

Of Interest to Motorists

STEERING GEAR IS ONE OF VITAL POINTS OF CAR.

If a motorist can have adequate control over the direction in which his car travels he can usually avoid serious trouble. Even if he cannot stop the machine by applying the brake, he certainly can shut off the engine and eventually come to a halt. But if the steering apparatus of the vehicle suddenly ceases to function properly the driver is likely to be quite out of luck. Under such circumstances one is likely to appreciate the feelings of a person in a small boat approaching the precipice of Niagara Falls. Only by good fortune does the driver of a steerable car escape without mishap.

Fortunately, steering gears do not often go bad. This fact is due primarily to the great skill and care on the part of manufacturers of cars, who have done everything possible to make the steering apparatus fool proof. While no large percentage of the total number of motor accidents can be laid to steering gears that don't permit the driver to steer, yet there are enough of such undesirable incidents to warrant every motorist giving careful consideration to this important aspect of his motoring experience.

TO INSURE EASY STEERING.

In order to insure the easy steering of a car and to give it the necessary strength and the required flexibility the front wheels of an automobile are provided with certain peculiarities. At the lower end of the shaft on which the hand-steering wheel is located there is a gear. This is usually of the worm type, although other types are sometimes employed. Because of this gearing it is possible to swing the front wheels with very little effort on the part of the operator. At the same time it is necessary to exert considerable pressure on the front wheel to move the steering or hand wheel.

This is how the adjustment has been worked out: An arm from this steering gear connects through a drag link to a steering knuckle upon which one of the front wheels is mounted. The other front wheel is made to revolve in unison with the first through means of a tie rod connected to its steering knuckle. These

knuckle joints are necessarily points of weakness as compared with a solid axle. Consequently there must be provided some means of furnishing strength.

UNDERGATHER AND FOREGATHER.

Suppose the front wheels were placed in a perfectly perpendicular position. It is easy to see that considerable leverage would then be exerted on the steering knuckle pins. This would make for weak construction and would also cause a big resistance to the turning movement that is incident to the steering. To overcome these faults the front wheels are given what is termed undergather. By this is meant the distance between them at the point where they touch the ground is less than at their tops.

As a result the weight of the vehicle bears directly on a line with the steering knuckle pins and no leverage is exerted. This undergather would result in excessive wear on the tires if both wheels were pointed straight ahead—that is, set parallel. To avoid this unnecessary wear the wheels are given what is called foregather, which means that they are slightly closer together at the front edge than at the rear. While this difference is only about three-eighths of an inch, it is very important that the front wheels too in that much. Of course this does not apply to the rear wheels, which in practically all cases are exactly parallel to each other.

WHEELS ALWAYS POINT AHEAD.

In addition to this foregather and undergather, the steering knuckle pins are given a slight rake so as to produce a castor effect to the front wheels. This rake consists in placing the steering knuckle pins so that they lean backward. The result of this engineering project when steering is that the centre of turning of the steering knuckle is a little ahead of the point of contact where the tire touches the road. This is done so that the drag incident to pushing the wheel along the road is back of the centre of turning. The result is that the wheels will always point directly forward unless interfered with. So, if a control rod becomes loosened, the tendency of the car is to go straight ahead. This is all to the good and often prevents accidents.

The Honesty of Arabs.

An English geologist who has been in the Oman, behind Muscat, related to the writer the following story of the honesty of the Arabs in this southerly corner of Arabia: "We were proceeding along a mountain trail one day when I saw a small object on the ground and picked it up. It proved to be a leather roll such as the men in this region carry, in which were knick-knacks, flint and steel. Its nominal value might total five cents. I offered it to my guide and told him he could keep it. He thanked me, but took it and went over to a boulder and placed the leather roll on it in a conspicuous place. I asked him why he had done this instead of keeping it. He replied that he could not keep it as it was intended to someone else, who would undoubtedly return and find it.

