

**OFFERS GUIDEBOOK FOR TRIP TO MOON**

**ASTRONOMER TELLS HOW**

More or Less Visionary Tour Is Described by Noted Professor of Harvard; Is Interesting

Persons wishing to visit the moon would do well to start now while the trip is comparatively short. Only forty-six days of traveling in an airplane speeding at 200 miles an hour, would be required for the journey now but every hundred thousand years the moon and earth grow farther apart and ultimately, when they will travel at the same rate of speed, days and nights will be three or four ordinary days long.

These unusual conclusions are among the many new facts that have been placed at the disposal of science by Professor William H. Pickering, noted astronomer of the Harvard, the Arequipa, Peru, and Jamaica observatories, and simplified into a lunar guide book in the American Magazine.

**Atmosphere on Moon**  
"The atmosphere on the moon," says Professor Pickering, telling how it is different from that on the neighboring planet, "is so thin that an imaginary man, transported there, would find himself in a world of silence. If a mountain should tumble he could not hear the crash because there is not enough air to convey audible sound waves. The force of gravity is so slight that a man weighing 180 pounds on earth would weigh but 30 pounds on the moon."

"The lunar traveler would also be surprised, by the appearance of the sky from the moon. Even at noonday he would see the stars more clearly than we see them at midnight from the earth. The sun would glow as a great spot of light in a dark sky and the earth would appear as an enormous moon."

"The line between light and darkness on the moon is sharply marked. From the blackness of night to the full glare of noonday is but the turn of a second. Shadowed places are like bottomless pits and only where the direct rays of light fall is there any possibility of seeing. Nearly the whole surface of the moon is a desert, but I am convinced there is plant life there. Also, certain moving black spots may be enormous herds of animals, though this is dangerous to state."

**Interesting Comment**  
Another interesting comment of Professor Pickering is that were it not for the cosmic catastrophe that made the moon from the earth, humans might all be whales or fishes today. When the moon was torn off of the earth's crust and went whirling through space, the mutual force exerted by the two bodies caused depressions which became oceans and confined the waters resulting from evaporation which otherwise would be spread all over the earth's surface. The tides, which are influenced directly by the moon, says Professor Pickering, act as a brake on the rotation of the earth with a force of twenty-thousand million horsepower.

**ITINERANT MAGICIAN REPLACES MOUNTEBANK**

One of the Former Tells How His Vocation Is Related To Ancient One

Shedding his doublet and hose in favor of a stiff shirt and tuxedo, the mountebank still flourishes in our society, asserts John Mulholland, magician, in the September Scribner's Magazine.

"Most people think of a 'mountebank' as a medieval performer, clad in doublet and hose, roaming from fair to fair over the swarming European roads of the Middle Ages," he writes. "They would be surprised to learn that there are as many mountebanks today as ever. Doublet and hose have been superseded by a stiff shirt and dinner-coat—or by an evening gown—but the race of mountebanks is still flourishing. And the conditions under which the modern ones perform are essentially similar to those with which their medieval predecessors were familiar."

"The lord's castle has become the home of the money baron. The wayside inn has become a hotel of two thousand rooms. The village fair has become the social of the Epworth league. But the mountebank is still in constant demand. And now, as in the past, the magician is one of the most prominent members of the clan."

"For many years I have been a modern mountebank in the guise of an itinerant magician. I have performed on a stage and off a stage, indoors and out, in clubrooms, banquet-halls, and parlors, at dinners and at dances. If there is a profession extant that furnishes more entertainment for the entertainer, I cannot imagine what it can be."

**CALHOUN COUNTY IS LEADING IN APPLES**

Description of Illinois Maximum Production District In This Fruit

Calhoun county is the Apple Kingdom of Illinois, producing more apples than any area of equal size in the world, according to an account of this industry as told in the September issue of the "Welfare Magazine," published by the Department of Public Welfare of Illinois.

Since no railroad extends into the county and only a short stretch of hard road is contained within its borders, most of the apples are shipped to railroad centers, Chicago, St. Louis and others, via water. From Hamburg, one of the principal ports, more than 100,000 barrels of apples were shipped last year. In a good year Calhoun county will produce 500,000 barrels of apples.

The principal problem of the district is transportation. Negotiations are under way for the building of a railroad from Grafton to Quincy, cutting through the entire county. With such a road and the use of refrigerator cars, the apple industry should be developed to an even greater extent.

The politicians should be able to shake the plumtree, after all their practice shaking hands at cattle show.

**VALUE OF FLOWERS IN BARREN LIVES**

THEY ARE APPRECIATED

Some Instances From Work of the Chicago Plant, Flower and Fruit Guild Are Told By Worker

Has anyone a doubt as to what flowers will do for the unhappy, under-privileged woman and children whose homes and bedsides are being brightened by the Chicago Plant, Flower and Fruit Guild?

