

In the Automobile World

SHIP BY TRUCK PLAN BECOMES IMPORTANT Motor Express Lines Are As Necessary As In War Time.

The great war taught us a lesson in transportation that will not soon be forgotten. The railway situation was so desperate that freight embargoes were necessary. The congestion in freight yards and terminals was appalling.

It was next to impossible for shipments to get through. Even war plants holding priorities were handicapped greatly. As for the ordinary lines of business, they were crippled almost to the point of extinction.

The motor truck to the rescue! Dozens of haulage companies were organized almost overnight, and shipments by motor truck, over distances hitherto considered impossible, soon became a regular occurrence.

Up to that time, the motor truck had been regarded as essentially a medium of short hauls, in cities, but now, under the strain of necessity, it leaped full fledged into the limelight of public attention as a new and effective method of freight transportation. The railway situation was materially relieved.

Finally the armistice was signed and the transportation situation cleared up gradually. Before the war, the possibility of the motor truck competing with the railroads had never occurred to truck owners, but when they found that the motor truck lines were successfully between cities at considerable distances carrying both freight and express, and at a profit, they began to see a great light.

The railroads also got a new angle on the situation. They knew that their revenue from short hauls was all out of proportion to that derived from long hauls. As a matter of fact, they had been operating at a loss on the short hauls.

As time passed, they welcomed the truck companies more and more cordially as feeders for their line.

The motor truck companies are that, and more. They are tapping sources of supply which were before inaccessible, bringing in new and better products to market, more quickly and more economically.

The trucks can penetrate into the very centres of production. Now that there is an effective motor transportation to the centres of distribution, food products will come in from the farms and orchards, minerals will be shipped in from the mountain fastnesses, timber will be available from forests hitherto unreachd.

ENGINE MUST RUN COOL TO GET BEST RESULTS FROM IT

First of all, it is necessary to understand the cooling system. Do not expect the truck to labor in low gear up long grades or through deep sand, perhaps with a trailer, and still keep cool. If carbon deposit is permitted to accumulate in the cylinders, if insufficient water is put in the radiator, if the oil level is low or the oil is of the wrong kind.

At the beginning of the season it is ordinarily necessary to change the carburetor adjustment, that in summer being a trifle leaner than that for winter. Overheating is sure to result if the carburetor is improperly adjusted.

Fiming has an important bearing on cooling. In hot climates where temperatures are excessive for a considerable part of the year, the engine may be made to run cooler, but at a

Nearest Notes Of Science

French scientists have found spectroscopes quick and reliable for analyzing mineral water.

A toy motion picture machine for home use has been invented that uses the regular size films.

The Brazilian city of Para is planning to sterilize its drinking water with ultraviolet rays.

An electrically operated hedge trimmer with reciprocating knives has been invented by a Louisiana man.

An English inventor has brought out an automatic recording target for indoor rifle shooting.

A gas stove oven, with which food can be baked and boiled at the same time is a Californian's invention.

That the temperature of the center of the sun is 30,632 degrees is the estimate of a French scientist.

An electrically heated tray that can be connected to any lighting fixture is a new sick room convenience.

Two bridges in a city in India are supported by metal floats that accommodate it to changing water levels.

To insure a hunter a steady aim an inventor has patented an arm rest, fastened to the body with a waist belt.

Venezuela by law has established a butter purity standard and prohibited the sale of any that is adulterated.

A vacuummeter has been invented to tell an automobile owner how much gasoline he is consuming from mile to mile.

Holland will open an international aeronautic exposition at Amsterdam, August 1st, and continue it about six weeks.

A woman is the patentee of a new post hole digger with a hinged scoop to remove all the loose earth from a hole.

A target invented by an Australian records the course of bullets in relation to both stationary and moving objects.

Seaweeds obtain their nourishment from the water in which they grow, not from the ground in which they may be rooted.

The Congo river and its tributaries provide more than 9,000 miles of waterway's navigable to steamboats of shallow draft.

After long and serious experiments, an Italian scientist has decided that dogs wag their tails for conversational purposes.

Safety gloves for machinists have been invented, made of chrome leather and sewed with steel wire so that they will not rip.

Factories have been established in Spain for the manufacture of paper from vine shoots and of paper pulp from esparto grass.

The water in a public drinking fountain in a Kansas city is cooled by running it through a coil of pipe sunk in an old well.

A British patent has been granted for a series of tanks fastened to a cable to enable a vessel to spread oil on rough water.