"This incident is typical of these Arabs. We saw often caravan loads of dates or merchandise dumped by the roadside and left for several days without guard. The Arabs had heard of good grazing in some valley and had taken their camels away, leaving their loads at some spot along the trail. And no one would think of molesting or stealing the dates or merchandise, although many other Arabs might pass along the same route during the time of absence of the owners."

Fair Enough.

A barrister was accused by an ex-convict whom he had defended on several occasions in the past. "Ere, gov'nor," said the man, "I want you to defend me again—and this time I've been falsely accused."

"Go and see my clerk about it!" replied the barrister.

"I can only afford da couple o' quid," pursued the criminal, "but I ask you to take it up 'cos I wear I'm as innocent as a newborn babe. I never touched the stuff at all—I swear I didn't."

"Go and see my clerk!" repeated the other.

"I'll make it a fever," begged the man, thinking that the fee question was the obstacle to a favorable answer. Again he received the same reply.

"Well, look 'ere, gov'nor," he cried in desperation. "I'm innocent, mind you, but if you'll get me off, I'll give you half the swag!"

Trolleys at Balaclava.

Balaclava, where the Light Brigade made its charge in the Crimean war, is now crossed by a new electric railway, one of the few suburban electric street railway lines of Russia. Another suburban line has just been opened, connecting Sebastopol with several surrounding smaller towns.

Baku, the richest city of the Caucasus and centre of the great Russian oil district, has had a street car service for only three years.

Winter Buds.

There is a little tree beside my door, A lovely thing of cool and generous shade, And all the spring and summer days she wore

A soft, green garment, intricately made, And when her gracious, spreading arms were bare,

Tossed by the Autumn winds in wanton glee, I wondered if she were not lonely there,

For her bright leaves, the friendly little tree, But Winter has a wardrobe too, I know,

Of ermine mantle and of crystal sheath And lo, to-day, undaunted by the snow,

Nine small, brown, saucy sparrows for a wreath. —Grace Burnham.

Young Verdi Smashes His Piano.

When he was eight years old, Verdi had not yet shown many signs of the genius which he was to develop later. He had, however, a spinet upon which he was fond of picking out odd notes and fragments of melody. One day he struck two notes at once and then a third, which sounded very pleasant, being, in fact, the ordinary common chord. The next day he tried to do the same again, but could not find the right key. At this he got so angry that he picked up a hammer that was lying by and began to smash the instrument to pieces. Fortunately, the boy's father was near and rescued the spinet with a sharp blow on the head which his son remembered for years afterwards. What impressed him later still more was the kindness of a neighbor who repaired the instrument and who wrote in the inside of it: "This I do gratis in consideration of the good disposition shown by the boy, Giuseppe Verdi, in learning to play this instrument, which amply compensates me for my trouble."

An Astute Boy.

A little boy went to stay with his grandmother and found her very particular about his table manners. "Grandma," said he, "should I eat my pudding with a fork?"

"Of course you should."

"Well, have you a piece I might practise on?"

Fans in Ancient Egypt. Ostrich feather fans were used by Egyptian Pharaohs and princesses.

We ought to do our neighbor all the good we can. If you do good, good will be done to you; but if you do evil the same will be measured back to you again.—Pilpay.

Central Japan Again Stricken by 'Quake



Reports of great loss of life and vast destruction are being received following the serious earth tremors in the central island of Honshu, Japan. The shaded portion of the above map indicates the devastated area in the great disaster of 1923 when 93,000 lives were lost. Directly north is the area affected by the present eruption. The island is about 75 miles wider than from

Osaka and Kobe on the south to the northern coast line and apparently most of that territory suffered severely. Except for Kyoto, Osaka and Kobe there are few large cities in the area, which seems to have reduced the death list. The shock, according to advices, reached its highest point of intensity in the north, Mineyama alone reporting 1,000 killed. Near Kyoto, an ancient capital of Japan, the Amaru bridge, the largest and highest railroad span in the Orient, is reported to have collapsed. At Kumihamma and other points shown on the northern coast, horror and panic prevailed and people were observed from an aeroplane to be wandering in a dazed state on the beaches. Many villages are said to have been leveled by fires which followed the quake.

Persistence Wins.