If such doubt exists in anyone's mind, let it be dissolved by the word picture of Mrs. W. H. Lyford of Wheaton, Mrs. Lyford, who is prominent in the social and philanthropic life of Wheaton and of Chicago, is vice-chairman of the Guild's executive committee. She says:

"I believe that the real reaction to an appeal such as the Plant, Flower and Fruit Guild comes not from an idealized conception of its beauty, but from actual contact with its beneficiaries. The idea is fine, the subject easily grasped, its functioning understandable—but the real love, joy, and beauty can only be known by seeing the flowers actually put in the hands, or by the bedsides of our unfortunate ones."

**Story of Little Boy**

"There is the story of a little boy in one of our settlements who, after receiving his share, returned for another flower. The settlement worker, recognizing him, reproved him, saying 'You are a greedy boy! You've already had yours.' 'Oh yes, Lady, but this is for me kid sister' he answered. Seeing the look of disbelief on the face of the lady, he darted away and returned panting, carrying a tiny, crippled 'kid sister' down four flights of tenement stairs, just to get a bit of bloom."

"Then there was a little lass, just recovering from a long illness, to whom no efforts to rouse her had made an appeal. When the visiting nurse appeared in the door of the 'third floor back' with an armful of gay posies, the weak, wan wisp of humanity sat up in bed with outstretched arms, crying, 'Oh Miss Blank, are there are violets or daisies? I've always wanted to see some. I've heard of them—Violets? Are they really violets? Did God send them?' And the nurse said 'Yes.'"

**Another Case**

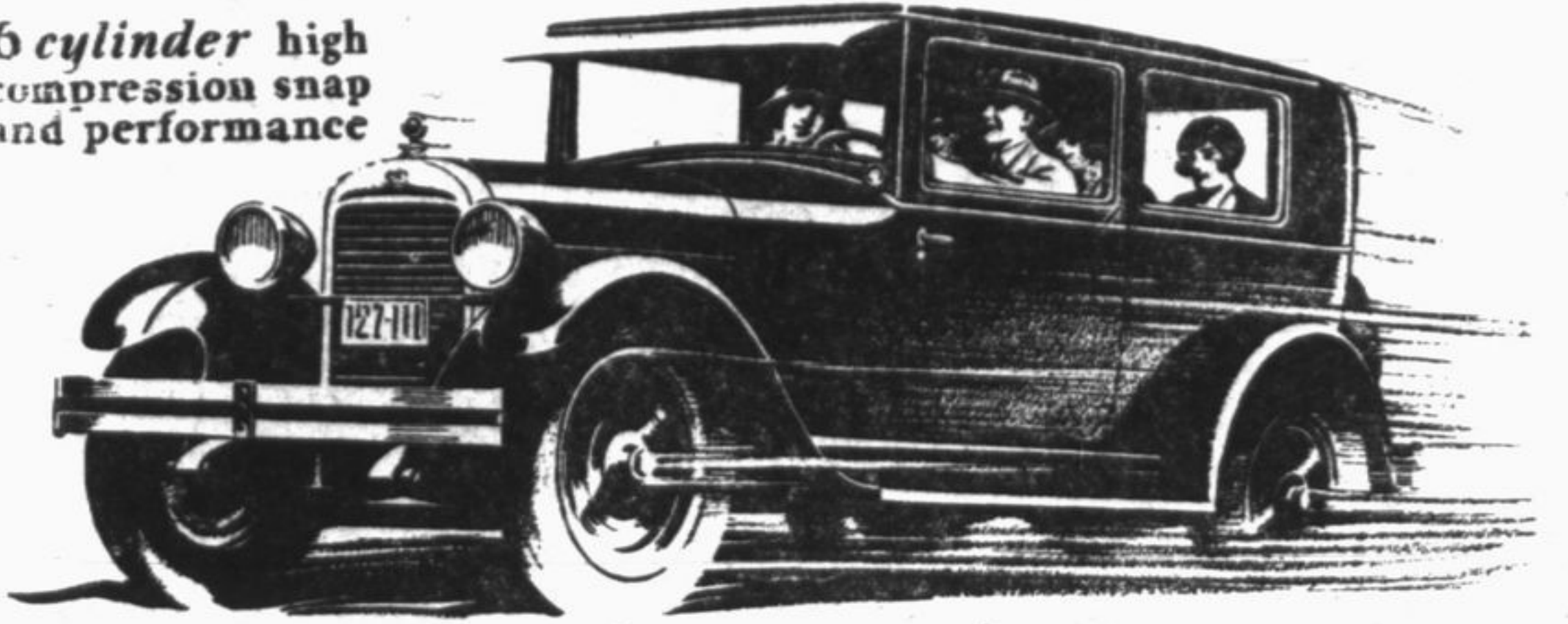
"Another destination, through a settlement worker, was a tiny apart-

