

In The Automobile World

AUTOMOBILE TIPS

Silk sweaters trimmed with Roman striped silk borders strike a decidedly new note and are very pretty. The sweater is in solid colors and the stripes are gay. The fringed silk sweater is also new, and one of the most attractive is in apricot silk with fringe at the bottom, finishing the sailor collar and the ends of the sash girdle. Jersey cloth Norfolk sweaters are especially designed to wear with the plaid sport skirts. One is turquoise blue is worn with a white satin sport skirt.

Too much cannot be said in regard to the proper use of the hose or other methods of applying water to the body. Soap must not be used on the body of a car under any condition.

The holes drilled in muffler sometimes are rough and ragged, with the result that the escaping gases set up a whistling noise anything but agreeable. Smoothing off the rough edges will usually eliminate the unwelcome sound.

Watch the steering wheel for lost motion, i.e., any movement which does not move the front wheels. One inch or even a little more is not objectionable. But if any more develops it should be removed by adjusting the steering gear. If a looseness develops suddenly and tends to increase rapidly it must be corrected immediately, as it shows that some part is coming loose, and will soon drop off, rendering the car unmanageable.

When two or more leaves of a spring break it is not advisable to install new leaves without re-setting the spring. If the spring is used for some time it sets it different from that of the new leaves.

Inspect the cones of your front wheel bearings occasionally. When they begin to wear through at the bottom they use up a lot of power and should be shifted. Turn them one quarter around. This brings a new surface into use and so prolongs the life of the bearing.

A very handy tool is a portable vulcanizer. With it the tube may be patched and the expense of having it done outside may be saved. It may also be used to close up small cuts in the tread of the outer shoe, thus prolonging its life. The method of using it may be easily mastered after a few attempts. Use an old tube to practice on and you will learn to vulcanize.

One of the factors making for deterioration of the spare tire is the exhaust. The heat and corroding gases issuing from the exhaust, right near the spare when it is carried in the rear, tend to impair the rubber and shorten the life of the tire, even more than if it had been in active service on the road.

So many sections feature a new mattress that it can be rolled for easy handling.

CANADA'S AUTO CENSUS.

Cars in Use in Dominion Number About 176,000,000.

Official reports received in Toronto within the past few days indicate an increase of slightly more than fifty per cent. in the number of automobiles in actual use in the Dominion at present time over the total for 1916. According to statements from the provincial cities, the cars in use in Canada now total approximately 176,000. The approximate total on December 21st, 1916, was 117,000. This makes an increase of 59,000 cars within three months of the year to come.

The province of Ontario continues to lead with a present total of about 70,000 cars registered as compared with approximately 55,000 last December. Saskatchewan follows, however, with a present total of 31,084 cars, as compared with only 13,894 for last year. Quebec now has close to 20,000 automobiles, as against 15,335 cars in 1916. Alberta is the fourth province with almost 18,000 cars, compared with 9,211 last December. Manitoba is a close fourth, with nearly 17,000 cars. In round numbers British Columbia owns 12,000 motor cars, while Nova Scotia has just reported passing the 5,000 mark. New Brunswick is a few hundred cars behind Nova Scotia, while the tiny province of Prince Edward Island will soon have 100 automobiles, despite adverse and freakish legislation.

Women Drive at Front.

Between 150 and 200 women soon will be driving military motor cars behind the French front.

Women have tried since the beginning of the war to enlist in the automobile service. The Club Feminin Automobile was the centre of this group, and it had secured the signatures of several hundred of the thousand women in Paris who hold licenses to drive motor cars. The passive resistance of the different war bureaus held them back until now.

The women are obliged to enlist for three months, and to agree to submit unflinchingly to military rules and discipline. They will in the beginning replace motor ambulance drivers in the foreign sanitary sections who are transferred to other services. Later on they may replace men in other automobile sections.

Unequally adjusted rear wheel brakes are a potent cause of skidding, and it is wise to make frequent tests of the parts for incorrect adjustments. It is necessary to have some one with you to watch the wheels. Drive the car along a dry road, accelerate quickly and then suddenly apply the brakes. If one wheel slides while the other is revolving it may be taken for granted that the brakes are not holding with equal effectiveness.

Owners of cars wired by the single wire method should examine the ground connections at frequent intervals. A loose or corroded ground will often cause dim burnings, and sometimes it may even eliminate all flow of current.

TIMELY TIPS.

Go down very steep hills with the low gear engaged, the clutch in and the ignition switched off, in preference to relying on the brake. The compression of the motor will go a long way toward keeping the machine in absolute control, and the brake will do the rest.

One of the most common causes of overheating, especially in the case of solo riders, is overdriving. This means running all out or at very high speeds for some length of time. The air passing around the cylinders is not sufficient to effectively cool them and the oil gets too hot to do its work well, hence the tendency of the motor to get sluggish. It only takes a short stop of the motor to bring things to normal again, however.

Spitting puffs in the carburetor of a cold motor, often called popping back, are due to either too weak a mixture or to weak inlet valve springs. The trouble is rarely of more than a few seconds' duration and can be cured in the first case by closing all air ports. Replacing the inlet spring cured in the first case by closing all air ports. Replacing the inlet spring cures the other cause of trouble.

A wrinkle in setting up cup-and-cone type of ball-bearings is to bed the balls in grease in the cup and then set the cone up until the bearing feels as if it were solid. Then slack it back a quarter turn and you have a good adjustment.

