# Motor Vehicle Speeds ON <br> <br> Connecticut Highways <br> <br> Connecticut Highways <br> BY <br> CHARLES J. TILDEN <br> Member Am. Soc. C. E. <br> Strathcona Professor of Engineering Mechanics Yale University <br> President Eno Foundation for Highway Traffic Regulation, Inc. <br> ASSISTED BY <br> DANIEL LUZON MORRIS <br> THOMAS M. C. MARTIN <br> and <br> ERICSON W. RUSSELL 

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## INTRODUCTION

The research study described in the following pages was undertaken to determine the actual speed of vehicles on Connecticut Highways. It was made in connection with a general survey of highway traffic in the State, carried on jointly by the United States Bureau of Public Roads and the Connecticut State Highway Department. The prime object of this joint survey was to bring up to date a similar study by the same two agencies which had been made in 1924. The same stations and key-points were used in this survey as in the survey of ten years before, and in general the same data were obtained. Certain additions were made to the program for the 1934 survey, and the project of the determination of vehicle speeds was one of them. For the speed survey Yale University joined the two agencies mentioned above to carry out the study.

The observations recorded were made on 117 days from November 14,1933 to September 26, 1934. A total of 91,044 vehicles was observed, the average of all observed speeds being 38.9 miles per hour. This total includes 3,834 cars which were observed in two special studies; one at a long curve near Madison, the other at a railroad grade crossing in North Haven. These special studies are described in detail in the Appendix.

The lowest speed measured was 9 miles per hour for a heavy truck on June 19 at station 63, on a wet pavement. The highest speed, 80 miles per hour, was twice observed, once in Meriden on June 21, and again in Saybrook on July 4. Both were passenger cars.

The field personnel comprised two observers, provided with the following equipment:

One automobile
Two Eno Foundation Speed Detectors, mounted on camera tripods
One 100 -foot steel tape, graduated in feet and inches
Two stop-watches, graduated in tenths of a second
Two laboratory stands with 3 -way adjustable clamps
Two high-power focusing flashlights with cardboard shields and bulbs covered with green cellophane
Data sheets and field data boards
Flashlights for sighting, reading watches, and recording data

T'wo camp stools
Two targets for daytime background
The "speed detector", which was the principal instrument used in the investigations, was designed and developed by the Eno Foundation for Highway Traffic Regulation, Incorporated, in 1931. It consists of an L-shaped box provided with a reflecting mirror about 5 inches by 7 inches. The inside of the box is painted black. The top cover is hinged merely for convenience in getting at the mirror, and may be fastened down with a small brass hook. The sketch, figure 1 , shows these details.


Fig. 1. Details of speed detector.

## METHODS

The speed detector is mounted on a camera tripod at a convenient height and set on the roadside. One of the open ends of the Lshaped box points across the road, while the other is directed toward the observer, figure 2. The mirror is then at an angle to each of these sight-lines. The observer, looking along the road and into the open end of the box, can see in the mirror directly across the road from the point where the box is set. An approaching car pass-

$u$


Fig. 2. Arrangement of observer and instrument. Above-one detector; below-two detectors.
ing the box makes a distinct flash or flicker in the mirror which is readily seen by the observer. The instant he gets this flash he presses the starting button on a stop-watch which he holds in his hand. When the car passes the near end of the baseline, he stops the watch and records the interval of elapsed time. The reverse



Fig. 3. Sample of log sheet as kept in the field. "L" "M" and "H" indicate trucks in the light, medium or heavy class as judged by observation. In the "Pass." column $M$ means male driver alone, M2 means male driver with two people in car, My means male driver with more than two people in car, F means driver alone, F2 means woman driver with two people in car, and Ex means woman driver with more than two people in car. The speeds were computed as observed, the values ringed being vehicles other than passenger.
procedure is followed for timing cars moving in the opposite directron.

The "base-line", or distance along the road from the mirror box to observer, may be any length so long as it has been accurately measured. On a straight stretch of road, 60 to 120 yards are reason-
able limits for this measured distance. If less than 150 feet, the time interval is rather short to be gauged accurately by an ordinary stopwatch. A car traveling 30 miles per hour covers 132 feet in 3 seconds. On the other hand, if the measured distance is too long, the speed of some cars may change materially, perhaps from 40 miles per hour to 20 , between the mirror box and the observer.

Early in the investigation a distinct improvement was made by the field party by using two detectors instead of one. In using only one detector the observer must start his stop-watch when he sees the flash of the car in the mirror as it passes the beginning of the measured distance. He stops his watch, however, when the car passes him at the other end of the base-line. The effect of the personal equation in catching the instant of these two essentially different phenomena may make an appreciable difference in the recorded time. By the use of two of the detectors set up on the same side of the road at the measured distance apart, the observer was able to station himself in such a position that he could catch the flash in the mirror at both the beginning and the end of the measured base-line. This appeared to be more accurate, and was used on most of the observations that are recorded.

Two different lengths were used for the base-line. For most locations the length of 176 feet was found satisfactory. It is long enough to secure a fairly close measure of the time with a stop-watch reading to tenths or even fifths of a second, and the average speed of the vehicle does not usually change much in the interval. The definite number of 176 feet was chosen to facilitate the subsequent computations for this length of base-line. If the number 120 is divided by the observed time, the result will be the car's speed in miles per hour: That is, if it takes a car exactly 4 seconds to travel 176 feet, the speed is 30 miles per hour; if 6 seconds, it is 20 miles per hour, and so on. If the stop-watch reads 3.4 seconds, the speed is a little over 35 miles per hour. A base-line just double this length, namely, 352 feet, was used on long, straight sections of highway where the speeds were generally high. With the higher speeds, this length of base is more satisfactory and the computations are just as easily made. In this case, of course, it is the number 240 which is divided by the time in seconds, to give the miles per hour.

Figure 4 is a chart which may conveniently be used for calculation of speeds for either the 352 -foot base-line or the 176 -foot line.

It has been found convenient, particularly during the winter months, to take observations from a car parked beside the road. Quite aside from the comfort of the observers, the car arouses less suspicion or curiosity on the part of vehicle drivers than would two men taking notes beside the road.


Fig. 4. Chart for calculating speeds from observed time intervals.
In setting up the detectors it is desirable, when practicable, to place them some distance back from the pavement, where they are less readily noticed by drivers. In this case it is important that the line from the box to B , figure 2 , cut the road at right angles and exactly at the end of the base-line. The set-up should always be
tested to make sure this is the case. The simplest method of adjustment is to station one man at B . He can readily locate the image of $A$ in the mirror. The box is twisted until the line is exactly right.

If a base-line longer than 176 feet is used, it is important that the line from the box to B strike a light background. Otherwise, it is often difficult to distinguish the flash of a dark car in the mirror. Where possible, the line of sight is directed at the sky. When this is not possible, a light-colored "target" is placed at B.

Observations can easily be taken at night. In this case a flashlight set on a laboratory stand is used in place of the target. The observer, at A sees the beam from the flashlight. This is interrupted


Fig. 5. The sight-lines need not be parallel to sides of box.
by passing cars. When setting up this system, a light is usually placed at A. The man at B picks up the image of the light in the mirror, and places his flashlight exactly in the line of sight.

If the speed detector is placed far back from the road, the angle A-box- B is seldom a right angle. The only limit to this angle is the construction of the box. Satisfactory observations have been taken where the effective width of the mirror was only about an inch, provided the background was bright, figure 5.

The detectors may be used on curves, over the brow of hills, in fact anywhere where they are both visible from one point. The observer may be stationed between the detectors. On curves it is necessary to measure the base-line on both sides of the road, since
cars on the inside of the curve travel a shorter distance between radii than those on the outside. The detectors must then be set so that the line of sight cuts the ends of both base-lines.

The accuracy of the method depends, as already stated, upon the length of the base-line. Using the 352 -foot line, and assuming perfect handling of the stop-watch, speeds up to almost 50 miles per hour may be measured with an uncertainty of less than one mile per hour (at 49 miles per hour an error of one tenth second results in an error of one mile per hour in the recorded speed). With the $176-$ foot line this is true only up to 35 miles per hour. At 60 miles per hour the uncertainty on the shorter base-line is 3 miles per hour, whereas on the long line it is only $11 / 2$ miles per hour.

The method was developed with two prime objectives: First, to determine the speed of the car from a point wholly outside the car, that is, without any reference to the speedometer; and secondly, to do this in such a way that the driver is not aware that his speed is being measured. A fast driver is generally on the look-out for anything that appears to be a speed trap and senses it quickly. If he passes any one who signals his passing to another observer a short distance away, he will instinctively slow down. Curiosity alone will often cause a reduction in speed. The use of the two speed detectors, inconspicuously placed as described above, in general leaves the motorist ignorant of the observations that are being made.

