The test autos carry dummies designed on the scale of human bodies. The steel skeleton of the dummies is covered with a tough plastic for muscle and a softer plastic to simulate skin. Joints are patterned so that the dummy may be held rigid or relaxed as persons aware or unaware of an impending accident would hold themselves. The dummies carrying recording devices in their heads and stomachs so that a record is kept of their movements and the force applied to them in the collisions.

THE Ford devices are a logical extension of a new and vital research program. For the first time the industry now knows exactly what interior surfaces of automobiles produce injuries and it should be able to develop materials to reduce or eliminate their injury potential.

The Ford devices have yet to be proved in actual operation, but they already have great value in being the result of great and costly effort to build and sell safety. If the industry puts its mind to the problem and keeps it there there is no doubt that it can further contribute to saving human life and preventing suffering.

The Ford program offers strong hope that an industry-wide effort will be made.

After the wedding the happy couple were photographed as they left the church, and proofs were promised to them in a few days at their honeymoon spot. The large envelope duly arrived, and was opened in great excitement. Inside were several studies of a strange baby lying on a rug, and on the back of the page read: "Please state clearly which size you want—and how many."—HONOR POINT ENTERPRISE.

The Ayes Have It

Drama In The White House

By JOSEPH ALSOP

IN THE secret drama that has been unfolding in the White House for many months, it is not yet clear that what may be called the faction of the anti's has sustained a heavy setback.

In other words, President Eisenhower is acting much more like a candidate to succeed himself than he would be called upon to act, if he merely wished to control the Republican convention and to dictate the choice of his own successor. On this head, the government in Denver speak for themselves.

Probably the outcome was at times inevitable. The most experienced of all observers of the American political scene, Frank R. Kent, has long held that it was an immutable law of American politics that first-term presidents cannot possibly resist the forces driving them to run again. But in this case, the problem was more interesting than it usually is, because of the character of the faction of the anti's.

MAMIE'S INFLUENCE The leader of the anti's of course, has been Mrs. Eisenhower. It has often been rumored that the President's wife disliked the idea of his running again. It can now be stated on undoubted testimony that the rumors under review presented the real situation. Mrs. Eisenhower has not merely dis-

liked the idea of a second term. She has strongly and consistently used her very great influence against it. Furthermore, it can also be revealed that the influence of Mrs. Eisenhower has been powerfully seconded by the influence of Maj. John Eisenhower, which is also very great.

The combination of a man's wife and his only son would be proof of a formidable in most families and it is especially formidable in the Eisenhower family. In addition, Mrs. Eisenhower and Maj. Eisenhower had formidable arguments—that the presidency was too heavy a burden to be taken on a second time at the President's time of life; that the President had done his duty and could gracefully retire; and that this was the moment for the President to escape to the Gettysburg life he loves.

THE OTHER SIDE The President was much affected by the pleas of his wife and son. His response was shown the world so speak, at the famous press conference when he publicly repeated their argument that a man of his years should not run for another four years in the White House.

But the faction of the anti's was not, while the faction in favor of an Eisenhower second term was enormous, comprising every member of his staff, every Re-

publican politician of any consequence except Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, and virtually every one of the President's circle of close personal friends. Moreover, the Geneva meeting at the summit proved to be a heavy blow to the faction of the anti's.

INDISPENSABLE? To the legions who have urged him to run again the President has always had a strong response—that the American political system did not recognize the existence of such a creature as "The indispensable man." But at Geneva, the President seemed to prove the contrary.

However, transitory and even dangerously deceptive the other Geneva results may prove, there is no doubt whatever about one result. Single-handed, with no lever but his smile, the President raised the reputation of this country abroad from somewhere very near the depths to somewhere very close to the heights. In a single week, the rest of the world's opinion of America's aims and purposes was radically and happily transformed by Eisenhower alone.

NEW ARGUMENT The feat itself quite naturally exhilarated the President, giving him some self-satisfaction and he has not always had in the White House. Furthermore, the



Confidentially, He Hates It!

very fact of this feat, at once gave a heaven-sent argument to those who wanted him to run again in our domestic politics, they said, it may be that no man is indispensable, but it has now been proved that at this critical juncture, the President is the indispensable man on the world political scene. According to persuasive reports, it was this new argument introduced by Geneva that rather decisively turned the White House debate in favor of a second term.