Say not "I've failed" because the sun Goes down upon your task undone; To-morrow is another day, When you again may join the fray, And some day, should your steps not lag, A victory will crown your flag.

Say not "I've failed" because you see No door fly open to your key, For though you may not enter in At once, persistence still may win; Or, should you still be left outside, You still may smile and say: "I tried."

And failure, in the eyes of men, May rank as high achievement when The motive and the will are tried By tests that through all time abide; And when life's play's again rehearsed, What once seemed lost may then be first. —A. B. C.



Not Fluent. "Is he a solid talker?" "I think so—his speech doesn't flow."

The Island of Mystery.

Easton Island, in the Southern Pacific, is the most mysterious spot in the world. In spite of years of research and study it remains a mystery. Aside from a few trees which have been planted there the island has not a tree or large shrub. The entire land is covered with high stone images erected by a people of whom nothing is known. What the images represent who made them and how long ago they were erected no one knows. The images are crude and very much alike, probably some gods or devils—all making a mystery of which the world knows nothing.

New Chiblain Cure.

Elastic pressure is being recommended for the treatment of chiblaina. A rubber band, 3/4 in. wide, is stretched over the affected part at its greatest thickness, and the relief from the itching and throbbing is said to be instantaneous. The pressure must be firm but not painful.

Learn Both to Play and Work.

While it is wise to concentrate upon getting on in the world in the first half of one's life, it is a tragic mistake not to begin thereafter to indulge in a rational amount of rest and enjoyment. Just as one has to learn how to work successfully, one must learn how to play successfully. Too many men do not realize this until too late. Then they find that the leisure to which they had looked forward for many years fails to yield the pleasure they had expected and brings them nothing but lonesomeness and disillusionment. The best plan is to lighten the daily load as one grows older by delegating responsibilities to trained associates, but not to retire completely. Neither all work and no play nor all play and no work makes a happy ending of one's days.

Animal 20 Feet Tall.

A dinosaur from Africa now being assembled in London is expected to be more than 90 feet long and 20 feet tall.

MEN AND WOMEN OF TO-DAY

"My Friend the Prince." There is, we hear, an enterprising photographer in Sydney waiting for the visit of the Duke and Duchess of York in the hope that it will bring him a harvest as golden as the one he reaped on the occasion of the visit of the Prince of Wales.

He had two large photographs of the Royal visit, one showing the Prince shaking hands with the Lord Mayor, the other a panorama of the multitude of faces in the crowd. By an ingenious method of enlarging the individual figures in the crowd, and substituting them for the Lord Mayor, he was able to produce photographs of the Prince shaking hands in the warmest, most intimate way with each person in the multitude.

"Royal" Farm Laborer. At the little village of Berden, Essex, lives a farm worker who, if he wished, could turn up his nose at people whose ancestors "came over with the Conqueror." He is Mr. Thomas William Goodwin, and his ancestry has been traced back to Earl Godwin, father of King Harold, who was killed at the Battle of Hastings, in 1066.

Deprived of their wealth and possessions when King Harold died, his relatives were obliged to take to the land and become farm laborers, keeping, however, the name of the Saxon king. To-day, Harold's descendants still plough the fields for a living.

Comedy of H. G. Wells. Mr. H. G. Wells must be highly amused at the fuss being made over him by the French postal authorities in the village of Grasse, where he is living just now. His post-bag has been so heavy that the postmaster, not knowing who he really was, began to suspect him of being a spy of some kind, engaged in fomenting a revolution. He informed the police and the villa was watched. Finally the Chief of Police visited Mr. Wells and asked Mr. Wells why he received so many letters. "I really don't know" was the answer. It is said that the authorities now believe him to be a fortune-teller of the swindling variety and are still watching him.

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Mr. Goodwin is a typical Saxon, with fair hair and blue eyes, and is quite content so long as he can do his work well, cultivate his patch of garden, and bring up his family of two daughters and one son, who is known in the village as "Little King Harold."

It was not until last Christmas that he knew anything about his kingly descent.