## STATIONS AND SUMMARY

A detailed list of the stations and the date or dates each was occupied during the survey appears in appendix III. This is followed by a day by day summary of the observations which constitutes a comprehensive log of the entire survey. Station locations are shown graphically on the accompanying map.

In order to permit possible use of the detailed count of traffic which was being made in the general survey of highway traffic of which this speed survey was a part, stations were occupied at or near the places chosen for the more extended observations. Many of the traffic census stations, however, were at highway intersections where speed studies of the desired type could not be made. A considerable stretch of straightway was the main desideratum for speed survey stations, and such points were picked out as close as feasible to census stations.



Fig. 6. Measuring the base line.


Fig. 7. Observer's car with nearer detector in position.
Note blur indicating passing car.


Fig. 8. "Picking up" the image of observation point (A in fig. 2).


Fig. 9. Image of passing car seen in detector mirror.


Fig. 10. Locating image of observation point and adjusting the detector.


Fig. 11. Observer's car, A, as seen in detector mirror from Point B, Figure 2.

Table 1 is a general summary of all the speed determinations made during the survey except those at the Madison curve on US 1, in the latter part of September, and the grade crossing study, in January, which warrant separate analysis in a subsequent section of this report. In the table these observations are classified into three groups, covering passenger cars, trucks, and buses. The passenger cars are subdivided into two groups, those for which the speed was measured during daylight hours and those on which night observations were made. Passenger cars in the daylight classification are further subdivided into Connecticut and foreign (that is, out-ofState) cars, and the foreign cars are again subdivided into three groups, those bearing New York licenses, those from Massachusetts, and those from other States.

The number of vehicles observed under all conditions of weather and road surface and the average speed are given for each classification. The three periods of the survey, winter, spring, and summer, are defined more or less arbitrarily, as indicated by the inclusive dates given. It is interesting to note that the average speed for the winter period is the highest in spite of a large bad-weather factor. Approximately 25 per cent of the winter observations were made under bad weather conditions, to be discussed more in detail in a later portion of this report.

Figures 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 are from photographs taken in the field showing details of setting up and using the apparatus.

Figures 12, 13, 14 and 15 show frequency distributions of passenger car speeds under different conditions.

TABLE 1.-GENERAL SUMMARY OF OBSERVED AVERAGE SPEEDS
(Does not include grade-crossing and curve observations reported in Appendix II)



Fig. 12. Diagram of frequency distribution, all passenger cars, in speed groups of 5 miles per hour intervals.


Fig. 13. Diagram of frequency distribution, all passenger cars, in speed groups of 5 miles per hour intervals; winter, spring, and summer periods.


Fig. 14. Diagram of frequency distribution, in speed groups of 5 miles per hour intervals, of passenger cars observed in the summer period, separated as to day and night observations.


Fig. 15. Comparison of speed frequency distribution, passenger cars on concrete and macadam roads; day observations, summer period.

## FACTORS INFLUENCING SPEED

## Seasonal Comparison of Passenger Car Data by Road Types

Table 2 presents the average speed of all passenger cars observed by day and night under similar conditions, during the speed survey. The grand totals of 62,671 day observations and 10,500 night observations are divided into three groups representing winter, spring and summer observations. Each period is subdivided according to road types: Two-lane concrete; 4-lane concrete; and macadam.

The winter period, extending from November 14, 1933 to March 29, 1934, presents the highest passenger car averages despite the fact that nearly 25 per cent of the daytime observations were made during bad weather conditions. The amount of bad weather encountered during the spring and summer periods was negligible, yet the average speed for each group in the spring period is lower than the average for the corresponding group in the winter period, and the averages for the summer period are the lowest for the survey. This striking difference between summer and winter speeds is one of the most significant facts brought out by table 2. Taking only the good weather winter observations, the difference in average speed is even greater than that shown in the table, being 2.8 miles per hour for 2-lane concrete; 5.0 miles per hour for 4 -lane concrete; and, 4.7 miles per hour for macadam roads.

For the entire survey the observed average speed of passenger cars at night (after dark) was 4.0 miles per hour less than that observed during the daylight hours. This difference is greatest in summer, being 4.2 miles per hour, and least in spring when it is 2.6 miles per hour. The difference in day and night speeds is the same for 4-lane concrete roads and macadam roads, - 4.0 miles per hour; and 4.4 miles per hour for 2 -lane concrete roads.

Graphical studies of some of these data are given in Figures 13 and 14.

It seems probable that these seasonal differences are due not to any direct effect of weather nor to any change of driver habits, but rather to the addition of a distinct class of slow pleasure drivers in the summer.

## Influence of Weather Conditions on Passenger Car Speed

The effect of various types of weather conditions on vehicle

## TABLE 2.—SEASONAL COMPARISON OF PASSENGER CAR DATA BY ROAD TYPE

|  | SEASONAL PERIODS | DAY OBS NUMBER OF VEHICLES | ATIONS AVERAGE SPEED M.P.H. | NIGHT OB NUMBER OF VEHICLES | RVATIONS average SPEED M.P.H. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Winter Period: November 14 to March 29 | 18,700 | 42.4 | 3.196 | 37.8 |
|  | Two-lane concrete roads Four-lane concrete roads Macadam roads | $\begin{aligned} & 9,400 \\ & 7,701 \\ & 2,229 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 42.8 \\ & 42.2 \\ & 41.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1,108 \\ 1,858 \\ 230 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 37.5 \\ & 37.9 \\ & 37.9 \end{aligned}$ |
| $\stackrel{\sim}{\infty}$ | Spring Period: April 4 to June 2 | 9,315 | 41.2 | 1,821 | 38.6 |
|  | Two-lane concrete roads Four-lane concrete roads | $\begin{aligned} & 4,403 \\ & 4,912 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 41.6 \\ & 40.8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1,228 \\ 593 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 39.9 \\ & 35.9 \end{aligned}$ |
|  | Summer Period: June 16 to September 10 | 34,656 | 39.4 | 5,483 | 35.2 |
|  | Two-lane concrete roads Four-lane concrete roads Macadam roads | $\begin{array}{r} 13,591 \\ 6.348 \\ 14,717 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 41.3 \\ & 39.3 \\ & 37.8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1,260 \\ & 2,841 \\ & 1,382 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 36.2 \\ & 35.4 \\ & 33.6 \end{aligned}$ |
|  | Complete Survey | 62,671 | 40.6 | 10,500 | 36.6 |
|  | Two-lane concrete roads Four-lane concrete roads Macadam roads | $\begin{aligned} & 27,394 \\ & 18,331 \\ & 16,946 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 41.9 \\ & 40.8 \\ & 38.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3,596 \\ & 5,292 \\ & 1,612 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 37.9 \\ & 36.4 \\ & 34.2 \end{aligned}$ |

speeds is shown in table 3. The effects of weather conditions are three-fold: A psychological effect due to the reaction of the driver to the weather; a visual effect due to the presence of snow, rain or fog in the atmosphere; and the effect of bad surface conditions due to snow, ice or water on the road surface. The effects of weather on speed range from virtual stoppage of traffic during a bad blizzard to the invitation to drive at high speed presented by a clear, crisp November or December morning with the road free from snow and ice.

In table 3 several outstanding examples of bad weather observations are presented. The average speed under unfavorable conditions is compared with the speeds on nearby dates when observations were made under normal weather conditions, and the decrease due to bad weather is expressed in miles per hour and percent. The data refer to passenger cars only. Although not a weather condition, a case where observations were taken soon after the application of fresh oil to a macadam road is included in this table. In general, bad weather tends to equalize speed on various highways, thus causing a much greater drop in speed on a normally high-speed than on a normally low-speed road.

The lowest average speed observed under bad weather conditions was 28.4 miles per hour at station 42A on U S 5 south of Meriden. This speed was lower by 17.0 miles per hour, or 37.5 percent, than the average speed of 45.4 miles per hour observed at the same station under normal conditions a few weeks before. The drop in speed was caused primarily by three to four inches of hard-packed snow left on the surface from a blizzard which occurred ten days before. The paved portion of the highway was lined on each side by high snow banks left by Highway Department snow plows. The weather was perfectly clear during the period of observation.

During a sleet storm on December 15, 1933 at station 24, Northford, an average speed of 35.4 miles per hour was observed, showing a drop of 10.9 miles per hour, or 23.5 percent from a normal of 46.3 miles per hour. Conditions were extremely bad on this day. A driving sleet froze on car windshields, making them hardly more than translucent. The road surface was also covered with a thin film of ice. In view of the extremely bad visual and surface conditions on this day, it is surprising that the average of observed speeds should have been as high as noted.

