

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE QUARTERLY

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A Highway Problem

One of the most vexatious problems facing police departments today, is traffic and its assorted ills. Highways are overcrowded, city streets congested, accidents take an increasing toll of human lives.

Law enforcement is the responsibility of the police, but the solution of the traffic problem is as much the liability of the public. Safer, saner driving habits would do much to eliminate the hazards of the road.

J. Louis McKenna, in a column "About This and That" in the *Kings County Record* (Sussex, N.B.) discusses one road hazard which, while usually considered of the "nuisance" variety, has all too frequently resulted in tragedy for some motorist. Mr. McKenna says in part:

... During the course of the years, I have made quite a study of hitchhikers as I pass them on the roads. Yes, I pass practically all of them. Once in a while I will stop for a man in uniform; but even that depends upon circumstances and conditions.

You see all types of hitchhikers these days. There are the well dressed, the poorly dressed, the over-dressed; the neat, the slick, the untidy and the plain filthy; college boys and girls, and those whose profession is the open road; the overfed and the underfed. All are trying to get from one place to another, or perhaps from any place to any other place, for a variety of reasons.