

TRAFFIC LAWS :—

Sub-committee : Messrs. G. L. Laurensen (Chairman), J. Cummings, F. Langbein, E. R. Neale, M.P., W. R. Brown, I. M. Plimmer, C. E. Brown, and W. J. Belton.

Recommendations covered the following Acts and regulations : Motor-vehicles Amendment Act, 1924 ; the Railways Amendment Act, 1936 ; the Traffic Regulations 1936 ; the Heavy Motor-vehicle Regulations 1940 ; the Traffic (Road Crossings) Regulations 1944.

As a result of the Committee's recommendations the consolidation of transport laws has been taken in hand. The Transport Law Amendment Act, 1948, provides that if no death or personal injury results from an accident, the guilty driver may be dealt with by the lower Courts, and that all auto-cycles must be registered and licensed irrespective of their weight. The speed-limit of 35 miles per hour for omnibuses and service cars has been extended to 40 miles per hour. It has also been made clear that when a driver of a motor-vehicle stops at a school crossing because the sign is extended, he must remain stopped until the sign ceases to be extended.

A number of recommendations are still under consideration.

ENFORCEMENT :—

Sub-committee : Messrs. E. R. Neale, M.P. (Chairman), G. L. Laurensen, J. Cummings, W. H. Brown, A. McLaren and A. C. Melville.

Consideration was given to the general position of enforcement, pedestrian-crossings, glaring head lights, and the remission of the period of disqualification following conviction for intoxicated driving. All local authorities have promised to co-operate in a campaign for stricter enforcement of laws governing pedestrian-crossings and for public education as to their correct use. These authorities have also agreed to take sterner measures in connection with glaring head light offences.

ACCIDENT STATISTICS :—

Sub-committee : Messrs. R. H. Newbold (Chairman), G. L. Laurensen, J. Cummings, I. M. Plimmer, C. R. Edmund and W. I. Deavoll.

Steps are now being taken to record accidents which do not involve injury, and all insurance offices (except one) have agreed to report particulars of these accidents to the Department.

ROAD SAFETY PUBLICITY :—

Sub-committee : Miss M. Magill (Chairman), Messrs. G. L. Laurensen, D. G. Ball, R. H. Newbold, C. E. Owen, Dr. S. D. Rhind, Messrs. C. R. Edmund, and R. Wilson.

The Committee considered possible avenues of extending the publicity campaign at present being staged by the Department, particular attention being devoted to traffic safety weeks, road safety films, drivers' testing measures, road publicity covering sponsorship of road safety, the Christchurch Exhibition, the Road Code, drivers of heavy vehicles, local-body participation in road safety, and the co-operation of the automobile associations.

The findings of this Committee are at present under consideration.

CHILD EDUCATION :—

Sub-committee : Messrs. D. G. Ball (Chairman), G. L. Laurensen, W. I. Deavoll, N. Gilchrist, Miss M. Magill, and W. H. Brown.

The Committee affirmed the general principles of child education which were agreed upon in 1943 and gave attention to the part played by instructors and teachers in educating the children. Attention was also given to special problems, the most suitable material and equipment to be used, and to the extension of the school patrol system. The recommendations of the Committee are still under consideration.