A dense fog early in the morning at station 6, Enfield, brought down the average speed 23.0 percent from 40.8 miles per hour to 31.4 miles per hour. Visibility was such that cars could barely be seen at one hundred yards. A less dense fog at station 66, Southbury, caused a decrease in speed of only 1.8 miles per hour, from 37.1 to 35.3 miles per hour, a drop of less than 5 percent.

A hard steady rain at station 42B, Wallingford, caused a drop of 6.0 miles per hour in daylight speeds from 43.8 to 37.8 miles per hour, 13.7 percent. A drop of 8.3 miles per hour from 46.4 to 38.1 miles per hour, nearly 18 percent was observed at station 134, Phoenixville, on Connecticut 91, during a period of wet snow, rain and slush.

In several instances a partial covering of snow on the road surface brought down the average speeds between 4.4 percent and 10.4 percent. Two stations were observed when the road surface at the station had been plowed perfectly clear, but about half the cars were equipped with chains to assist them at points where the road was snow covered. The effect of chains on a clear road was to cause the speed to drop, in one case from 36.0 miles per hour to 31.8 miles per hour, or 11.7 percent; in the other, from 37.1 miles per hour to 33.3 miles per hour, or 10.2 percent. These are not included in table 3.

Although not an effect of bad weather, observations were made on a freshly oiled, macadam road and are included here because of the similarity of the results. The average speed observed was 30.7 miles per hour. Observations under normal conditions at the same point were never made, but the average for all macadam roads was 37.8 miles per hour, indicating a drop of about 20 percent due to this condition.

These various examples tend to show that bad surface conditions cause the greatest decrease from normal average speeds. Light rains, and slightly wet concrete pavements, have very little effect on average speed, although they do discourage driving in the higher speed groups. It must be borne in mind that each individual case of bad weather observation is a special set of conditions which may be accurately measured at the time, but should not be interpreted in too general a fashion. Sufficient examples are presented here to show the general trend of automobile speed during various hazards of weather conditions.

TABLE 3.-EFFECT OF WEATHER ON PASSENGER CAR SPEED

|  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

## Fluctuations in Average Speed During the Day (Hourly variations and trend)

Studies were made during the summer to ascertain, if possible, the manner in which the average speed of passenger vehicles varies during the day. In order to obtain data of a type suitable for such an analysis, observations were taken at certain control stations from $6 \mathrm{a} . \mathrm{m}$. to $10 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$., and averages computed for each hour during


FIG. 16. Composite average speeds at five stations on weekdays from 6 A.M. to 10 P.M., Summer period.
these periods. A problem of this character suggests a graphical method of analysis and, accordingly, the following graphs were constructed:

Figure 16 showing the composite average speeds from five stations, 6 a. m. to $10 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$., week-days.
Figure 17 showing composite averages from nine stations,

2 p. m. to 10 p. m., on Sundays, and composite averages from five stations, 2 p. m. to 10 p. m., on Saturdays.
In analyzing the above curves, certain general characteristics and certain marked differences are worthy of note. The most noticeable common property of all graphs is found in the nearly universal falling off in speed as the day progresses. In general, the highest average speed occurs shortly after daybreak, while the lowest average speed occurs soon after nightfall. The "spread" between the high and low average speeds is about 7 or 8 miles per hour.

At least one-half of this spread may be ascribed to the effects of darkness, lower visibility, uncertainty caused by approaching headlights, et cetera, while the other one-half represents a fluctuating but nevertheless persistent decrease of speed during daylight hours.

First examining the graph representing week-days, figure 16 , it is seen that the trend is downward rather steeply from its high of the day at $6 \mathrm{a} . \mathrm{m}$. until after $8 \mathrm{a} . \mathrm{m}$., when the descent becomes more gradual, to a minor low between $1 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. and $2 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. After this low point is passed the average speed rises slowly and registers a minor high sometime between $5 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. and $6 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. Following this high point the trend becomes downward again, at first rather slowly, and then, with the coming of darkness, falling into its most precipitous decline of the day.

Taking next figure 17 . which reproduces the $2 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. to $10 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. fluctuations for Saturdays and Sundays, and comparing these graphs with the corresponding portions of figure 16 , we find that these curves at once serve to classify Saturdays as typical week-days, and at the same time call attention to the marked distinction between Sundays and week-days. Whereas Saturday's graph has the minor high in the late afternoon that is characteristic of week-days, this feature is entirely missing in the graph for Sundays. The other really distinguishing mark of the Sunday graph is, of course, the relatively much lower absolute value of the average speeds observed, the Sunday graph lying pretty generally 3 to 4 miles per hour beneath the corresponding portions of the week-day curve.

The drop in speed, which is noted after darkness sets in, is easily understood. The explanations of the various fluctuations noted during daylight are not so easily found and are debatable from many angles. Some of the most probable reasons for the peculiarities of the week-day graph, figure 16 , may be summed up as follows:

The higher speeds from $6 \mathrm{a} . \mathrm{m}$. to $8 \mathrm{a} . \mathrm{m}$., as well as the upturn between $5 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. and 6 p . m. may very well be the effect of regular commuting to and from work. This is confirmed by the fact that on Sundays, when there is no evening commuting, the corresponding rise in speed is also absent. The pronounced drop which occurs about midday may possibly be connected in some fashion with the noon meal period. That is to say, it may be that tourists seeking


Fig. 17. Composite average speeds, 2 P.M. to 10 P.M. on Saturdays and Sundays, Summer period.
suitable places to dine may exert a lowering reaction upon the average speeds. Also, there is evidence pointing to the fact that persons do not drive quite as fast immediately after eating as they are likely to either beforehand or after a period of an hour or so.

The probable explanation of the lower speeds on Sunday is the Sunday afternoon pleasure driving, a rather aimless type of travel which frequently has no fixed destination, and in the course of which
no very great importance is attached to the element of time. The large volume of traffic on Sunday may also affect average speeds.

## Effect of Volume of Traffic on Speed

One of the original objectives of the speed survey was to ascertain whether and to what extent there exists a correlation between the number of vehicles using a given section of highway and the average speed of those vehicles at the same location; in other words, to determine the manner in which speed may be affected by the volume of traffic.

Analysis of the data collected, however, indicated that they were hardly adequate as a basis for any conclusion in this regard. Fluctuations in traffic volume were apparently rarely great enough to have any measurable effect on speed. Furthermore, periods of high traffic density were usually of such brief duration that the traffic volume count and the speed observations, both of which were recorded by half hours, could not accurately take account of the fluctuations. The correlation between speed and volume, if any exists, depends on many variable factors such as the type and width of pavement, the visibility, the general weather conditions, and many other considerations, all of which tend to obscure the basic relationship sought.

In general, there seems to be no distinctly observable correlation over a rather wide range of light or moderate traffic volume. A high degree of congestion, on the other hand, obviously results in low speeds. Just where on any road the critical point is reached when increasing volume brings a decrease in average speed, and what the relationship may be thereafter, could not be determined within the scope of this survey. It is a problem of much interest and importance and might well be made the subject of a special investigation.

## Speeds on Various Through Routes

During the winter months of the survey most of the observations were taken near New Haven. A number of observations were made at various stations on each of the four main highways leading out of New Haven, and these have been collected in table 4.

More observations were taken on the Boston Post Road, U S 1 than on any of the other highways. It is interesting that speeds on

## TABLE 4.-WINTER PERIOD SPEEDS ON VARIOUS THROUGH ROUTES

## Day Observation Only Passenger Cars Only

BOSTON POST ROAD, USI AND IA

|  |  | NO. CARS <br> OBSERVED | NO. <br> DAYS | STATION |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | | SPEED |
| :---: |
| W.P.H. |

NEW HAVEN TO HARTFORD, VIA MIDDLETOWN, ROUTES 15 AND 9

| LOCATION | NO. CARS <br> OBSERVED | NO. <br> DAYS | STATION | SPEED |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| New Haven - Northford | 410 | 2 | $19 A$ | 43 |
| Northford - Durham | 925 | 2 | 24 | 46 |
| Durham - Middletown | 550 | 1 | 110 | 45 |
| *Middletown - Hartford | 221 | 1 | 109 | 42 |

NEW HAVEN TO HARTFORD, VIA WALLINGFORD, US 5 AND 5A

| LOCATION | NO. CARS OBSERVED | NO. DAYS | STATION | $\begin{aligned} & \text { SPEED } \\ & \text { M.P.H. } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| New Haven - North Haven | 448 | 1 | 19C | 40 |
| North Haven - Wallingford: North Haven | 386 | I | 198 | 41 |
| North Haven - Wallingford: Wallingford | 324 | 1 | 42C | 42 |
| Wallingford - Meriden: I mile North of Wallingford | 780 | 1 | 42B | 44 |
| Wallingford - Meriden: 3 miles North of Wallingford | 298 | 1 | 42A | 45 |
| Meriden By-pass | 1859 | 3 | 43 | 48 |
| Berlin - Newington | 378 | 1 | 20 A | 43 |
| Newington - Hartford | 407 | 1 | 20 B | 43 |

COLLEGE HIGHWAY, ROUTE 10

| LOCATION | NO. CARS <br> OBSERVED | NO. <br> DAYS | STATION | SPEED |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Centerville | 515 | 2 | $52 A$ | 35 |
| Mount Carmel | 210 | 1 | 52 B | 39 |
| Mount Carmel - Cheshire | 266 | 1 | $51 A$ | 42 |
| Cheshire - Southington | 153 | 1 | 51 B | 44 |
| Southington - Plainville | 388 | 1 | 49 | 43 |

* Observations taken April 5 - second day of Spring period.
this route west of New Haven are higher in general than those to the east. Though only three stations were observed between New Haven and Middletown, all of these showed high speeds. Incidentally, general opinion accepts the Middletown route as the quickest way to get from New Haven to Hartford.


