Crazy Laws

By Richard Billings

Over the years, author Richard Human has collected a file of 2,000 bonehead laws. Many of the laws collected go back to the horse-and-buggy era but have never been rescinded. Although a few of laws have by now been cannceled out by their states, many of them still remain on the books. Here is a sample of just a few:

Cars

In Tennessee, it is illegal to drive any car while asleep.

Minneapolis makes red automobiles unlawful.

Firemen

An old Nebraska law forbids firemen to play checkers.

In Racine, Wisconsin, it is illegal to wake firemen when they are asleep.

Food

In Joliet, Illinois, it is against the law to put cake in a cookie jar.

It is contrary to the law of California to peel an orange in a hotel room.

It is unlawful to plant vegetables in California cemetories.

It is against the law to sell cornflakes on Sunday in Columbus, Ohio.

In West Virginia, it is a legal offense to cook sauerkraut or cabbage, as the ensuing odors are common nuisances.

Animals

It is illegal to put a skunk in your boss’s desk in Michigan.

Kansas makes it unlawful to eat snakes on Sunday.

In Cresskill, New Jersey, all cats must wear not one but three bells to warn birds of their whereabouts.

International Falls, Minnesota, forbids cats to chase dogs up telephone poles.

Do these sound a little crazy to you? It might be interesting to look in the books of laws governing Lincoln, Nebraska. Most likely you would find some choice selections for a second edition of Crazy Laws.