

CARTER ADVISOR RECEIVES TOP OIC AWARD.



Stuart E. Eizenstat,

center, who is one of President Carter's key advisors, receives the OIC Public Service Award from Rev. Leon H. Sullivan, head of OICs of America, during OIC's recent major convocation in Washington. Rev. Sullivan praised Mr. Eizenstat for his dedicated efforts to fight youth unemployment. Participating in the ceremony is Elton Jolly, national executive director of OIC.

Hitch Onto Camper Safety

Although the present gasoline situation will probably necessitate vacationers hauling their camper trailers shorter distances to destinations closer to home this season, a thorough safety check of both the towing and towed vehicles is still mandatory to assure an accident-free holiday.

A common problem with many trailers, particularly older ones, is over-loading, according to Milt Nachbar, Director of Loss Control for CNA Insurance. The suspension systems of trailers are designed to carry maximum loads consisting of trailer weight itself in addition to the weight of other items such as clothing, food, etc. The combined weight of the trailer and contents plus that of the trailer tongue equals the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR). A danger is that if the GVWR is too close to the unloaded weight of the trailer, the suspension system may not be able to accommodate the additional weight of equipment and provisions needed to take along on your camping trip.

Still another area for concern is the weight limit of each axle, Nachbar warned. Since 1972, trailer manufacturers have been required by law to attach a plate to all trailers indicating the Gross Axle Weight Rating (GAWR), indicating the maximum weight a specific axle is designed to carry. Owners of trailers made prior to 1972 should obtain this information from the manufacturer, dealer

or from one of the trade associations specializing in recreational vehicles.

"It's advisable that before you start your trip, you first take your trailer to a weighing station," suggested Nachbar, "on the highway, or at a junk yard or building supply or trucking company. You can then make sure the gross weight of the trailer does not exceed the GVWR and also measure the load on each axle."



He also advised checking the owner's manual of the car or truck that will be used as the towing vehicle to ascertain that it will be able to handle the load to be pulled.

Other tips offered by Nachbar were:

- * Make sure the trailer is properly balanced front and rear and side-to-side. Secure all moveable items including doors and drawers.

- * Use safety chains to prevent the two vehicles from

separating completely in the event the trailer becomes accidentally disconnected from the hitch.

- * Check the brakes on both vehicles and also inspect tires for condition, proper inflation and tread.

- * Check tightness of the wheel lugs on both vehicles (particularly if they are new).

- * Make sure shocks and springs are in good condition on both vehicles.

- * Check for possible leaks in propane gas bottles, heating equipment, etc., and make sure the valves on gas bottles are turned off before starting your trip.

- * Equip the towing vehicle with large mirrors for the fenders so you can see behind the trailer on both sides.

- * Put emergency equipment, tools and bad weather gear in a readily accessible place in the towing vehicle.

A final word of advice is that when renting a camper trailer you check to see if insurance for physical damage to the towing vehicle is included within your rental contract. If not, it may be possible to purchase coverage separately from the rental agency. Liability and property damage resulting from trailer hauling accidents are usually covered under normal automobile insurance policies, Nachbar said. Again, however, it's recommended you check your policy. If you own your own camper trailer, a separate policy to cover physical damage to it is necessary, he said.

Keeping Cool Today Is A Snap

How to keep cool in the summer has been of burning interest to man since time began. Not too long ago man had to work hard to beat the heat; today it's a snap, the snap of a switch on a central or room air conditioner.



Five thousand years ago, for example, a rich Assyrian merchant cooled his courtyard by having servants spray water into a room below it, taking advantage of the cooling effect of evaporating water. A simpler method was employed by King Xerxes of Persia; he kept dozens of slaves around waving fans.

Snow was hauled down from mountaintops by Roman slaves to cool their masters. The Caliph of Baghdad, around 775 A.D., built a summer house with hollow walls that were packed with imported snows.

"Around the 16th century some improvements were made," says John P. Farrell of York Heating and Air Conditioning. "A hand-operated bellows was rigged to blow air through a cave and into a home. Use was limited to the very rich ... or very energetic."

A lazy man's means of cooling turned up in an "improved" rocking chair, patented in 1869. As a person rocked, a bellows was activated beneath the chair, forcing air out of a pipe over the person's head. Pneumatic ventilating systems were used in offices in the 1890's, and while it was not cool air, it was welcome relief.

Mechanical refrigeration, the forerunner of air conditioning, was developed for ice-making machinery, not comfort cooling. In 1885 York began producing ice-

making machines, and by 1903 the firm had learned to transfer the principle of mechanical cooling to industrial processes.

In 1914 it unveiled the first combination of mechanical refrigeration with "air washing" and ventilation—air conditioning—at the Empire Theater in Montgomery, Ala. The San Joaquin Power and Light Company's office building was air conditioned in 1923, marking what is believed to be the first completely air conditioned office building in the world.

The nation's first successful room air conditioner was offered by York in 1935. Although the unit weighed 600 pounds, it was considered portable because it could be moved on casters. Regardless of its weight, it did provide homeowners with welcome relief from heat and humidity.

"Today it seems that everything is air conditioned," Farrell says. "It is hard to find a store, office or other public building that is not air conditioned. And that trend is spilling over into the home: Last year more than 50 percent of the houses built in the nation had central air conditioning."

Air conditioning at home is no longer a luxury, but a necessity for most people. Improved engineering has made whole-house air conditioners economical to install and operate, in spite of increasing utility rates.

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