## Variations in Average Speed - Local and Out-of-State Vehicles

The survey indicates a markedly higher rate of speed for out-ofState vehicles than for vehicles registered in Connecticut. The average of all "foreign" passenger cars is 2.9 miles per hour faster than for all Connecticut passenger cars (Summer period, daytime observations). Massachusetts cars were observed to be 2.1 miles per hour and New York cars 3.1 miles per hour faster than those of Connecticut.

The higher speed of foreign cars might be explained by the different type of travel represented by such vehicles. That is to say, the very fact that an automobile carries the registration plates of another State bespeaks the fact that the driver is farther from home than is the driver of the average Connecticut car, and, therefore, more likely to place a high value on his time, whether his objective is a business appointment or a holiday at some vacation spot. Except within a commuting area adjacent to a large urban center, a higher speed is to be expected from tourists and others who pass but once or infrequently over a given route as against the comparative lack of haste of those who regularly use the route. Furthermore, the out-of-State cars, making longer trips, are possibly in better mechanical condition, newer, and accordingly faster, than the general average of all vehicles.

The accompanying chart, figure 18, illustrates graphically the results of the study carried on during the summer months to determine quantitatively the differences in average daylight speeds between several classifications of out-of-State cars and Connecticut vehicles. It is interesting to note that the average speed of the cars from the four midwestern States shown (which, incidentally, were separated purely as a matter of curiosity) was 6.7 miles per hour faster than for all Connecticut cars during the same period. The chart is prepared to illustrate the deviations from the average of all passenger vehicles
(39.4 miles per hour) rather than as deviations from any particular group.

## Effect of Sex and Passengers on Average Speed

There has been much debate as to whether women drive faster than men, or vice versa. To attempt an answer to this question, data were recorded during two periods of the speed survey to show not only the sex of the driver, but also the extent to which passengers were carried in addition to the driver. The purpose of this latter information was to answer, if possible, another unsettled question - do persons when driving by themselves drive slower or faster than when they are accompanied by passengers?

As to the relative speeds of men and women, the conclusion is that there is no very significant difference. During the first observation period the men drove slightly faster than the women, but the women came in ahead by a narrow margin during the second period. Combining all observations, the men averaged less than 0.4 mile per hour faster than the women.

The first observation period extended from November 24, 1933 to January 31, 1934, inclusive, and included a tabulation of 11,358 cars, the over-all average speed of which was 42.9 miles per hour. Of these, 10,249 , or 90.2 percent, were operated by men, while 1,109 , or 9.8 percent, were operated by women. The average speed for the men and women drivers was, respectively, 43.0 miles per hour and 41.9 miles per hour. The men, therefore, drove 1.1 miles per hour faster than the women.

During the second observation period, which extended from July 12, 1934 to and including September 6, 1934, it was found that the women were driving faster than the men by 0.6 mile per hour (figure 19). It is of interest that the percentage of women drivers observed was nearly double what it had been in the winter. During this summer period the results were as follows:

16,276 men drivers, average speed, 39.2 miles per hour 3,368 women drivers, average speed, 39.8 miles per hour
The data concerning the relationship between speed and the number of passengers were fairly consistent as between summer and winter. These data indicate that the unaccompanied driver drives, on the average, somewhat faster than one with passengers in the


LEGEND
NUMBER OF CARS OBSERVED

| $\because$ | CONNECTICUT | 20，273 | T－5 | MICHIGAN | 78 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \％ | all out of state | 14.383 | C／／A | ILLINOIS | 80 |
| 願澋易 | NEW YORK | 6，020 | X $\times 8$ | WISCONSIN | 18 |
|  | MASSACHUSETTS | 3，435 | \％\％， | MINNESOTA | 10 |
|  | OTHER OUT OF STATE | 4，928 | ＋+6 | MID－WEST（4 |  |
| Fig．18．Deviations from average speed according to State of Registration， passenger cars in the daytime，Summer period． |  |  |  |  |  |



Fig. 19. Deviations from average speed to certain classes of vehicle
operators in Summer period (July 12 to September 6, 1934). 30
vehicle with him. The results during the winter wiere: 4,800 drivers without passengers, 43.7 miles per hour 5,417 drivers with passengers, 43.2 miles per hour
During the summer (figure 19) the results were:
4,389 drivers without passengers, 40.8 miles per hour 15,255 drivers with passengers, 38.8 miles per hour
An interesting fact is that while both classes of drivers drove more slowly in summer than in winter, the lone drivers slowed down but 2.9 miles per hour, while those with passengers dropped in average speed 4.4 miles per hour. In other words, drivers with passengers, as a class, dropped their speed a little over 50 percent more than did drivers without passengers. This confirms the theory expressed earlier, that the summer reduction in average speed is largely due to the inclusion of a special class of leisurely summer drivers. Here it appears that the drivers in this slow class are ordinarily accompanied by passengers.

Also interesting are the figures showing the percentage of the separate observation periods in which the lone drivers were faster. For example, out of a total of 31 locations during the winter period, 23 times, or about 75 percent of the time, the single drivers were faster. During the summer, at 35 out of 42 locations, or a little over 83 percent of the time, the same was true, while for 3 places, or 7 percent of the time, there was no difference in speed, and 4 times, or about 9.5 percent of the time, the drivers with passengers were faster.

## Correlation of Observed Vehicle Speeds with Accident Records

Over a period of six months, during the winter and spring periods, the license number of each car was recorded along with its speed. It was desired to choose two groups of cars: one group observed traveling at moderate speeds, and one group at high speeds. The average speed for all passenger vehicles on main highways is close to 40 miles per hour. On this basis the high-speed group was made up of cars traveling at 50 miles per hour or faster, and the moderatespeed group of those going between 35 and 45 miles per hour. All cars falling in the high-speed group were taken for the high-speed list. The number of moderate-speed cars was much larger, so about as many moderate-speed as high-speed cars were taken from each
day's records. This gave two sets of cars observed at different speeds, but at the same place and the same time. In the final tabulation there was more duplication among the high-speed than the moderate-speed group, so the final totals were 981 high-speed and 1,054 moderate-speed cars. These were listed separately and the license numbers were sent to the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles. There the owner of each car was looked up, and his accident record since 1928 obtained. The number of accidents for each owner was written opposite his license number and the lists were returned. No distinction was made as to the seriousness of the accidents, nor as to the degree of responsibility of the owners for the accidents.

The results are shown in table 5. The original records are tabulated in the first part of this table. For fair comparison between the two speed groups, the second part shows the same data per 1,000 cars, thus correcting for the fact that there are not the same number of cars observed in each group.

TABLE 5
Accident records of owners of cars observed traveling at high and low speeds

| Speed class |  |  |  | Number of owners with the following number of accidents |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |  |
| High speed: | 981 | 273 | 438 | 168 | 71 | 15 | 13 |  |  |
| Low speed: | 1,054 | 225 | 324 | 152 | 54 | 13 | 5 | 1 |  |

Accidents per thousand cars

| High speed: 1,000 | 278 | 446 | 171 | 72 | 15 | 13 | 5 | 1 |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Low speed: 1,000 | 213 | 307 | 144 | 51 | 12 | 5 | 1 | 0 |

It appears from these figures that 30 percent more of those operators who travel at comparatively high speeds have accident records than of those traveling at moderate speeds. Moreover, the high-speed drivers who have accidents have more of them, so that
they account for 45 percent more accidents than do the low-speed drivers.

From these results alone it is of course impossible to state whether high speed causes accidents. It may be that people who drive fast are more likely to have accidents at any speed. At any rate, these data indicate fairly conclusively that, on the whole, the fast driver is less careful than the moderate driver.

