

## Common-sense rules good gas mileage

About 30 years ago a Virginia couple was driving through Kentucky. As the man again swung the steering wheel to the left, his wife turned to him and observed, "You know, there are nothing but curves in Kentucky."

The curves are probably still there, but the interstates and parkways have brushed them aside and left a highway system that is well maintained, safe, and for the most part free of tolls.

That Virginia couple in the early 1950s was not too con-

cerned with fuel economy. They filled the gas tank when necessary and perhaps grumbled that mountain driving consumed more gas than the touring they were accustomed to.

Today, however, their car is equipped with anti-pollution devices, power steering and brakes, air conditioning, and glare-proof windows, and they have learned a few things about getting the most out of their gasoline dollars.

They observe the 55-mile per hour speed limit and gain

20 percent in fuel economy.

Keeping a steady foot on the accelerator helps conserve gas, and they avoid jack rabbit starts.

They have found that idling the car in heavy traffic or while reading a map or taking a picture by the side of the road is wasteful. They turn off the ignition and re-start the car when they are ready to move.

Before they leave on a trip they have the car checked carefully at their regular service center.

In the glove compartment

they keep a record of their recent maintenance work. If they have a problem on the road, the record will clearly show what service was performed and when so the mechanic can be brought up to date quickly.

They keep their tires properly inflated, according to manufacturer's recommendation. Underinflation by a mere eight pounds can mean a five percent reduction of gas mileage.

They have learned that good maintenance and regular tune-ups are even more

important to good fuel economy when they tow their boat to the river.

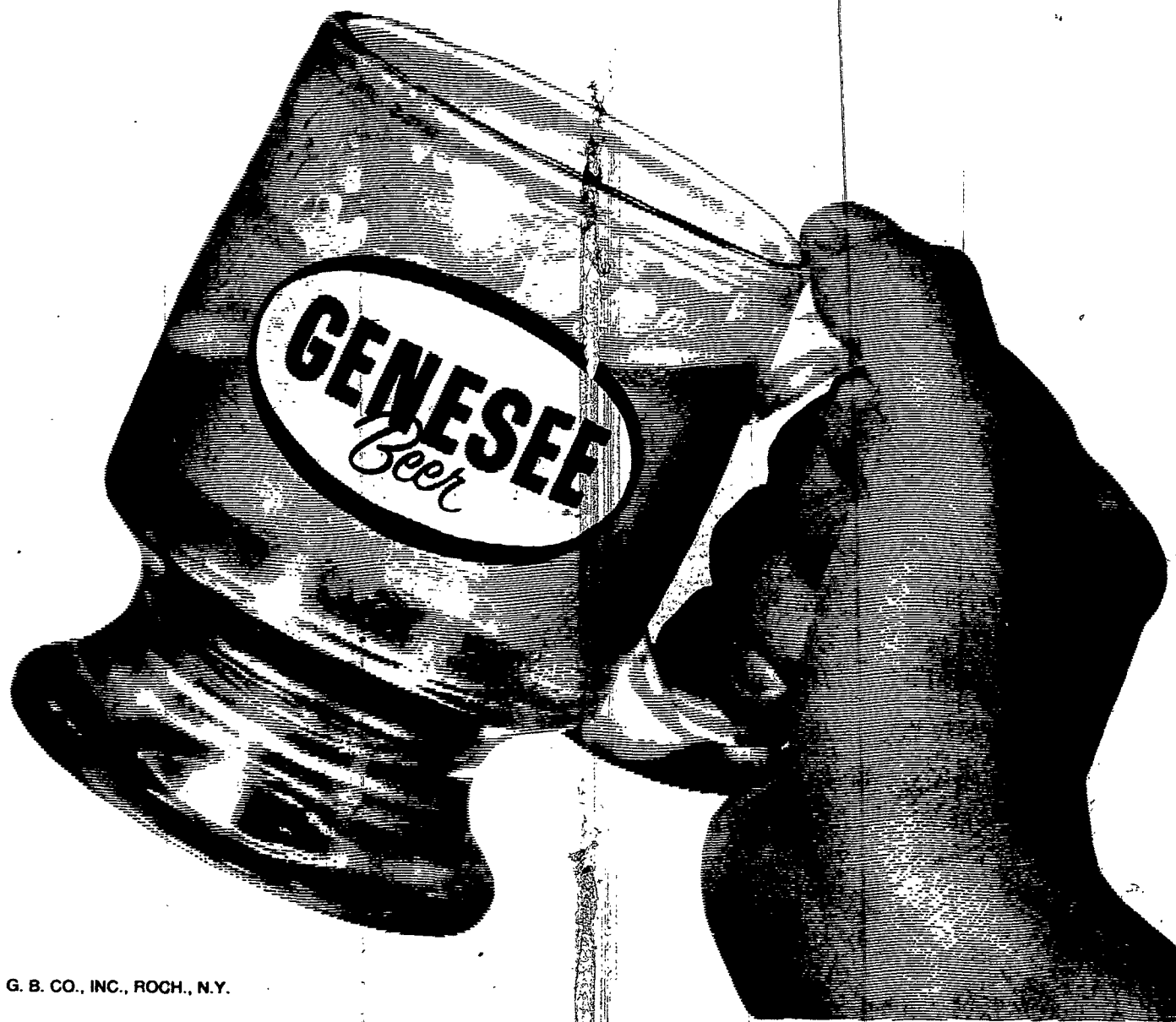
And they know that using the air conditioner wastes precious gasoline. They turn it on only when necessary.

The high cost of fuel has not stopped this couple from their enjoyment of the Great Outdoors. By maintaining good driving habits and keeping their car in condition, they have increased their pleasure by knowing they are doing their part to keep the Great Outdoors safe and clean.



When heavy boots are needed, Bama Socklets keep feet cool and dry.

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