



## THE SPEED LIMIT

## DELAY URGED BY THE ROYAL AUTO-MOBILE CLUB

THE Royal Automobile Club views with grave concern the announcement that the 30 miles per hour speed limit for private motorcars and motor-

cycles in "built-up" areas is to be put into operation in the near future.

Since the present Minister of Transport took office a number of measures of a very far reaching character have been introduced—pedestrian crossings and beacons, silence zones, cyclist paths, traffic lanes, a large increase in the number of traffic control lights, restricted working hours for drivers of commercial vehicles, whilst the tests for new drivers are to commence on 1st April next.

In the opinion of the R.A.C. it is very desirable that the public generally and the motorist in particular should be given longer opportunity to assimilate and, having done so, to use to the best advantage of safety all of the above measures before further

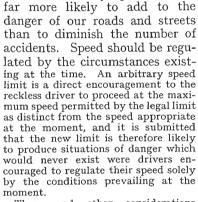
restrictions, such as the new speed limit, are put into operation. Further, the R.A.C. holds very strongly that it will be impossible for the Authorities to determine the effect of the new regulations, some which may prove to be undesirable or superthe whole fluous, if question is complicated

at the beginning of the motoring season by the introduction of a speed limit.

The driver who commences or resumes

motoring in the early Spring will find himself faced with a host of new regulations and signs. If to these are immediately added thousands of new speed limit notices, erected in accordance with a system of which he is totally ignorant and entailing the infliction of a heavy penalty if disregarded, however inadvertently, he may well begin to wonder if the game is worth the candle.

The R.A.C. has always held



that an arbitrary speed limit is

These and other considerations were urged upon the Government on behalf of the R.A.C. when the Road Traffic Bill, 1934, was under discussion in Parliament. The Government, however, insisted in imposing



the 30 miles per hour speed limit in "built-up" areas, although an amendment was accepted limiting its operation to five years. The Act does not lay down a specific date upon which the speed limit shall come into force, and the R.A.C. therefore urges that its opera-

tion should be delayed at least until there has been an opportunity to estimate the respective safety values of the numerous experiments now being made.