Various objections have been raised as to drawing conclusions from data collected as these were. These objections are as follows:

1. Each car is observed only once. A car on the high-speed list may have been going fast only at the particular moment when he was being timed, and contrariwise, a car on the slow list may have slowed only over that particular stretch.

This objection is perfectly valid. Obviously, some slow cars have been included on the fast list, and vice versa. In 24 cases the same car appeared on both lists. But the effect of this error is to push the results on each list toward, rather than away from, the average for the whole driving population. If this effect could be eliminated, the fast cars should show even more accidents than they do, and the slow cars even less.
2. In the case of each car, the record of the owner of the car is consulted. What assurance have we that the owner was actually the driver when the car was observed?

This is the most serious objection to the method. Doubtless a very large number of cars on each list were driven by people other than their owners. This factor eliminates the possibility of drawing quantitative conclusions from the results. But here again, the effect is to minimize the differences between the records of fast and slow drivers. If a non-owner-driven car in the fast list has a speeding owner, no harm is done; if the owner is a slow driver, we have erroneously included a slow driver in the fast list, and, judging by the totals in the tables, he will in general have a cleaner accident record. Again, the error tends to push the totals toward the average for the general population.
3. The accident records since 1928 were consulted. Some of the drivers will not have been driving as long as that.

True, but this will apply equally to each list, and the errors introduced will tend to cancel one another.

From the speed and accident analysis we conclude that, (1) in
general, more automobile vehicle operators who travel at comparatively high rates of speed have accident records than those who travel at moderate rates; (2) the high-speed operators with accident records average more accidents per operator than the low-speed operators; (3) any error in the statistics used to draw these conclusions is presumably in the direction of minimizing the discrepancies between the two classes of drivers.

## APPENDIX I

The Connecticut Motor Vehicle Laws have the following regulations concerning speed of vehicles.* These are comprised in Sections 1581 and 1582 of the law, revised to July 1, 1931, the pertinent parts of which are herewith quoted:


#### Abstract

"Sec. 1581. Reckless driving. (a) No person shall operate any motor vehicle upon the highway of the state recklessly, having regard to the width, traffic and use of such highway, the intersection of streets and the weather conditions, or so as to endanger the property or life or limb of any person. (b) No person shall operate any motor vehicle upon any public highway of the state at a rate of speed greater than is reasonable, having regard to the width, traffic and use of the highway, the inter-section of streets and the weather conditions. (c) Any person who shall violate any provision of subsection (a) of this section shall be fined not less than twenty-five nor more than one hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days or both for the first offense and for each subsequent offense shall be fined not less than one hundred nor more than two hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than one year or both. Any person who shall violate any provision of sub-section (b) of this section shall be fined not less than ten nor more than one hundred dollars. No person shall be convicted of a violation of both sub-sections (a) and (b) of this section if the same act shall constitute both violations.


"Sec. 1582. Certain acts declared reckless. The operation of a
motor vehicle upon any public highway at such a rate of speed
as to endanger the life of any person other than an occupant of
such motor vehicle or the operation, down grade, upon any high-
way of any commercial motor vehicle with the clutch or gears
disengaged, shall constitute a violation of the provisions of sub-
section (a) of section 1581 . The operation of a motor vehicle
upon any public highway at such a rate of speed as to endanger
the life of any occupant of such motor vehicle but not the life of
any other person than such an occupant, shall constitute a.
violation of the provisions of sub-section (b) of section 1581."

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## Speed at a Railroad Grade Crossing

A brief series of observations was made at the level crossing of route 5A with the New Haven Railroad track in North Haven, station 42D. A sketch of this location is shown in Figure 20.

In the hour during which this spot was studied, 225 vehicles passed. Ten of these were buses and four were oil trucks, all of which came to a full stop before crossing the tracks. Their speeds are, therefore, not included in the general average. The other 211 vehicles averaged 24.7 miles per hour. The 177 passenger cars averaged 25.3 miles per hour, and the 34 trucks, 21.5 miles per hour.

The average speeds of passenger cars for stations 19C and 19B, the two stations nearest to the crossing on route 5 A and 5 , are 40.1 and 40.8 miles per hour, respectively.

## Speeds on Madison Curve

The curve on the heavily traveled Boston Post Road, U. S. 1, at Madison, was chosen for a special study, since it is one of the most dangerous in the State. The curve has a radius of 340 feet, with an included angle of nearly 80 degrees. A sketch plan of the curve is shown in figure 21. The area between the outside shoulder of the road and the gasoline pump is hard and fairly level. On the inside of the curve there is a stone ledge high enough to curtail visibility around the curve. The warning signs at the curve and on the approaches are inadequate to bring about a safe reduction in speed, which, of course, increases the tendency to skid.

There is a large yellow sign beside the gasoline pump with three large black arrows painted on it. This is on the outside of the curve, and supposedly where drivers coming from either direction will see it. Since, however, it is some distance off the road, and the driver's attention is, and should be, directed toward the inside of the curve it is doubtful if it is seen at all in the majority of cases.

At five different times, 2,095 cars were observed on this curve. Four of these times were in good weather, and 1,925 cars were observed. The other 170 were observed on a day when the road was covered with hard-packed snow.


Fig. 20. Railway grade crossing Route US5A and N.Y., N.H. and H.R,R, at North Haven Station.


Fig. 21. The curve in the Boston Post Road, US 1, at Madison.

The average speed of all cars observed in good weather was 30.4 miles per hour. On the snowy day February 5, the average was 25.8 miles per hour. The daily averages for the good weather were:

| Date | Number of Cars | Speed m.p.h. |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| January 10 | 124 | 29.9 |
| January 19 | 226 | 31.7 |
| September 25 | 857 | 30.3 |
| September 26 | 718 | 30.1 |

It will be seen that the daily averages do not vary greatly from the general average.

For comparison with these speeds, 1,514 cars were observed on a long, straight stretch 0.7 mile west of this curve on September 25 and 26. There the general average was 39.6 miles per hour, or 9.2 miles per hour faster than on the curve.

A frequency-distribution of the speed of the cars observed on the Madison curve on September 26 follows:

| Miles per Hour | Number of Cars | Percent of Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 18 | 2 | 0.3 |
| 19 | 2 | 0.3 |
| 20 | 5 | 0.7 |
| 21 | 2 | 0.3 |
| 22 | 5 | 0.7 |
| 23 | 18 | 2.5 |
| 24 | 28 | 3.9 |
| 25 | 32 | 4.4 |
| 26 | 39 | 5.4 |
| 27 | 55 | 7.7 |
| 28 | 35 | 4.9 |
| 29 | 88 | 12.3 |
| 30 | 66 | 9.2 |
| 31 | 44 | 6.1 |
| 32 | 121 | 16.9 |
| 33 | 48 | 6.7 |
| 34 | 48 | 6.7 |
| 35 | 28 | 3.9 |
| 36 | 17 | 2.4 |
| 37 | 0 | 0.0 |
| 38 | 14 | 1.9 |
| 39 | 9 | 1.2 |
| 40 | 7 | 1.0 |
| 41 | 4 | 0.5 |
| 42 | 0 | 0.0 |
| 43 | 1 | 0.1 |
|  | 718 | 100.0 |

The sharp drop between 32 and 36 miles an hour is interesting. The speed of 43 miles per hour was the maximum observed at this curve at any time, and was attained by only one car.

In many cases, tires "squealed" as cars rounded the curve. A check was kept to see if there was any relationship between this phenomenon and the speed, but none could be found. A few squeals were noticed at each speed between 33 and 41 miles per hour. Most of the cars which negotiated the curve at 40 miles per hour or more did so without any slipping or squealing. It seems, therefore, that slipping is due to condition of tires or to faulty handling of the car, rather than to speed in itself.


Fig. 22. Madison Curve, Stations 13C and 13D. Average speeds on the straightaway compared with average speeds on the curve.

On September 25 and 26 many license numbers as well as speeds were taken both on the curve itself and on the straight stretch to the west. Later the data were compared and the speeds of individual cars at each point could be found. In compiling these results, all the cars going at a given speed on the straight stretch were grouped together. The speeds of these same cars on the curve were listed, and the average determined. Thus, 11 cars were observed at 27 miles per hour on the straight stretch. These cars had the following speeds on the curve: One at 20; one at 22; three at 24; one each at $25,26,27$; two at 29 ; and one at 30 . The average of these is 25.5 miles per hour. The 82 cars going 40 miles per hour on the straight stretch averaged 30.3 miles per hour on the curve. Figure 22 shows graphically the relationship between these speeds. It is of interest to note that although it is perfectly possible to take the curve at 35 miles per hour, the average car approaching it at 35 miles per hour slows to less than 30 miles per hour.