Such advantages make the most practical of individual shingles. The shoulders of certain self-spacing shingles seal the slots. In this way the ordinary individual shingle roof are closed. Neither rain nor snow can blow through to the roof boards and between them. Heat from within the house cannot escape. Nor can the heat from the summer sun beat into the house.

Prepares Cellar Steps to Prevent Accidents. Since the cellar stairs will be in frequent use during the winter and since they are ordinarily a rather dusky, shadowy flight, it is a good plan to paint the edges of the treads with white paint. The smallest fraction of light that reaches the steps will throw up the white strips into comparative vividness, and thus eliminate chances of tripping or missing a step because of the dim light.

Must Be Reason for Color. There should be a good reason for every bit of design or pattern that enters into the decoration of a room. Some women fail to achieve satisfactory effects in interior decoration simply because they have never taken the trouble to study the problem.

Right. The bashful bachelor encountered a neighbor, a young mother, and, wishing to be neighborly, asked:—"How is your little girl, Mrs. Jones?"

"My little boy is quite well, thank you," replied the proud mother.

"Oh, it's a boy!" exclaimed the bachelor, in confusion. "I knew it was one or the other."

Thirty-five per cent. of the chicks hatched every spring, die.

A Prayer for Joy.

God of the green fields and the care-less hours, Thou who hast fashioned lovely, happy things,— And lavished colors on the loneliest flowers, And given the humblest bird the joy of wings;

Thou who hast painted this fair earth and sky —A perfect artist with a perfect plan— Touching the soul of such a thing as I, And touching still the soul of every man. . . .

Grant that we find our perfect joy in Thee, And through Thee, in the joy of every man; That, serving both, we know true service free, And happiness the end of Thy great plan! —Vera I. Arlett.

St. Dunstan's by the Sea.

St. Dunstan's, the great institution which has done so much for those who lost their sight as a result of the War, is shortly to close down its London workshop.

In this workshop many hundreds of blinded heroes have been trained to adapt themselves to their life of darkness, and have regained the sense of usefulness, service, and even hope. Now, however, the London workshop is becoming too large for the number of men who still need training, and in a few months' time these are to be transferred to the institution's convalescent home at Brighton, which is to be enlarged.

The after-care work at St. Dunstan's will still go on as before, and will continue to be directed from London. Over 2,000 men have been trained by St. Dunstan's, and are still under the care of its organization.

Well Laid Shingles Help Keep House Warm Throughout.

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Proposed Mooring Masts on the Empire Airship Routes



WHERE AIRSHIPS MAY SWING SOME TIME IN NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE

The above map shows the various points at which airship mooring masts may be erected on British Empire routes. In Canada the question of locations is still engaging the officials of national defense. An expert from Britain will shortly assist with the selections. It is desirable to have these masts close to places with good railway facilities, but the necessary land near such centres is thought to be too expensive for the present. The land question is the greatest difficulty for the present. For purposes of comparison mooring masts have been placed in the map at Vancouver, Ottawa, Montreal and Halifax. Only two of the masts are at present in existence, one at Cardington, in Bedfordshire, and the other at Ismailia, on the Suez canal. A third is in course of erection at Karachi, in northern India. With regard to the others, a special mission is being sent out from the air ministry to

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examine the suggested sites. In West Africa Freetown, in Sierra Leone, or Bathurst, in Gambia, may be chosen. If, on the other hand, the eastern route through Africa is eventually chosen, Mombasa may be the site of a mast. Capetown would naturally be the terminal point on this route, but if it is, there may be a station also at Durban, for it is regarded as possible that airships may eventually fly to Australia via Africa, in which case Durban would be the place for a mooring mast. In Australia, if the route via India is chosen, there will be a station at Port Darwin, and thereafter one at Melbourne or Sydney, or both, as the Australian government may see fit. If, on the other hand, the route is to be via Africa, the first station in Australia is likely to be established at Perth. In India it may be assumed that one or more masts will be established south of Karachi.

THE EGG INDUSTRY OF THE DOMINION

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS PRACTICALLY EQUAL.

