

bound to be just as careful as the driver of a horse is bound to be, and in fact should be more so in view of the greater force and momentum of their vehicles and the certainty of greater damage in case of a collision.

Whilst the usefulness of motor vehicles must be admitted it must also be admitted that their use has been more or less of a public nuisance for the reasons set forth in the commencement of this article and for others that might be added to that list. It is clear, therefore, that this user should be safe-guarded so far as the public is concerned in every possible way.

Another point to be considered is that of speed. We incline to the view that the liability of the owner of the car being established and the onus of proof of non-negligence being upon the driver, some liberty might be allowed as to speed upon clear and unobstructed stretches of road, but that in towns and villages, at all times, and wherever there is considerable traffic, the speed should be strictly limited, and any infraction of the rule laid down in this respect should be severely punished. There are those who think that the only statutory limit to the rate of speed should be that it should be reasonable and leave it to the constituted authorities to decide the question of reasonableness should the occasion arise. This would have the advantage of throwing all responsibility upon the motorist. There would be much to be said in favour of this if coupled with a provision for imprisonment in case of offence. In France there is no speed limit, but motorists are under strict police supervision, and it is said their methods work well.

What is wanted is to make motorists more careful—to make reckless driving “unpopular” with them. A few of them being sent to prison would “encourage the rest.” What might be termed mechanical devices for regulating speed and in other ways preventing accidents are not of much practical utility. The *mind* of the motorist must be acted upon.

This brings us to a proposition of much practical importance, viz., that “the punishment should fit the crime.” As we have pointed out a fine of fifty or even a hundred dollars is a penalty