All sorts of things can of course happen between now and the Republican Convention. It is more and more likely, for instance, that the tree half of the world will suffer disastrous setbacks in the Far East in the next six to eight months. What this may do to the President's post-Geneva glow is anyone's guess.

PERFECT HEALTH Again, the President's state of health is obviously magnificent.

He Hates It!

Yet no man of his years can be absolutely guaranteed against the kind of little upset which would be trivial for most men, but in the situation in the White House would give much greater force to the pleas of the President's wife and son. For these and other obvious reasons, Eisenhower's course cannot be absolutely forecast. But on one point, one may now be quite certain.

The President's power of choice in this matter has been invisibly but rapidly diminished. He no longer has the option of saying that he will not run because he does not choose to. His moral autonomy as the Republican Party is now too great. He cannot possibly escape running, unless he is willing to shed his presidential office behind an opinion from his doctors that he ought not to do so. That is the only way in which he is not sure to be shut out down.



"Okay, so bore you here. But you can't deny we're living in an exciting age... atomic energy, earth-launched satellites, the \$64,000 question..."

Democratic Forfeit

Is Foreign Policy Out As An Issue?

By WALTER LIPPMAN

NEW YORK MR. ADLAI Stevenson has an article in *Look*, magazine which is severely critical of the way foreign affairs have been conducted by the Eisenhower administration. As Mr. Stevenson is the leading candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination, we may ask ourselves not whether there is ground for criticism but whether the Democratic Party can take issue legitimately and effectively with the Republican administration.

I would think that as of now at least the Democrats cannot do it. That is not because the Eisenhower-Dulles record is above criticism. It is because by their support and by their silence the Democrats have forfeited the chance, and with it one might say the right, to take issue with the President.

NO QUARREL Things may look very different by a year hence. But as of now the Democrats have no quarrel with what the administration has managed to do. Their quarrel, long after the event is with how by backing and filling, by praising and zapping, by talking tough and

West Germany and its 12 promised divisions in NATO, the Soviet Union was being compelled to retire and to retreat.

If we pay attention not to what the administration has said but to what it has been doing, we can see that it has pulled back from positions of weakness, where we were over-extended, to positions which the United States and its allies are strong enough and willing enough to hold.

DISSENTING

This is how, after the alarms of war, that the issue which prevails in the Far East was brought about. The President planted himself in Formosa and in South Korea, which can be defended by the retaliatory power of the United States. At the same time he disintegrated himself from the ambitions of Rhee and Chiang to push forward into the Asian mainland. It is a reasonable guess that what relaxed the tension in the Formosa Strait was that friendly members convinced Chou En-lai that the United States would defend Formosa but that it did not intend to put Chiang back on the mainland.

BIG CONTRIBUTION

There is no doubt, I think, that the President has made a great, a unique, and a necessary contribution to reducing the probability of a third world war. He has done this by maintaining our military power and our alliances and, also, and as less by clarifying our fundamental policy in the Far East. This is not, I realize, the official line which holds, or at least used to hold, that having incorporated

When Polly Palmer Hollered A UNC Degree Didn't Rate

By ROBERT C. RUARK

FALAMOS, Spain THE ANCIENT art of being a copy boy has nearly passed from the newspaper scene, since the stringent rules and regulations of the newspaper guild have more or less confined specific duties to specific classes of workers, and an informant of an apprentice on the work of a senior is disallowed.

Before I define the definite art of copy-boying, I'd like to say that this comes to mind because I was one myself, once, but more recent, it was talking to a relative youngster named Bill Roberts, who was a copy boy in Boston as recent as 1937.

DOING FINE

Willie is doing right fine these days. He writes the hottest column in the Southwest, and a good chunk of it rests on page one of the Houston Press. He runs two TV shows a week and has fat slabs of several businesses, including a photo studio, a really good steak house—I've eaten there and has also managed to produce three line songs and a great many friends. Bill started out as a waste and hustling coddle for the reporters. I claim he couldn't have made himself into a young Mister Houston without the discipline of a guy running in the copy-running business.

The Ex Copy Boys of the World had a certain pride of achievement in the fact that they never knew the rich kids will never know about. To be a copy boy is about as low as you can start to climb the journalistic ladder, but a double decade ago, you could really learn while suffering. You had a daily chance to pick the brains of your betters.