ment over a garage. Here were found a mother and five children, the youngest a babe in arms. They were in abject poverty, having only dry bread and meat scraps in the larder, and half a broken-nosed jug of milk. The settlement worker brought flour, meat, potatoes, vegetables, tea and fresh milk. All this was received with sincere gratitude and thanks from each little urchin in turn, whose face previously had been scrubbed in

water from a dirty wash tub. "Then came the flowers—two dozen white carnations—handed to the mother. She burst into torrents of tears, praying and calling on all the Saints to bless the donors. Exactly four years had the poor soul lived in that dingy, forlorn place, going to the street for what she could buy, never going off the block—too busy having babies and caring for them to get away—and never in all that time

having even seen a green leaf, to say nothing of a flower. "Sitting or walking in one's garden, or unpacking florists' boxes of gorgeous bloom can bring not a tittle of the genuine hearse and satisfaction that the bestowal of one little bunch of violets on a weary, worn speck of humanity affords. "Inasmuch as ye have done it, unto the least of these—"

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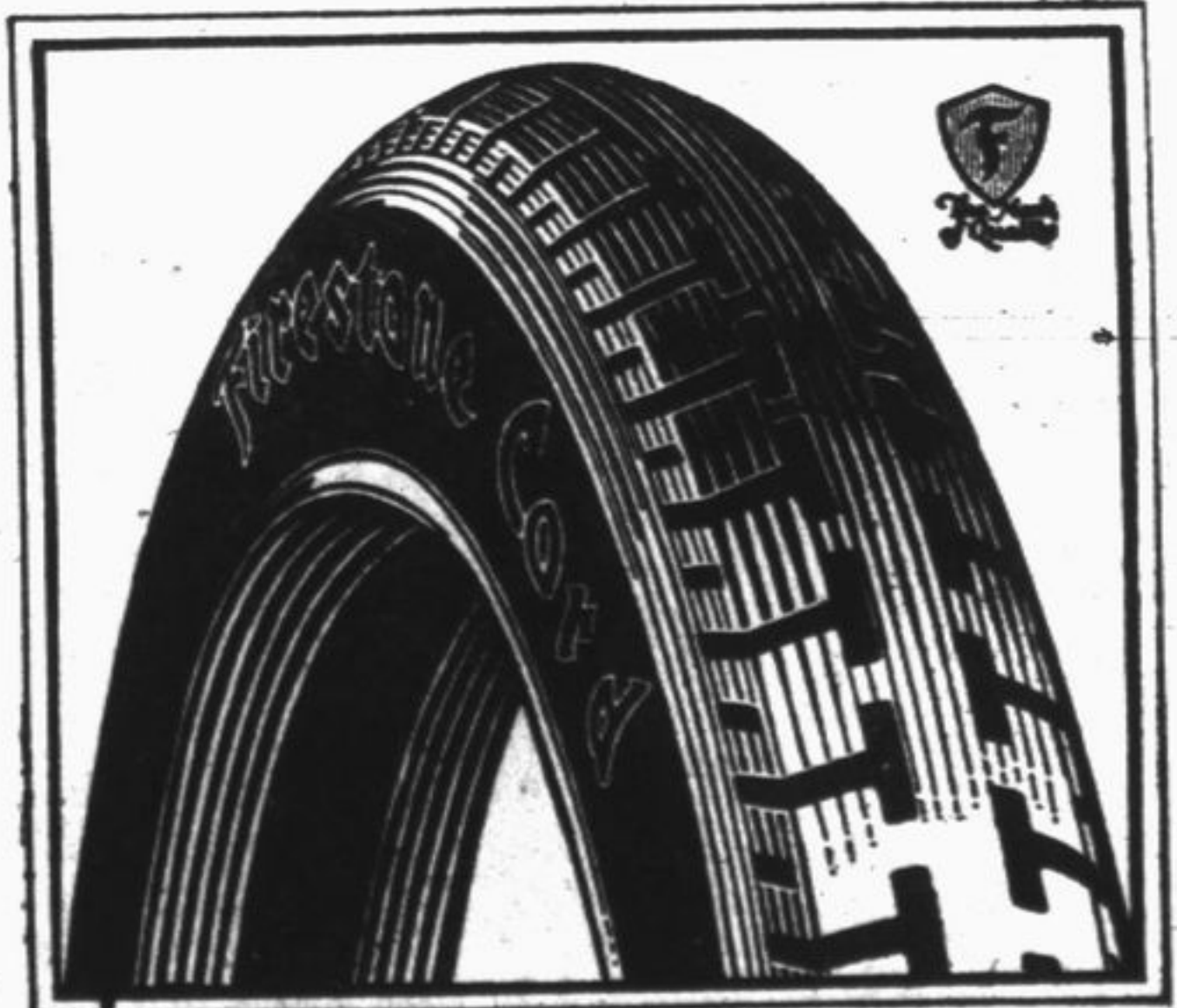
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