

if you look on one of the pages, the average traffic speed of 85 percent of the drivers is about what we're proposing, and also that the most dangerous, this doesn't say it in here, but it did say in 1937, now 1937 is way back yonder in history. That's in Senator Chambers' time, Senator Pat's time and my time, we remember, way back then, the most dangerous year on Nebraska's highways, 50 mile an hour speed limit. Well, I hear here we are talking about speed as opposed to danger, and certainly there is some element of that in there, but the reason I mention that is 1937 was about the time when they made a tremendous increase in safety in constructing vehicles. They brought out safety glass in the windows. Before that, every time you got in an accident, even if it was minor, the people suffered horrendous cuts from the plate glass that was used before that. Since 1973, certainly in 1973, there were seat belts in some of the newer vehicles. Most of the vehicles on the roads didn't have seat belts. Today we not only have one air bag, but two air bags. Many of the newer vehicles today have a rather extensive reinforcement on the sides, special latches to prevent the doors from coming open, and all of those things that serve to cut back on the incidence of injuries and fatalities per number of accidents. We are always going to have some number of accidents. I don't know how direct a correlation you can make between them and speeds. To shift gears just a little bit, there's been quite a lot said about the trucking industry here on the floor, and that's an interesting thing to me because, insofar as the people that buy new trucks, those trucks are far more customized than a tailored suit of clothes would be for any of us. You pick the frame options, you pick the wheels, you pick the size of the brakes depending on the road, you pick from nearly two dozen engines, and at least as many transmissions, and an unlimited number of gear ratios in the final drive. The reason you do that, if you are in the position of operating a commercial truck line, is that you want to move whatever cargo that you intend to move with that truck over the intended route of that truck as quickly and as economically as is possible to do so. Today the trucks are set to run at about 70 miles an hour, for the most part. They vary a lot in equipment depending on the load they are going to haul. I was really interested, one of the testifiers that we had was an owner of a small independent truck line, and he was in opposition to raising the speed limits. And I asked him, well, what do you have your trucks set for to run the most economically at? And he said between 69 and 72. So be a little