

## UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF  
PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR MEN  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

A couple of hours after we left Albuquerque, darkness started setting in. It had been cloudy all day, and so night came earlier than usual.

Along this part of the highway (between Albuquerque and Tucumcara, New Mexico) is pretty flat. But about ten miles from Tucumcara (West) there are a few small hills and valleys that the highway dips into.

At one of these valleys the highway slopes down a very gentle slope to the floor of the valley and then rises again to pass on over the brow of the hill and so onto Tucumcara. This particular valley is only six miles from the town. Right where the highway levels off on the floor of the valley, there is a very mild curve. In fact it is so small a turn that in dry weather one would not even be conscious of it.

As I topped the hill on the western edge of the valley and started down the slope, I noticed some headlights down at this curve. At this time it was about 6:00 P.M. I did not pay any particular attention to the lights as I supposed they were parked on the side of the road. I was traveling about twenty-eight miles an hour due to the car gathering momentum downhill. When I was about a hundred and fifty yards away from the cars, I noticed people standing around on the highway.

They started flashing lights and waving at me and running around on the road. I started stopping the car, but the icy pavement did not give me enough traction to stop. I had to whip the car over to the edge of the highway in order to miss the people. The car skidded and edged over the side of the embankment. Luckily the bank was only a few feet high at this point and