For light automobiles a detachable support has been invented to enable running boards to carry heavier loads than ordinarily.

Only indifferent results have attended efforts to cultivate tobacco in Scotland, although the soil and climate seem suitable.

An Indianapolis inventor has proposed to send a message like this—(pause)—(longer pause)—, meaning, "two and two are four," but suppose the Martians do not understand—and why should they?"

Marconi's scheme is insignificant from the picturesque point of view when compared with that of James G. Thompson, an American engineer, based on the investigations of the French scientists, Prof. Eichegoren, in the Sahara desert.

Thompson's scheme is nothing less than to construct a huge triangular diagram on the desert of Sahara large enough for the Martians to see. This he would do by three great canals, with their angular points at Stax on the Tunisian Gulf, at Ell Abbas, in the heart of the desert, and at Nenous, not far east of the Southern Coast of Africa from Gibraltar, where it would be connected with the Mediterranean Sea.

See the hypotenuse of this mighty triangle would stretch for a thousand miles from Ell Abbas to Stax. He goes further, and suggests that the triangle should be generated on the canals. The Martians, who are great mathematicians, would recognize the 42nd proposition of Euclid, and communicate in its terms.

THE PEOPLE IN MARS.

Canadian Scientists Are Sceptical About Signalling Them.

"Breakfasting in Mars," may be a popular summer pastime for the Canadian generation of 1919.

Prof. Davis Todd, of Amherst College, is planning to ascend at Fort Omaha in an American army balloon, in a serious attempt to communicate with the fiery planet by some sort of wireless instruments that he has been perfecting for a number of years.

In the report the professor is credited with the statement that he believes that his attempt will be successful. If he can reach a height of 30,000 feet. Six year ago, with Capt. Stevens as his pilot, he attained 22,000 feet.

Sir Frederick Stupart, of Toronto, thinks that Mars may be inhabited, but he is credulous about our communicating with them. "In the first place I question whether Prof. Todd ever said quite what is attributed to him," he said in an interview.

"I don't imagine that we'll be communicating with Mars in the near future. I don't think I have ever met Prof. Todd, but he's one of the well-known American astronomers. I can't conceive that he will get to the height, and, if he does what he is, a poor mortal that has to use oxygen to breathe at their height, going to do with ether waves? How do we know that the people in Mars, if there are people there, as are advanced as far as we are in natural science?"

Prof. Chant, of Toronto University, who has been interested in Mars also for many years, stated that he knows Prof. Todd. "He's a little sensational," he said. "I can't go as far as he does. I acknowledge the existence of some markings, practically the same as Prof. Lowell discovered and photographed, but I think their conclusions are based on insufficient data."

Prof. Chant looked up his tables to see just how far Mars was away from the earth at the present time. "Just 22,2,000,000 miles," he said. "But every two years and two months, it is only about 35,500,000 or 36,000,000 away. Like Frederick Stupart, he is sceptical of any communication with the Martians.

He gave his opinion of Marconi's announcement a little while ago, that he had had odd effects in his instruments that might have been messages from Mars, as "a little wild." "It is a little harsh to condemn these things, but the proposition of Marconi looks to me like a wild dream," said Prof. Chant. "Marconi believes that, just as we receive ether waves (light) from the stars so should the Martians receive our long ether waves from us. One must remember, though, that the radiation would be out into space, while now, after all is said the wireless messages that we send are for only a few thousand miles, and the energy is guided by the surface of the earth. Marconi

THIS BATTERY POINTER MAY SAVE YOU TROUBLE

"Don't be too generous with the distilled water when you're putting it in batteries," says Mr. I. Lessee, local Willard expert. "If you are, you're likely to do just as much harm as if you neglected to put any water at all in."

Of course water is necessary, but the idea is to put in just enough to replace the amount that has evaporated. If you put in more you're getting into trouble in two ways; you're weakening the battery, and worse than that you're taking the first step toward ruining your battery box.

"If the water remained in the battery as water, there would be no chance of damage—but it doesn't. It mixes right in with the acid."