On February 5, when the road was covered with snow, the average speed, as stated above, was 25.8 miles per hour, 4.4 miles per hour slower than on a dry road. On this date the slowest car was going 13 miles per hour and the fastest were three cars going 32 miles per hour.

## APPENDIX III

LOCATION AND SCHEDULE OF SPEED OBSERVATIONS

| Sta. <br> No. | Town | Location of Traffic Census Station | Speed Survey Station | Date | Observed Hours |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | Ridgefield | At Junction of U.S. 7 and Conn. 35, approximately $51 / 2$ miles $S$. of Danbury. | 0.2 mile N. on U.S. 7. $1 / 2$ mile level tangent, $20-\mathrm{ft}$. two-lane concrete. | Wed., July 25, 1934 | 3:00 P. M.- 6:30 P. M. |
| 3 | West Haven | At junction of U.S.I and Conn. 158 at West Haven. | 2.0 miles $W$. on U.S. I, $1 / 2$ mile nearly level tangent, 36 -ft. fourlane concrete. | Tues., Nov. 21, 1933 <br> Mon., Dec. 4, 1933 <br> Mon., Dec. 11, 1933 <br> Sat., Jan. 6, 1934 <br> Mon., Feb. 5, 1934 <br> Mon., Mar. 19, 1934 <br> Tues., Mar. 20, 1934 <br> Wed., Mar. 21, 1934 <br> Fri., April 6, 1934 <br> Wed., May 16, 1934 <br> Fri., June I, 1934 <br> Sat., June 2, 1934 <br> Sun., July 29, 1934 <br> Fri., Sept. 7, 1934 <br> Sat., Sept. 8, 1934 |  |
| 4 | Naugatuck | At junction of Conn. 8 and Conn. 63 at S. limits of Naugatuck. | 1.0 mile S. on Conn. 8, level, slightly winding, high-crowned, $30-\mathrm{ft}$. macadam. | Tues., June 19, 1934 | 9:30 A. M.-11:30 A. M. |
| 6 | Enfield | On U.S. 5, approximately $1 / 2$ mile S. of the Conn.-Mass. State Line at truck scales. | 4.6 miles S. on U.S. $5,1 / 2$ mile level tangent, $25-\mathrm{ft}$. macadam. | Sun., July I, 1934 <br> Wed., Sept. 5. 1934 <br> Thurs., Sept. 6, 1934 | 2:00 P. M.--10:00 P.M. 2:00 P. M.-10:00 P. M. 6:00 A. M.- 2:00 P. M. |
| 7 | Putnam | The North junction of Conn. 12 and 101 at Putnam. | 1.0 mile E. on Conn. I01, $1 / 2$ mile tangent, $20-\mathrm{ft}$. two-lane concrete. | Fri., July 13, 1934 | 2:00 P. M.- 4:30 P. M. |
| 9 | Darien | At junction of U.S. I with Conn. 29, Conn. 118 and Conn. 136 at Darien. | 0.8 mile E. on U.S. I. Short tangent, slightly ascending grade E., 36 -ft., four-lane concrete. | Mon., June 25, 1934 | 11:00 A. M.- 1:00 P. M. |



| 15 | Waterford | Junction of U.S. I and Conn. 156, approximately 2 miles W. of New London. | 1.0 mile W. on U.S. 1. $1 / 4$ mile level tangent. $20-\mathrm{ft}$. two-lane concrete. | Thur., July 5, 1934 Sat., July 7, 1934 Fri., Aug. 31, 1934 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 6:00 A. M. 2:00 P. M. } \\ & \text { 2:30 P. M.-10:00 P. M. } \\ & \text { 2:30 P. M. } 10: 00 \text { P. M. } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 16 | Stonington | Junction Conn. 84 and U.S. 1 in Pawcatuck. | 1.5 miles W. on U.S. I. $18-\mathrm{ft} .$, single strip concrete. Short tangent af bottom of dip in road. | Fri., July 6, 1934 | 9:30 A. M.-1:00 P. M. |
| 19 | North Haven | Junction of U.S. 5 and Conn. I5, approximately 2 miles N . of New Haven. | A. 2.3 miles N. on Conn. 15. 1/8 mile level tangent. 20-ft. twolane concrete. <br> B. 4.1 miles N . on U.S. $5.1 / 4$ mile level tangent. 24-ft. macadam. <br> C. 3.0 miles $N$. of Now Haven on U.S. 5-A. $20-\mathrm{ft}$. concrete. $1 / 4$ mile level tangent. | Thur., Mar. 8, 1934 <br> Thur., Mar. 15, 1934 <br> Wed., Mar. 28, 1934 <br> Thur., Mar. 8, 1934 <br> Sat., Mar. 10, 1934 <br> Wed., Mar. 28, 1934 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 9:30 A. M.-12:30 P. M. } \\ & \text { 3:00 P. M. }-100 \text { P. M. } \\ & \text { 9:00 A. M. }-12: 30 \text { P. M. } \\ & \text { 2:00 P. M. } 4: 00 \text { P. M. } \\ & \text { 9:30 A. M:-12:00 M. } \\ & \text { 1:30 P. M. } 4: 30 \text { P. M. } \end{aligned}$ |
| 20 | Berlin | North junction of Conn. 72 and U.S. 5 at Berlin. | A. 2.3 miles N. on U.S. 5. Near middle of descending grade N . 20 - ft ., two-lane concrete. <br> B. 6.1 miles N. on U.S.5. $1 / 2$ mile level tangent macadam. | Mon., Feb. 12, 1934 <br> Mon., Feb. 12, 1934 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 2:00 P. M. }- \text { 4:30 P. M. } \\ & \text { 10:00 A. M. }-1: 30 \text { P.M. } \end{aligned}$ |
| 22 | Glastonbury | Junction of Conn. 2, 15 and 94 at Glastonbury. | 1.7 miles $S$. on 15 . Short tangent at bottom of dip. Road generally winding and built up for several miles. 35 m.p.h. slow signs. $20-\mathrm{ft}$. two-lane concrete. | Fri., Aug. 10, 1934 | 2:00 P. M.- 6:00 P. M. |
| 23 | Haddam | Junction of Conn. 9 and 81 at Higganum. | 3.4 miles S. on Conn. 9. $1 / 4$ mile tangent nearly level. $20-\mathrm{ft}$., two-lane concrete. | Mon., June 18, 1934 | I:30 P. M.- 4:30 P. M. |


| Sta. <br> No. | Town | Location of Traffic Census Station | Speed Survey Station | Date Ob | Hours |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 24 | North Branford | Junction of Conn. 15 and 150 , approximately $11 / 2$ miles $N$. of Northford. | 1.2 miles N . on Conn. $15.1 / 2$ mile tangent slight dip. $20-\mathrm{ft}$., two-lane concrete. | Tues., Nov. 28, 1933 <br> Fri., Dec. 15, 1933 <br> Thurs., Jan. 25, 1934 <br> Sun., April 22, 1934 <br> Mon., May 21, 1934 <br> Thur., June 28, 1934 <br> Wed., July 18, 1934 | $\begin{array}{r} \text { 6:30 A. M.- 2:00 P. M. } \\ \text { 10:00 A. M.- 4:30 P. M. } \\ \text { 7:00 A. M.- 2:00 P. M. } \\ \text { 2:00 P. M.-10:00 P. M. } \\ \text { 10:00 A.M- 2:00 P. M. } \\ \text { 9:00 A. M. } 12: 00 \mathrm{M} . \\ \text { 10:30 A. M. 2:00 P. M. } \end{array}$ |
| 26 | Danbury | Straightaway count on U.S. 6 , approximately 2 miles $W$. of Danbury. | 0.8 mile W. on U.S. 6 . $1 / 4$ mile level tangent. $20-\mathrm{ft}$. two-lane concrete. Wide shoulders. | Thurs., July 26, 1934 | 2:00 P .M.-6:00 P. M. |
| 27 か | Stamford and Greenwich | Straightaway count on U.S.I at Stamford-Greenwich town line. | 0.2 mile W. on U.S.I. 200 -yd. tangent nearly level. $36-\mathrm{ft}$. concrete. | Fri., July 27. 1934 <br> Sat., July 28, 1934 <br> Sun., Sept. 9, 1934 <br> Mon., Sept. 10, 1934 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 2:00 P. M. }-10: 00 \text { P. M. } \\ & \text { 2:00 P. M. }-10: 00 \text { P. M. } \\ & \text { 10:30 P. M.- 6:00 A. M. } \end{aligned}$ |
| 29 | Westport and Norwalk | Straightaway count on U.S. I at Westport-Norwalk town line, approximately 2 miles N. E. of Norwalk. | At Station. 4-lane, $36-\mathrm{ft}$. concrete. Level tangent for $1 / 3$ mile. | Wed., Feb. 7, 1934 | 10:30 A .M.- 5:00 P. M. |
| 30 | Westport | At junction of U.S. I and Conn. 136, N. side of Southport. | A. 1.7 miles W. on U.S. I. $1 / 2$ mile tangent, 36 -ft., four-lane concrete. Trolley tracks on S. side of pavement. <br> B. 2.3 miles W. on U.S.I. De. scending grade E . Two 18 -ft. concrete roadways. | Sat., Nov. 25, 1933 <br> Fri., May 18, 1934 <br> Sat., June 16, 1934 <br> Sun., June 24, 1934 <br> Sat., Nov. 25, 1933 | 2:30 P. M.- 5:00 P. M. 2:00 P. M.-10:00 P. M. 6:30 A. M.- 2:00 P. M. 2:00 P. M.-10:00 P. M. <br> 6:00 P. M.-10:00 P. M. |
| 32 | Milford | At junction of U.S. I-A and Conn. 121, approximately 1 mile N . E. of Milford. | A. 2.3 miles E. on U.S.I. At bottom of dip in road. 4-lane, 36-ft. concrete. <br> B. 1.9 miles E. on U.S. I. $1 / 4$ mile level tangent. 36-ft., 4-lane concrete. | Wed., Nov. 29, 1933 <br> Mon., Dec. 4, 1933 <br> Mon., Dec. 4, 1933 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 8:30 A. M.- 3:30 P. M. } \\ & \text { 1:00 P. M.- 2:00 P. M. } \\ & \text { 2:30 P. M.- 4:00 P. M. } \end{aligned}$ |

