

# In the Automobile World

## THE CARE OF YOUR CAR

Practical Advice That Will Help You to Get the Maximum Pleasure, Comfort and Use From Your Automobile.

**Test Valve Springs.**  
Valve springs should be tested occasionally to see if they are of full strength. If they are weak, they permit the pistons to draw burnt gases into the cylinders, thus creating an improper mixture. The average strength of a valve spring is thirty pounds.

**Use New Tires.**  
It is a good plan to carry a used tire as a spare and use the newly purchased one. A new tire held as a spare is a temptation to the tire thief.

**Put Graphite in Oil.**  
The addition of a little pure flake graphite to the lubricating oil is a help to motors that have seen some wear. Only pure motor graphite should be used. It forms on the metal surfaces, reducing wear, and filling up scores in the cylinders.

**Oil Spring Shackles.**  
Rust often clogs the small vents of the spring shackles and keeps out the oil. By using common kerosene occasionally these holes can be kept open.

**Clutch Riding Costly.**  
One of the most expensive mistakes made by motor-truck drivers

is "clutch-riding"—that is, slipping the clutch a little by holding the foot continually against the pedal. When the truck is under heavy load and the clutch is slipped in this way the discs get very hot and the clutch does not hold as well as when the plates are allowed to cool off by slowing down the engine. If the clutch is engaged suddenly when the engine is running at high speed heating and warping of the steel discs results and the copper rivets raised above asbestos facing causing chattering and poor operation.

**To Find Car Rattles.**  
"The more expensive a car is the longer you expect it to run without rattles. Yet it is possible with even the lowest priced cars to keep the rattles out if one will catch them as they appear. They will come one by one, and if they are caught in the same manner they will not be nearly as hard to remove as they would be if they are allowed to accumulate in a troublesome chorus before they are stopped.

"A rattle found is a rattle half cured," says A. L. Lomms, in Motor.

"Rattles in the brake linkage and other parts under the car can be found by shutting off the engine and allowing the car to coast in neutral gear. If someone stands or sits on the running board while the driver does this, many sounds that have been difficult of location will be readily found. These link rods are a typical example of noise that will often defy the efforts of the driver to find, while another person sitting on the running board or outside the car will have little or no difficulty."

**Fill the Radiator.**  
In the thermo-siphon cooling system it is important to keep the radiator full or very nearly so in order that there may be adequate back resistance to keep the water forcing its way forward. It is better to add a little water frequently than to let the matter go until the engine begins to knock for help.

**Radiator Leaks.**  
One cause of leaks in the radiator is that the vents in the filling caps and overflow become choked, with the result that steam accumulates in the radiator, and the pressure, seeking an outlet, forces an opening at the weakest point. A little attention to the vent will remove the cause of the trouble.

## CRUDE SUGAR IS HAILED AS NEW FUEL IN HAWAII

Sugar—the motor-fuel of the future! Startling as this may appear at first glance as the mind flashes through a lightning calculation of what sugar costs for table use only, scientists assert emphatically that the "crude" of sugar, which is molasses, is destined to furnish the gasoline of the future.

Great strides in this direction are already reported by J. P. Foster, chemist for a large sugar plantation on the island of Maui, Hawaii, who is said to have produced a satisfactory "motor alcohol" out of the lowly and sticky molasses.

Experts who have studied the proposition from every angle say the motor fuel of the future will be grown, not mined, as at present. There will then be no fear that this gasoline substitute will be exhausted since as much can be grown from year to year as the country and the world will require.

Since the world's available supply of petroleum is known to be decreasing rapidly, the British government has been active in investigating possible substitutes and its chemists report that vegetable materials containing sugar, such as molasses, sugar beets and mangos; those containing starch, as maize and other cereals and potatoes, and those containing cellulose, as peat, sulphite, wood pulp, lyes and wood are suited for the production of motor fuels of excellent grade.

The fuel development by Mr. Foster in Hawaii is said to give more power, easier starting and more freedom from carbon than the best grades of gasoline now on the market. Moreover, in recent tests, it was used on motor cars without an adjustment of the carburetor.

**Graphite for Pneumatics.**  
Flake graphite makes a good tire lubricant, giving an easy fit of the inner tube and reducing heating. It lasts longer than soapstone and has no chemical effect on the rubber, graphite being chemically inert. Graphite also is useful for treating rims as a rust preventive. The application of a thin coat of quick-drying varnish to which graphite has been added until it is about the thickness of cream helps protect and conserve the rims effectively.

**Watch Rear Axle.**  
The intense mechanical strain undergone by the rear axle requires careful watching. This part of the car is the center of intense mechanical activity carrying all the pushes and pulls and jolts and jars of the whole car. The car owner should therefore guard against any rear axle trouble. The safest way is to have the axle examined by an expert as soon as slight trouble develops.

