

GARAGE MEN FORM UNION TO SOLVE TRADE PROBLEMS AND AID POLICEMEN

Articles Stolen Are Traced by Help of Automobile Men, Who Keep Informed on Theft Reports—Public as Well as Trade Is Benefited.



R. D. O'Brien, First Vice-President; W. F. McKenney, President; C. H. Odeen, Second Vice-President; James R. Keep, Secretary; Fred Dundee, Treasurer; J. P. Hart, Business Manager.

THE phenomenal growth of the automobile industry throughout the Pacific Northwest brought with it many problems which the garage men felt could be better handled by an organization than through individual efforts.

On November 11, 1914, a meeting of the various garage and repair men of Portland was called at the Jefferson-street garage to consider the advisability of forming a trade organization of the garage and repair men, the object being to afford mutual protection to its members and to the public.

A committee was appointed to draft an outline of the proposed organization and on November 13 this committee filed its report and the Oregon Garage and Repair Men's Association was formed at the first regular meeting on that date.

Election of Officers Held.
The following officers were elected: J. Hess, president; Fred Dundee, vice-president; C. H. Odeen, second vice-president; L. James, secretary; and H. O. Bracy, treasurer.

There were many problems which presented themselves to this new organization and through the untiring efforts of the committees and officers many beneficial results were obtained, accounting and credit systems were adopted and shop methods and practices improved.

While this organization has been in existence a short time, the results obtained have been satisfactory and most encouraging.

The association recognizes that its success lies in co-operation not only between its members, but all with whom they come in contact, directly or indirectly.

The question naturally arises as to

COLUMBIA HIGHWAY YET IN GRIP OF STORM.

True to the prediction, virtu-moderated in the city don't take it for granted that similar conditions prevail out in the great Columbia Gorge.

Mr. Yeon said yesterday that he did not think it would be advisable for motorists to attempt to make the Highway trip today. "There are still drifts of snow four and five feet deep on the Highway," said Mr. Yeon. "The atmosphere is much colder out there than it is in the city and the continued wind has kept the snow and ice from melting so fast. Besides, the melting of the big snow banks makes a big job for us in cleaning out the gutters. Absolutely no damage has been done to the Highway itself."

Several days ago the road was open as far as Gresham without difficulty, but no machines have made the Highway trip since the worst of the storm struck the gorge.

where the public obtains any benefit from an association of this character, as it is usually supposed that the association was formed to further its own ends. It is, however, contended that the association must give something in return for that which it receives.

For the benefit of its patrons and the public at large, the garage association has co-operated with the Police Department of the city of Portland in keeping track of, detecting and assisting to recover stolen automobiles and

accessories. In each garage a printed placard notifies the car owner that the garage will be glad to assist him in recovering any stolen goods as above mentioned.

When a report of this character reaches a garage, either from the Police Department or from the owner, it is telephoned to a central station and in turn all garages are notified to keep a lookout for the stolen property and notify headquarters immediately if any trace of the lost property be obtained.

This information is turned over to the police, who follow it up, with the result that not only many automobiles, but many expensive accessories such as robes, headlights, clocks, tires and Presto-light tanks have been recovered.

Through co-operation with the city fire department, fire hazard has been reduced, and up-to-date methods have been adopted, not only in the garages themselves, but through persuasion upon the adjacent property owners and tenants to adopt practices that would be a benefit to themselves, as well as to the adjacent garage.

Co-operation with the safety department has resulted in traffic ordinances being enforced by the members of the organization.

A better understanding has resulted between its members through the social atmosphere created by entertainments, dances, and other social functions. For instance, the picnic held at Gladstone Park last summer was most enjoyable and satisfactory in every particular.

Considerable headway has been made in the adoption, as far as possible, of uniform prices for repairs, and also in requiring that the character of work performed must be up to the standard.

The present officers of the association are: President, W. F. McKenney; first vice-president, R. D. O'Brien; second vice-president, C. H. Odeen; secretary, J. R. Keep; treasurer, Fred Dundee, and business manager, J. P. Hart.

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President of Jeffery Company Gives His Views.

In a recent interview on the future of the automobile business Charles T.

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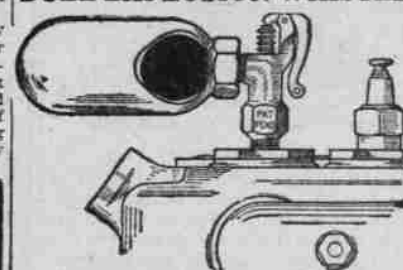
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