49 Southington

51 Cheshire

Junction of U.S. I, Conn. 12 and 4.0 miles E. on U.S. I. 22 -ft. Fri, July 6, 1934 Conn. 84 at Groton.
macadam, $1 / 2$ mile level tangent.

On Route U.S. 5-A, approximately I mile S. of Meriden.

On Route U.S. 5-A, approximately I mile N. of Meriden.

At iunction of Conn. 10 and Conn. 120 at Southington.
A. 1.5 miles S. on U.S.5. $1 / 2$ mile level tangent. 2-lane, 20-ft. concrete.

Wed., Jan. 31. 1934 Fri., Mar. 2, 1934 Thur., May 17, 1934 Thur., June 21, 1934
B. 3.0 miles S. on U.S.5. $1 / 2$ Wed., Dec. 13,1933 mile level tangent. 2-lane, Sun., Jan. 7, 1934 20-ft. concrete.
C. 5.5 miles S. on U.S.5. $1 / 2$ Thur., Mar. 15, 1934 mile level tangent. 22 - ft. macadam.
D. North Haven grade crossing on 5.A. Macadam.
1.I miles N. on U.S. 5-A. $1 / 2$ mile Fri., Nov. 24, 1933 level tangent. 20-ft. 2-lane Mon., Jan. 8, 1934 concrete. Fastest place ob- Sun.: Jan. 21, 1934 served.
(Special Study)
Wed., Jan. 31, 1934

Wed., Jan. 31, 1934

Wed., April 18, 1934 Thur., June 21, 1934
2.1 miles N. on Conn. 10. 1/2 Fri, Feb. 16, 1934 mile level tangent. 20 - ft . macadam.
A. 2.2 miles S. on Conn. 10. 1/4 Wed., Feb. 14, 1934 mile level tangent. 20 -ft. macadam.
B. 3.6 miles N. on Conn. 10. 1/2 Fri., Feb. 16, 1934 mile level tangent. $16-\mathrm{ft}$. macadam

12:30 P. M.- 2:30 P. M. 10:30 A. M.- 1:00 P. M 9:00 A. M.- 5:00 P. M I:30 P. M.- 4:00 P. M.

10:00 A. M.- 5:00 P. M. 3:00 P. M.-10:30 P .M.

10:00 A. M.-12:00 M. 3:30 P. M.- 5:00 P. M.

7:00 A. M.- 2:00 P. M 2:30 P. M. $-10: 00$ P. M. 7:00 A. M.- 2:00 P .M 9:30 A. M.-12:00 M. 2:00 P. M-10:00 P. M 10:00 A. M.-12:00 M.

2:00 P. M.- 5:00 P. M. 2:30 P. M.-10:00 P. M 2:00 P. M.-10:00 P. M.

2:00 P. M.- 5:00 P. M.

9:30 A. M.-12:30 P. M.

| Sta. No. | Town | Location of Traffic Census Station | Speed Survey Station | Date | Observed Hours |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 52 | Hamden | Straightaway count on Conn. 10, N. of Centerville. | A. 1.2 miles S . on Conn. 10. Near bridge over Mill River. 4-lane, outer concrete, inner macadam, with trolley tracks. Level tangent for $1 / 4$ mile. SetHed area. <br> B. 1.6 miles N. on Conn. 10. $1 / 4$ mile level tangent. Road same as $52-\mathrm{A}$. | Tues., Nov. 14, 1933 Fri., Nov. 17, 1933 <br> Wed., Feb. 14, 1934 <br> Thurs., May 31, 1934 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 2:30 P. M.- 6:30 P. M. } \\ & \text { 3:00 P. M.- 6:30 P. M. } \end{aligned}$ <br> 9:30 A. M.- 2:00 P. M. <br> 6:30 A. M.- 2:00 P. M. |
| 59 | Easton | At junction of Conn. 58 and Conn. 106, approximately I mile W. of Easton. | 0.3 mile S. on Conn. 58. Level, slightly winding. $26-\mathrm{ft}$ macadam. | Mon., June 25, 1934 | 2:00 P. M.- 5:00 P. M. |
| 63 $+\quad$ | Shelton | Straightaway count on Conn. 65, approximately 1 mile S. of business district of Shelton. | 1.3 miles S. on Conn. 65. Very short tangent, slight down-grade to N. 2-lane, $20-\mathrm{ft}$. concrete. | Tues., June 19, 1934 | 1:30 P. M.- 4:00 P. M. |
| 66 | Newtown | At E. junction of U.S. 6 and Conn. 34 with town road at Sandy Hook. | 3.1 miles E. on U.S. 6. 200 -yd. tangent. Slight ascending grade E. $22-\mathrm{ft}$. macadam. | Sun., July 22, 1934 Mon., Aug. 6, 1934 Tues., Aug. 7, 1934 | 2:00 P. M.-10:00 P. M. 2:00 P. M.-10:00 P. M. 6:00 A. M.- 2:00 P. M. |
| 72 | Southbury | At N. junction of U.S. 6 and Conn. 67, approximately $11 / 4$ miles N. of Southbury. | 0.5 mile S. on U.S. 6 . $1 / 4$ mile level tangent. 20-ft. macadam, built-up section. | Thurs., July 26, 1934 | 10:00 A. M.- 1:00 P.M. |
| 76 | Kent | At junction of U.S. 7 and Conn. 130, approximately 4 miles $S$. of Kent. | 2.2 miles N. on U.S. 7. $1 / 4$ mile level tangent. 2 -lane, 18 -ft. concrete. | Tues., Jan. 30, 1934 <br> Fri., April 27, 1934 <br> Thur., July 19, 1934 |  |
| 77 | Washington | At junction of Conn. 25 and Conn. 45 at New Preston. | 0.9 mile E. on Conn. 25. $3 / 4$ mile tangent, nearly level. $20-\mathrm{ft}$., 2 -lane concrete. | Thur., July 19, 1934 | 9:30 A. M.-12:30 P. M. |
| 78 | Cornwall | At junction of U.S. 7 and Conn. 45, approximately I mile S. W. of Cornwall Bridge. | 3.0 miles E. on Conn. 45. 300-yd. tangent, nearly level at crest of grade. 20-ft. macadam. | Fri., July 20, 1934 | 9:30 A. M.-12:00 M. | Wolcott

At N. E. junction of Conn. 410.9 mile N. on Conn. 41. 200-yd. Fri., July 20, 1934 level tangent. 20-ft., 2-lane concrete. and Conn. 199 at Salisbury.

At junction of Conn. 25 and Conn. 61 at Litchfield.

Straightaway count on Conn. $1 / 2$ mile S. of Winsted.

Straightaway count on Conn. 14 at Waterbury-Wolcott town line, approximately 4 mile E . of Waterbury.

At junction of Conn. 67 and Conn. 63. approximately 5 miles E. of Seymour.

At junction of Conn. 34 and Conn. 152, approximately 6 miles W. of New Haven.

At junction of Conn. 101 and Conn. 10 at $E$. edge of Avon.

At junction of Conn. 10, 189, 20 and 9 at Granby.
3.5 miles E. on Conn. 25. 1/4 Sat., July 21, 1934 mile level tangent. 2-lane, Wed., Aug. 15, 1934 $20-\mathrm{ft}$. concrete.