To get the kinks out of a buckled wheel, take it out and get a stone for an anvil. Hammer with a big stone or a hammer on each side of the kink, not on the kink itself. Then slack the wheel into shape for riding home.

Keep a blue pencil or an indelible pencil in your tire kit to mark the punctures, especially the small ones. The mark will be visible even under the tire cement.

NO OIL SHORTAGE.

A. C. Bedford, president of the Standard Oil Company, of New Jersey, and member of the oil committee of the U.S. Council of National Defence, told the war convention of the Chambers of Commerce of the United States at Atlantic City that not only was there no immediate danger of a gasoline or oil shortage, but that "with a fair maintenance of production" there is sufficient gasoline and oil in sight to take care of all needs, including the probable increase in civil and war consumption for at least five years to come. The production of petroleum by the Eastern, Texas, Mid-Continental and California fields in August showed an increase of 1,453,047 barrels over the output in July. The September production is reported to have been much in excess of that of August.

Nevertheless, the waste of gasoline is not to be condoned. At all times waste is a shameful misuse of wealth. It is especially so in these times.

More than 3,000 domesticated elephants are maintained in Siam.

SMELTERS CO. MAKES NEW LEAD CONTRACT

Embargo on Ore Containing Over 4 P.C. Zinc Has Been Removed.

Toronto, Nov. 9.—Regarding the despatch from Nelson, British Columbia, that the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company has put an embargo on lead ores containing over four per cent. zinc, J. J. Warren, the managing director of the company, said that Sir Joseph Flavelle, chairman of the Imperial Munitions Board, has agreed to purchase the surplus lead production of the company until March 1, 1918. The embargo will therefore be lifted and normal shipments of lead are accepted.

New Steel Products Concern.

Brantford, Nov. 9.—Announcement is made in New York of the incorporation of the American Steel Products Corporation, with a capital of \$1,000,000. W. P. Kellett, of this city, is president and general manager of the company.

Russell Motor Annual.

Toronto, Nov. 9.—There was a moderate attendance of shareholders at the annual meeting of the Russell Motor Car Company. It was decided that war orders received from the United States Government would necessitate the erection of a plant in the United States and the possible incorporation of an American subsidiary. The company intended to acquire property in Buffalo, for which they were now negotiating, in order the better to fill their American Government war orders.

Consumers Gas Report.

Toronto, Nov. 9.—In spite of heavy increases in operating expenses the Consumers Gas Company increased its net for the year ending September 30th to a new high record. Net after operating expenses and taxes being \$953,306. A. W. Austin, in referring to the increasing market for the company's output, said that in the last ten years the output of gas had been more than doubled.

Municipal Sales Drop.

Montreal, Nov. 9.—The municipal bond sales in Canada for October as compiled by the Monetary Times were \$392,771, compared with \$440,068 in September and \$1,351,65 for October of last year. The preparations of the Victory loan sale shortly, and the monopoly of the money markets by war loans generally, account for the low amount of sales last month.

Fire Losses Reduced.

Toronto, Nov. 9.—The Monetary Times' estimate of Canada's fire loss during October is \$764,695, as compared with the September loss

of \$1,301,700 and \$1,077,815 for October of last year.

Commercial Notes.

A large United States meat packing company is going to locate in St. Boniface, and erect \$4,000,000 plant.

Earnings of the Bethlehem Steel Company for the seven months ending August 31, 1917, showed a surplus after charges of \$32,750,000.

At Chatham, N.B., is reported Montreal interests are negotiating for the purchase of the Dominion pulp mill and land in this section.

The Chandler Motor Car Co. reports net profits for the period from Jan. 1, 1917, to Oct. 1, 1917, as \$2,110,000, equal to \$30 per share, as against \$1,339,000, equal to \$19 per share, for the corresponding period of 1916.

Stockholders of Anglo-American Oil Company, the Standard Oil concern operating in the British Isles, are to be given right to subscribe to 50 per cent. of their holdings at \$7.50 a share. The present market price of stock is about \$18 to \$19 a share. A special meeting of stockholders has been called for November 21 to vote on an increase in the capital stock from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000 by creation of 1,000,000 new shares of \$5 each.

New Candidate in Renfrew.

Renfrew, Nov. 8.—The latest name mentioned in Renfrew political circles as being likely to receive and willing to accept nomination as a Union government candidate is that of George B. Ferguson, lumberman. A Union convention will be held in Renfrew on the 14th inst, when it is hoped and expressed that both parties will agree to support a Union candidate. In the event that the two parties do not agree on one candidate, Mr. Ferguson will probably carry the standard for the party supporting Union government.

Killed While Hunting.

Minden, Ont., Nov. 9.—Charles Wasmidge, of Grimby, died here as a result of being accidentally shot by Mack Woods, Dundas, Ont. Both were on a deer hunt and seeing a flock of ducks while out near Kenora Lake, twenty miles north of here, opened fire on them. Woods was a few yards behind and in reloading his rifle accidentally discharged the bullet hitting Wasmidge in the back. The victim was thirty-eight years of age and unmarried. He was employed as a blacksmith at Grimby.

The true Christian spirit, Franco, is something that prevents a grocer from dispensing 30 and 40 cents butter from the same tub. "Butterhead" may be the direct result of good planning.



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WINTER cold and drifting snow do not mar the comfort of motoring in a Ford Sedan, the car that completely protects you from every weather at all times.

High winds cannot blow you "to pieces". Irritating dust and rain can be entirely shut out, while on warm, pleasant days the windows may be lowered, so that the air circulates freely.

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