

WOMEN BEST DRIVERS?

Too many cars, chasing too little space; where's it going to end? Many motorists say a lot of the trouble's the woman-driver. And then imagine the surprise when insurance experts say that women at the wheel are much safer than men. Men just can't believe it. And yet we find that women are employed as drivers by Government Departments, for example. And we all know how firmly Civil Servants insist on going all out for safety. You wouldn't catch them taking a risk. So, obviously the woman driver can be very good.

It's not only Government Departments; women are employed by the R.A.C. - the motorists' own organisation - patrolling the road and earning the name, Hostesses of the Highway.

Then we find, out at Dagenham, that women drive new cars from Fords to the London-area dealers. They certainly wouldn't be engaged on that work if they were'nt thoroughly reliable and as safe as houses. Each of the 45 women here delivers, on the average, 25 new cars a week. Over the past three years they've only had a very small number of accidents; never more than scratched paintwork. Then, at Southend, women drive some of the police cars.

Now there's a man wobbling about and quite likely to cause a serious accident. Just a case for a courteous reprimand. You see, police cars don't spend all their time chasing bandits at 80 miles an hour.

Women drivers keep their temper when the lights go red.

About 800 women a year go in for the advanced driving test. It's a voluntary thing and a feather in the cap of those who pass. The Institute of Advanced Motoring insists on a high standard and a pass by George Kyles, Director of Tests, is something to be proud of.

With so much traffic it's harder every day to find parking space. Battling for it, men become positively primitive.