World Poultry Congress Will Bring About Six Thousand Delegates to Canada.

The Canadian Government has recently taken steps to protect the Canadian egg producer and adopted a measure calculated to promote this phase of the poultry industry of the Dominion. By a Government order the anti-dumping law has been invoked against imported eggs. The value of eggs imported into Canada has been fixed by order at forty-five cents per dozen at the point of production and forty-eight cents at the nearest point of distribution in the country shipping eggs to Canada. Normally the specific duty on eggs is three cents a dozen. Under the emergency order Canadian eggs will have a protection of approximately ten cents. This measure, adopted to prevent the dumping of American eggs into the Canadian market, is in line with similar steps taken last year with regard to fruit, and is to apply only to those months when the Canadian egg producer is at a disadvantage owing to climatic conditions.

The production of farm eggs in Canada in 1926 is estimated at 237,980,899 dozen, of the value of \$66,198,285. The estimated production by provinces is as follows in order:—Ontario, 90,628,539 dozen, \$27,188,569; Saskatchewan, 35,224,432 dozen, \$9,173,864; Quebec, 28,510,914 dozen, \$6,842,403; British Columbia, 17,112,770 dozen, \$4,791,576; Manitoba, 15,846,877 dozen, \$3,995,250; New Brunswick, 5,931,753 dozen, \$1,609,391; Nova Scotia, 3,881,657 dozen, \$1,084,894; Prince Edward Island, 5,709,115 dozen, \$1,038,552; Indian Reserves, 354,125 dozen, \$74,368. The outstanding feature is the standing in this regard of the four Western provinces, three occupying second, fourth, fifth and sixth places.

The egg situation in Canada is a somewhat peculiar one. While the Dominion is capable of producing sufficient eggs to meet her own requirements, and in fact engages in a certain export trade, it is customary in the winter months to import on a fairly substantial scale. Canada produces about two hundred million dozen eggs per annum and exports about three million while importing a volume practically equal. In the past year there has been a marked disparity between exports and imports. In the twelve months ending November, 1926, Canada imported 3,434,209 dozen eggs worth \$1,004,983 while exporting only 1,966,604 dozen worth \$766,173. Imports are largest from the United States, though coming also from Hong Kong and other countries. Exports from Canada go in largest volume to the United Kingdom and in smaller quantities to Newfoundland, United States, Bermuda, St. Pierre and Miquelon and other countries.

Conditions to be More Favorable.

The production of eggs in Canada, in fact the poultry industry in general, is one which has been receiving a good deal of attention of late, as a result of which conditions should be more favorable in the future. Eastern Canada producers have been at a disadvantage owing to heavy importations from Oregon and California at a time when the eastern hen is not laying as well as at other seasons of the year. There is no apparent reason why British Columbia, with its superb winter climate, should not be able to take the place of these states and supply Eastern Canada with Canadian eggs in the winter months. Poultry farming is already a thriving little industry on the Pacific coast and the recent protection should advance it considerably.

Commercial egg production in Canada is, for the main part, a side activity of the mixed farm, a steady source of revenue to the farmer's wife. Farms devoted to this activity exclusively, however, flourish in all parts of the country, particularly on the Pacific coast and about the large centres of population. There are 739 individuals who at the last census declared themselves poultry farmers, and 52 of these are women. In future they will pursue their calling under more favorable conditions.

Progress in Prairie Provinces.

While British Columbia is in a peculiarly favorable position to furnish the rest of Canada with eggs during the winter months the Prairie Provinces have been making great progress in the way of production during the summer season. The increasing number of mixed farms of that territory are steadily swelling production and making supplies available for export. The marketing of the eggs of the mixed farms has been tackled seriously, and this is effected co-operatively through egg pools which have been in existence for some years. Economy in handling, the elimination of the middle man, and other factors of co-operative enterprise have resulted in greater profits to the producers. Manitoba alone handles about seven cars of eggs a week in this manner.

Lighted Keyholes.

Among the new suggestions at the exhibition of inventions, recently held in London, England, were lighted keyholes for late husbands.