Thur., Aug. 16, 1934
/2 Tues., Aug. 14, 1934
mile level tangent. $20-\mathrm{ft}$., 2-lane concrete.
1.0 mile E. on Conn. 14. 26-ft. Wed., June 27, 1934 10:30 A. M.-12:00 M. macadam. Downgrade W.
A. 1.0 mile W. on Conn. 67. 1/4 Thur., Dec. 21, 1933 mile level tangent. 2-lane, 20-ft. concrete.
B. 2.2 miles N . on Conn. 63. 3/8 Thur., Dec. 21. 1933 mile level tangent at crest o hill. 2 -lane, $20-\mathrm{ft}$. concrete.
A. 0.9 mile E. on Conn. 34. $1 / 4$ Wed., Dec. 27, 1933 mile level tangent. 2-lane, Wed., Mar. 7, 1934 20-ft. concrete
B. 0.8 mile W. on Conn. 34. $1 / 4$ Wed., Dec. 27, 1933 mile tangent on grade ascending W. 2-lane, 20-ft. concrete.
0.2 mile $W$. on Conn. 10 and $3 / 8$ mile level tangent.
0.9 mile N. on Conn. 10. $1 / 4$ Wed., Aug. 8, 1934 mile level tangent. $30-\mathrm{ft}$. macadam.

2:00 P. M.-10:00 P. M 2:00 P. M.—10:00 P. M 6:00 A. M.- 2:00 P. M 3:00 P. M.- 6:00 P. M.

9:30 A. M.-12:00 M.

1:30 P. M.- 5:00 P. M.

9:30 A. M.—12:30 P. M. 3:00 P. M.- 5:00 P. M.. 1:30 P. M.- 5:00 P. M.

9:30 A. M.-12:00 M.

1:00 P. M.- 4:00 P. M.

| Sta. No. | Town | Location of Traffic Census Station | Speed Survey Station | Date | Observed Hours |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 107 | Middlefield | Junction of Conn. 14 and Conn. 147. approximately. | A. 2.9 miles E. on Conn. 14. $1 / 4$ mile level tangent. 2-lane, $20-\mathrm{ft}$. concrete. <br> B. 1.9 miles E . on Conn. 14. Sweeping curve. 2-lane, $20-\mathrm{ft}$. concrete. <br> C. 0.3 mile $W$. on Conn. 14. Near middle of long hill. 2-lane, $20-\mathrm{ft}$. concrete. | Wed., Jan. 17, 1934 <br> Wed., April 4, 1934 <br> Thurs., April 5, 1934 <br> Wed., Jan. 17, 1934 <br> Wed., Jan. 17, 1934 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 10:00 A. M.-12:00 M. } \\ & \text { 2:30 P. M.-10:00 P. M. } \\ & \text { 1:30 P. M. 5:00 P. M. } \\ & \text { 2:30 P. M.- 2:30 P. M. } \\ & \text { 3:00 P. M. }-5: 00 \text { P. M. } \end{aligned}$ |
| 109 | Cromwell | Junction of Conn. 9 and State Road to Berlin, in Cromwell. | 2.4 miles N. on Conn. 9. $3 / 4$ mile level tangent. Built-up area. 2-lane, $20-\mathrm{ft}$. concrete. | Thur., Apr. 5, 1934 | 10:30 A. M.-12:30 P. M. |
| $\%^{110}$ | Durham | Junction of Conn. 15 and Conn. 147 at Durham. | 0.8 mile N . on Conn. $15.1 / 2$ mile tangent. Ascend-grade N . 2-lane, 20-ft. concrete. | Fri., Mar. 16, 1934 | 10:00 A. M.- 4:30 P. M. |
| 120 | Preston | Junction of Conn. 12 and State Road E. to Poquetanuck at Norwich State Hospital. | 1.2 miles N . on Conn. $1230-\mathrm{ft}$. macadam. Short level tangent in front of Conn. State Hospital. | Fri., Aug. 24, 1934 | 3:00 P. M:- 5:00 P. M. |
| 124 | Norwich | Junction of Conn. 2 and Conn. 32, at Yantic. | 1.0 miles $W$. on Conn. 2. 300yd. level tangent. 30-ft. macadam. | Fri., Aug. 24, 1934 | 9:00 A. M.- I:00 P. M. |
| 127 | Canterbury | Junction of Conn. 14 and Conn. 93. | 1.2 miles W. on Conn. 14. 300yd. level tangent. $30-\mathrm{ft}$. macadam. | Sat., July 14, 1934 | 9:30 A. M.- 1:00 P .M. |
| 129 | Hampton | Junction of Routes U.S. 6 ano Conn. 97 at Hampton. | 0.3 mile W. on U.S.6. Near top of ascending grade E. 28-ft. macadam. | Thur., July 12, 1934 Sun., July 15, 1934 Sat., Aug. 25, 1934 | 6:00 A. M.- 2:00 P. M. 2:00 P. M.-10:00 P. M. 2:00 P. M.-10:00 P. M. |


| 134 | Eastford | Junction of Conn. 91 and Conn. 101 at Phoenixville. | 0.6 mile S . on Conn. 91 . 1/4 mile tangent. 20-ft., 2-lane concrete. | Thur., Nov. 16, 1933 <br> Sat., Jan. 13, 1934 <br> Mon., April 9, 1934 <br> Tues., April 10, 1934 <br> Wed., April II, 1934 <br> Sat., July 14, 1934 | $\begin{array}{r} \text { 6:00 A. M.- 2:00 P. M. } \\ \text { 6:00 A. M. } 2: 00 \text { P. M. } \\ \text { 11:30 A. M. 7:00 P. M. } \\ \text { 2:00 P. M. }-10: 00 \text { P. M. } \\ \text { 8:00 A. M. } 4: 00 \text { P. M. } \\ \text { 3:00 P. M. }-3: 30 \text { P. M. } \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 136 | Ashford | Junction of Conn. 101 and Conn. 89 at Warrenvsille. | 1.6 miles W. on Conn. 101. $1 / 4$ mile tangent between East and Westbound ascending grades. $22-\mathrm{ft}$. macadam. | Fri., July 13, 1934 | 9:00 A. M.-12:00 M. |
| 140 | Hebron | Junction of Conn. 14 and Conn. 85 at Hebron. | 0.7 mile W. on Conn. 14. 29-ft. macadam. Descending grade W. | Sat., Aug. 11, 1934 | 9:00 A. M.-12:00 M. |
| ت | East Hartford | Junction of U.S.6, U.S. 5 and Conn. 15. | 1.0 mile N. on U.S. 5 Level very slight S-curve on embankment. $18-\mathrm{ft}$. macadam. | Fri., Aug. 10, 1934 | 9:30 A. M. - 12:00 M. |
| 147 | Tolland | Junction of Conn. 15 and Conn. 74, approximately 3 miles E. of Rockville. | 0.8 mile $N$. on Conn. $15.1 / 4$ mile tangent near middle of descending grade N . 22 - ft . macadam, highly crowned. | Thur., Aug. 9, 1934 | 9:00 A. M.-12:00 M. |
| 148 | Mansfield | Junction of Conn. 32 and Conn. 101 at Mansfield Station. | 2.2 miles E. on Conn. 101. Short level tangent at crest of hill. 20-ft. macadam. | Thur., Aug. 9, 1934 | 2:00 P. M.- 5:00 P. M. |
| 150 | Stafford | Junction of Conn. 15 and Conn. 20 at West Stafford. | 0.3 mile S . on Conn. 15. On easement in long grade. 31-ft. macadam. | Mon., July 2, 1934 <br> Tues., July 3, 1934 <br> Sun., Aug. 26, 1934 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 2:30 P. M.-10:00 P. M. } \\ & \text { 6:00 A. M.-2:00 P. M. } \\ & \text { 2:00 P. M. }-10: 00 \text { P. M. } \end{aligned}$ |
| 154 | Colchester | On Conn. 85, approximately I mile S. of Colchester. | 1.0 mile W. on Conn. 2. $1 / 4$ mile tangent descending grade E . 18 - ft. macadam. | Sat., Aug. 11, 1934 | 1:00 P. M.- 3:00 P. M. |
| 156 | Norfolk | At junction of Conn. 101 and Conn. 49 at Norfolk. | 2.8 miles W. on Conn. 101. 1/8 mile tangent. $20-\mathrm{ft}$., two strip concrete. | Tues., Aug. 14, 1934 | 10:30 A. M.- 1:00 P. M. |







[^0]:    *It should be noted that the observations recorded in this report were made before the speed limit of 45 miles per hour (1935) was established. This is now (1936) 50 miles per hour.