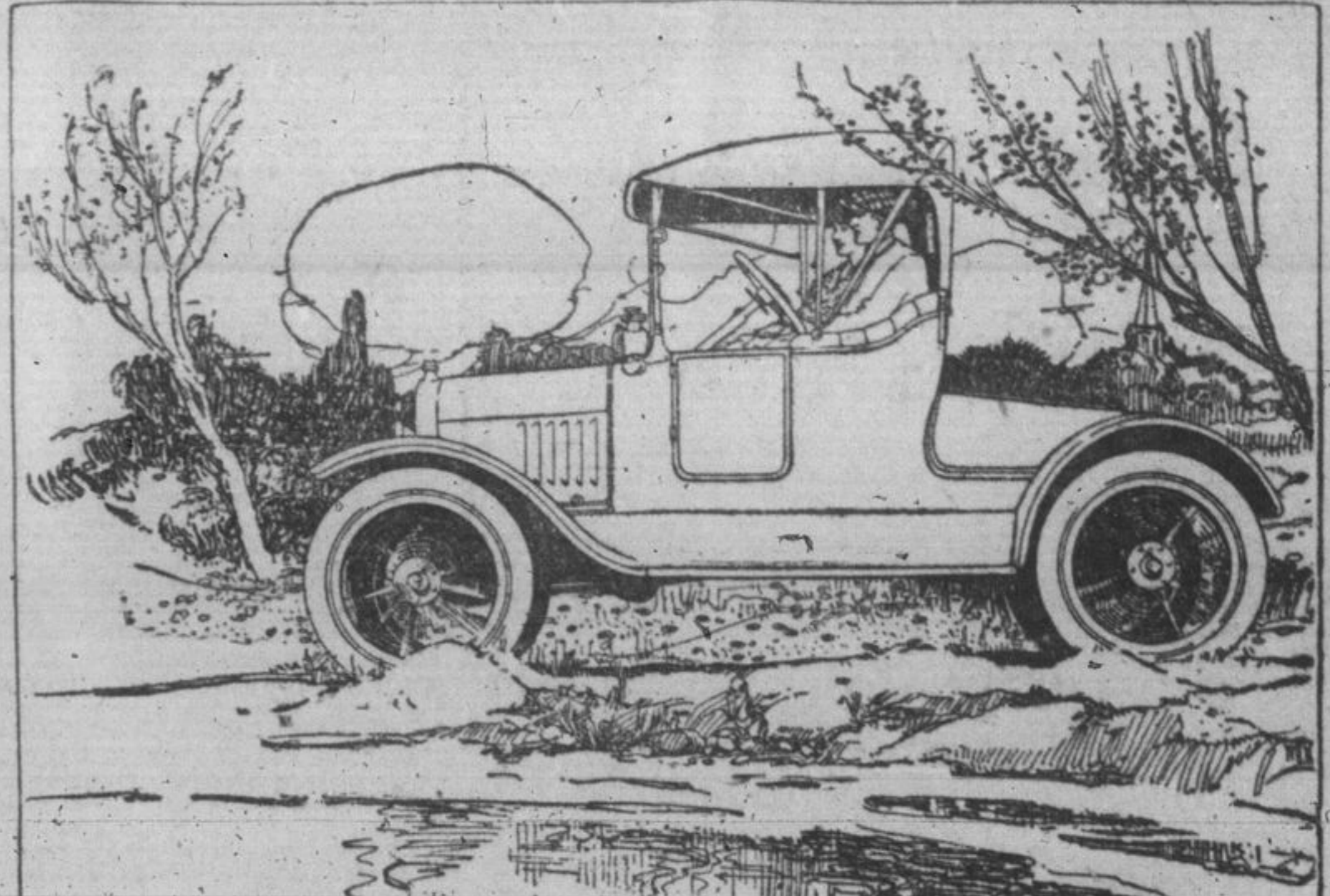
"Consequently if your battery is too full the acid begins to slop out at the top with the first hard jolt and keeps spilling little by little until the damage is done. This acid is strong enough to eat through wood or iron, and will take the wooden bottom right out of the battery box."

"You'll sidestep a lot of trouble if you remember, when you add distilled water, to stop as soon as the solution rises to half an inch over the tops of the battery plates."

Magneto Trouble. Irregular magneto action, sometimes occurs because of end play in the armature bearings. The end motion of the armature may be sufficient to upset the action of the contact breaker and render the time of firing uncertain and irregular. Inserting a fibre washer to take up the slack is the correct remedy.

Do Not Cut Corners. Do not cut the corners in turning, but keep well to your side of the street and look both ways before you make the turn.

Among the anti-skidding devices for automobiles is one in which pronged bars mounted near the rear wheels can be lowered by a driver against the tires when the lateral movement begins.



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