## KAR KIDDIES

Bobby's dog was limping along on three feet.  
"Look, daddy! Tige's not hitting on all his cylinders."  
"Why, Teddy! How did you catch that chicken?"  
"Oh, I des' runned him and runned him until his gas gave out."

Small Helen objected to having her throat sprayed: "I wouldn't mind so much if you would let me honk it myself!" She loved to preside at the horn.

"Tommy, can you spell?"  
"Sure! I can spell words of four cylinders!"

"My goodness, Carlo!" said Tommy, after a rough-and-tumble romp. "I guess we'd better stop and let you cool off your motor."

## Have You a Little Tow-Rope in Your Car?

A dark and stormy night. Near midnight and raining. A short circuit, no lights, no horn and a dead motor. A mile away from home and no relief in sight. Friend wife worried and also friend husband. Suddenly a familiar car appears and stops, and ain't it a grand and glorious feeling? There's no chance to go home under your own power, but perhaps you can get a tow. But Friend, Friend hasn't any tow rope; neither have you and again gloom. Suddenly you remember your tire chains and the towing problem is solved. You get home safely, but you immediately register a vow never to go out again, even in the city, unless you have some sort of a tow rope tucked away under the back seat.

**Tip On Washing Car.**  
The car should never be washed in direct sunlight. If the operation is not carried out in the garage the vehicle should be in the shade while being washed. The direct rays of the sun striking on water causes heating, which tends to dull the finish. In the same way the hood should never be washed when it is hot, as directly after a run.

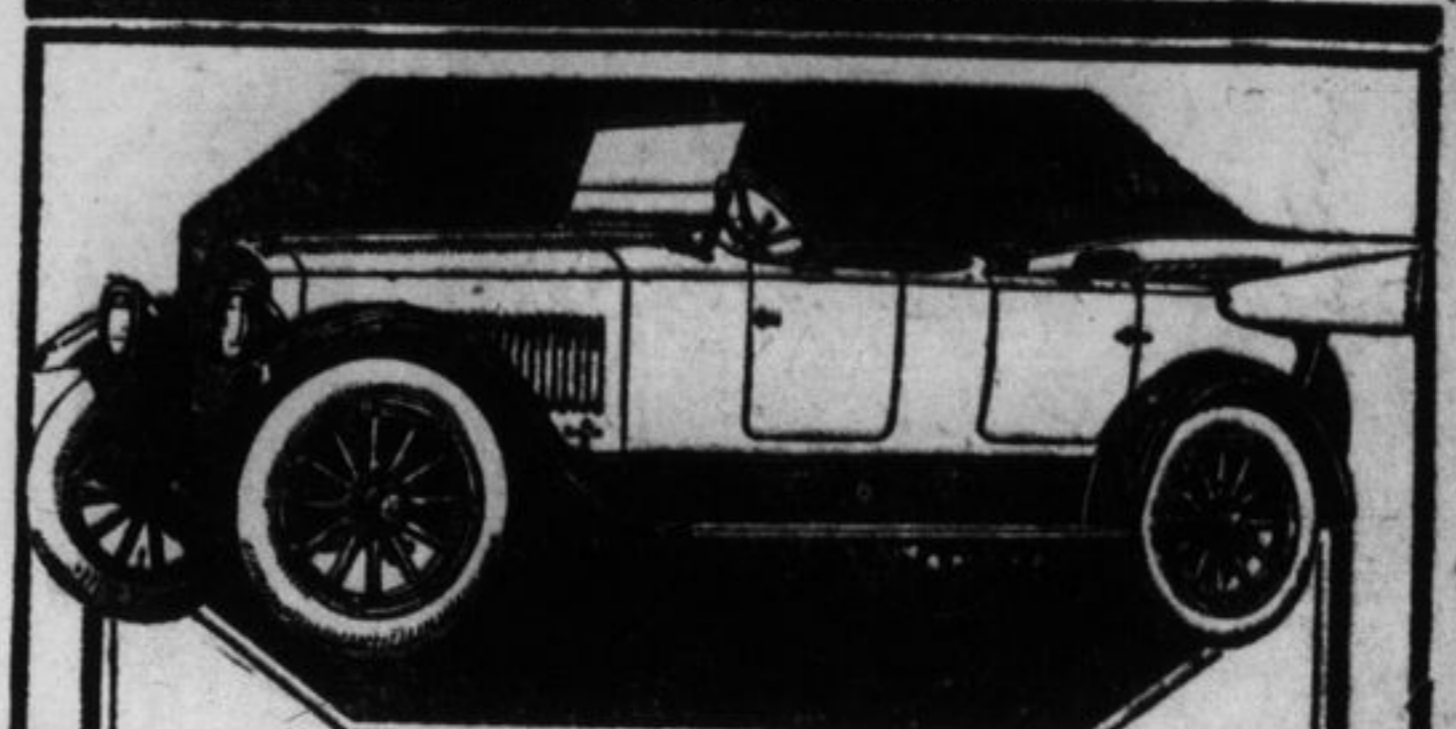
**Emergency Extinguisher.**  
The usually recommended substitute for putting out gasoline fires is sand, which certainly has many advantages. Equally efficacious for the purpose, sawdust, particularly if it has been soaked in carbonate of soda. The sawdust floating on the liquid prevents air from reaching the fire, and also a certain amount of carbon dioxide is generated. While sawdust is nominally combustible, in reality it burns slowly at best, and actually discourages the rapid spread.

