

C O P Y

GRAY IRON INSTITUTE, INC.

CLEVELAND - OHIO.

Mr. Paul Bellamy,  
Managing Editor,  
Cleveland Plain Dealer,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Bellamy:

In your Thursday, November 21st issue, there appears on page 11, an article entitled - DON'T CRASH LIGHT POLE; IT COSTS \$50. The third paragraph of this article reads as follows:

"It's lucky the city makes its poles out of solid steel rather than cast iron, too, or light breakers' bill would be larger than usual. A cast iron pole would be smashed completely when hit even lightly, whereas steel poles can be banged into and show only a few dents."

I want to point out to you that there are several statements in this paragraph which are by no means correct, which statements misrepresent the product of the entire gray iron industry.

As the Cleveland district is one of the largest gray iron foundry centers in the country, these statements do an injustice to one of the leading industries in the particular territory served by your paper.

Practically all the light poles on the streets of Cleveland are made up with a gray cast iron base, extending up to a distance of about 3 feet. Gray Iron was selected for this service by reason of its resistance to corrosion, rigidity and adaptability. No other material combines the desirable necessary features for this particular service as does gray iron. Obviously, the brunt of the impact of any striking by automobile or truck is borne very largely by the cast iron section of the pole.

The steel used in the balance of the pole is not "solid steel" as indicated in this article in any sense that we can determine.

Your article also leaves the impression in the reader's mind that gray cast iron is a most fragile material and the lightest blow would fracture it. That this is by no means true is indicated by the fact that gray cast iron is and has been used for generations for a wider range of severe service than probably any other metal.

We feel that the very misleading statements contained in this article should be corrected by you. We await your reaction.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Arthur J. Tuscany,

Manager.

AJT:S

# DON'T CRASH LIGHT POLE; IT COSTS \$50

## City Replaces 250 Stanchions as Wayward Drivers Smash Them.

"Mister, that street light pole you broke last week when you skidded into it will set you back just \$50 and a few cents. Of course, you didn't hit it very hard or it would be more."

If you happen to make a more thorough job of it and force the light department to install an entirely new pole, then your bill will be roughly \$165.

It's lucky the city makes its poles out of solid steel rather than cast iron, too, or light breakers' bill would be larger than usual. A cast iron pole would be smashed completely when hit even lightly, whereas steel poles can be banged into and show only a few dents.

About 250 street light poles a year have to be replaced or repaired because some automobile has been in a hurry and skidded into one when brakes were applied harshly. The average damage costs the trespasser about \$50—some more, some less.

The highest light pole mortality occurs in December and January, when the streets have first begun to be slippery. By February motorists have gained their footing on icy and wet pavements, and the rate decreases.

Motorists seem to delight in "killing" the lights on the high level bridge. The lights on south corners of Euclid Avenue and E. 84th and E. 87th Streets seem attractive objects for motorists to aim at, likewise. These streets are not through streets, but in going from north to south or vice versa motorists must make a half turn and the lights suffer.

At one time lights on these corners came down with such frequency that the light department office, after bawling out its road crew for not repairing them, learned that no sooner were lights repaired than they were knocked down again.

FROM CLEVELAND  
PLAIN DEALER  
NOVEMBER 21, 1929.

## CAST IRON NOT "WEAK"

Institute Manager Corrects Plain Dealer Statement.

The Plain Dealer yesterday was requested by Arthur J. Tuscany, manager of the Gray Iron Institute, to "correct misleading statements" relating to cast iron and steel which appeared under the head "DON'T CRASH LIGHT POLE; IT COSTS \$50" in the issue of Nov. 21. The objectionable sentence was: "A cast iron (street) pole would be smashed completely when hit even lightly, whereas steel poles can be banged into and show only a few dents."

Tuscany wrote: "Practically all the light poles on the streets of Cleveland are made with gray cast-iron base, selected because of its resistance to corrosion, rigidity and adaptability. Obviously the brunt of the impact of any striking automobile is borne by the cast iron section of the pole." He added that gray cast iron "is and has been used for generations for a wider range of severe service than probably any other metal."

FROM CLEVELAND  
PLAIN DEALER  
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