FINEST FOUNDRY

The *Washington Daily News* was the finest foundry of reportorial Oliver Twist. I ever ran into. We didn't fret in those days about a six-week copy boy, confining himself completely to fetching and carrying papers to and from the composing room, or running out to collect coffee and cokes, and sandwiches and occasionally a pint of inspiration for the deep thinkers.

In the late shift, if there was a shortage of reporters, copy boys went out and covered races and murders and fires. They covered secondary sports and entertainments on a short-staffed paper, and one fine day, when they made

a perpetually disgruntled now-deceased old boy named Joe Fitzgerald taught me the rudiments of copyreading when I was head pasternose on the lobster shift. A kind gal named Margaret was who was a critic, gave me the secondstring and more or less the pick of the playhouses then in Washington—myself, which is not sure to be shut out down.

LITTLE HELPERS

Riley was speed editor and he gave me all the stuff his skinny staff couldn't handle. Dick Hollander got to be city editor, and I was head pasternose on the lobster shift. A kind gal named Margaret was who was a critic, gave me the secondstring and more or less the pick of the playhouses then in Washington—myself, which is not sure to be shut out down.

I expect the *News* graduated into a more advanced feature writing, and the greatest game of them all, Martha Straver was gorgeous with her vast knowledge.

And, of course, the composing room was kindly disposed to my needs, and my knowledge. Largely through Clarence Carr and some other I learned how to read backwards when the story was already stamped in lead from the linotypes.

I expect the *News* graduated into a more advanced feature writing, and the greatest game of them all, Martha Straver was gorgeous with her vast knowledge. And, of course, the composing room was kindly disposed to my needs, and my knowledge. Largely through Clarence Carr and some other I learned how to read backwards when the story was already stamped in lead from the linotypes.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Editors' Note: While Drew Pearson is on a brief vacation his column is being written by members of his staff.

WASHINGTON JOHN L. Lewis borrowed a phrase from the past when he castigated the merger of the AFL and CIO as a "rope of sand." However, the United Mine Workers' boss had his bushy eyebrows raddled on the future—a future in which John L. hopes to lead an other labor movement.

Many years ago Lewis' beloved "Sam Gompers" was warning against big-union tramping of the rights of small unions in the American Federation of Labor, declared: "If you destroy the vote of an union you are building a federation no stronger than a rope of sand." "Voluntarism" was a word Gompers liked. He used it often to stress the need for protecting the jurisdiction and autonomy of little craft unions.

Lewis Plans New Labor Movement

There is reason to believe that John L. Lewis is trying to emulate Gompers, founder of the AFL, in more than one respect. For a long time the miners' boss has cherished the idea of founding a new labor movement. The plight of small unions in the AFL-CIO merger may be just the springboard he needs.

There is also reason to believe that the Republican National Committee is taking more than a passing interest in Lewis plans. Lewis who backed William F. O'Day in the AFL in more than one respect. For a long time the miners' boss has cherished the idea of founding a new labor movement. The plight of small unions in the AFL-CIO merger may be just the springboard he needs.

Aside from politics, AFL-CIO unity is bound to play into Lewis' hands. In the combining of rival unions of the two groups, some jurisdictional toes will be stepped on, or to be more exact, some CIO unions will be gobbled up by AFL counterparts and vice versa.

Small Unions In Peril

It is safe to assume that the big unions will do the stepping and the smaller unions will do the stepping on. In fact, the merger constitution leaves no area of doubt. The constitution, already drafted for some minor changes to be made in December, gives the new AFL-CIO executive council arbitrary powers to establish the sovereignty of merged unions.

Supremacy

The executive council, to be composed of 29 men—19 from the AFL and 10 from the CIO—will be heavily dominated by "big union" leaders. In fairness to the drafters of the constitution it can be argued that some unions must be sacrificed and that numerical strength is the fairest yardstick of supremacy. Otherwise, there would be no point in merging the AFL and CIO unions continued to compete against each other for jurisdiction and membership in the new setup.

Team Up

It is no certainty that Carey's union, the International Union of Electrical Workers, will emerge triumphant over the rival AFL International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers in the new setup—in which case Carey and his followers might find it advisable to team up once again with Lewis in a new labor movement.