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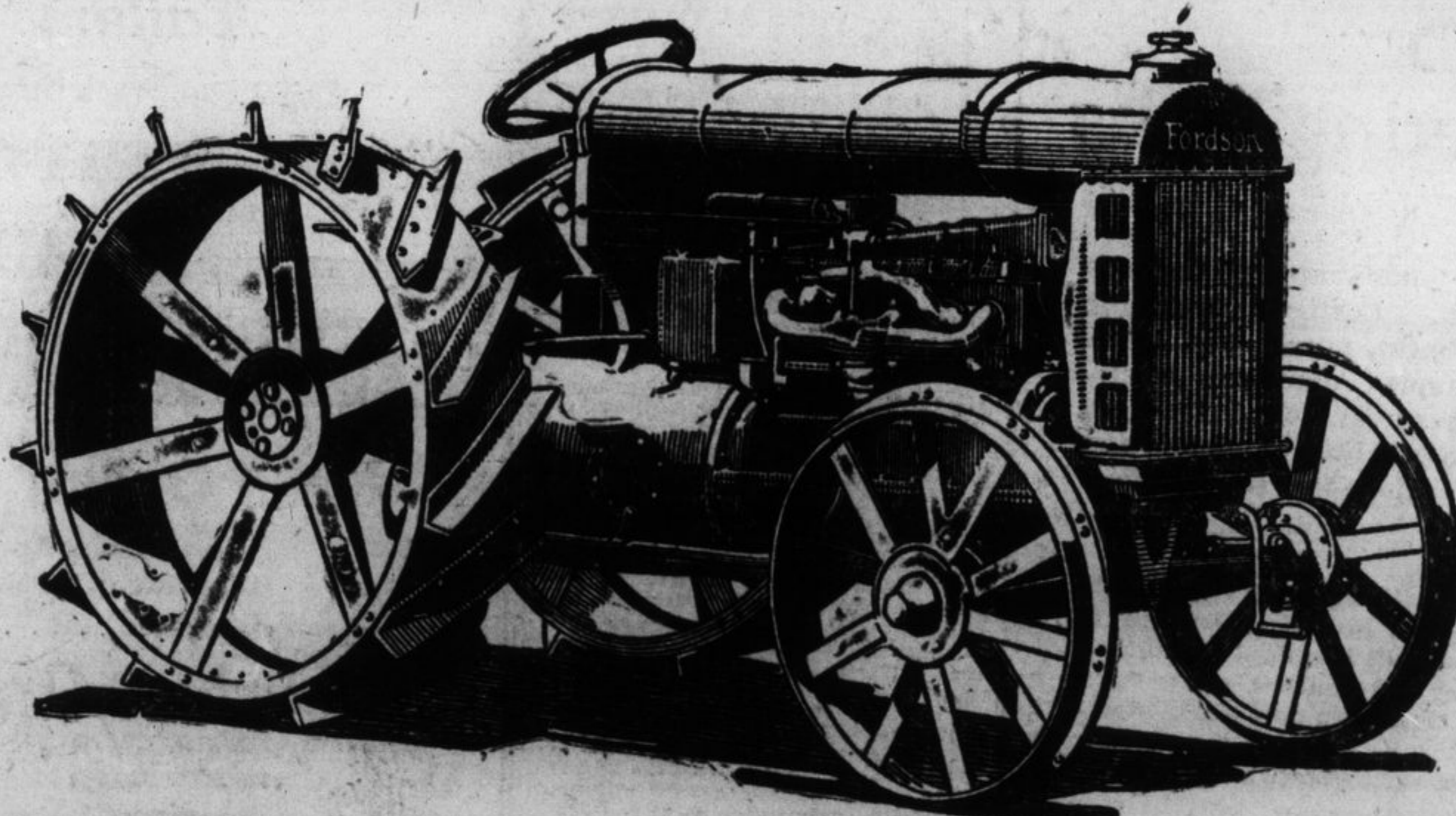
**Beware Sand Blisters.**  
A small cut, especially in the tread of a rear tire, may permit the entrance of sand, which will work into a pocket between the tread and fabric. Such a sand blister soon wears through and makes a serious tire injury, the cure of which may be vulcanization. To forestall this, fill all small cuts with gum.

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