

# AUTO GOSSIP OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS

**Local Club Making Preparations for a Race Meeting This Spring.**

**EVENT WOULD PROVE OF GREATEST INTEREST**

**Portland Dealers Busy in Giving Demonstrations During the Good Weather—Live News and Pointers of the Entire Automobile World.**

Last week was one of the most active of the year in the automobile industry of Portland. The good weather was the cause of many would-be buyers turning out and witnessing demonstrations of the cars that are being sold in this city, and after one week's work was over the local dealers were more than pleased with their efforts. The troubles that are incurred in selling automobiles are never appreciated by any one excepting the dealer. He is the man who suffers the real trouble, annoyance and most times—disappointment.

The H. R. Thomas Motor company is just completing a special order for 20 cars, most of which have been shipped, intended for use in and about the Topsham and Goldfield mining districts. At the present time there are over fifty Thomas cars in use in the two mining camps, and they appear to be the favorites in these districts. The high road clearance and reliability of service are the chief points of commendation to them, users say.

In speaking with H. E. Keats regarding compression alcohol, the well-known auto man said: "While the latest experiments indicate that with suitable engine compression alcohol will have an efficiency as fuel equal to that of gasoline and also that it is less liable to the troubles of over-heating, the strongest reason for its adoption appears to be the superior safety in handling it, owing to its higher boiling point. It would reduce insurance rates on garages materially, because alcohol mixes thoroughly with water and its flames may be extinguished by a stream from a hose that would merely spread gasoline flames over a wider area."

By constituting a touring information committee of 25 members, a committee of 27 on road signs and a road signs committee of 16, it is made manifest that the new administration of the American Automobile association intends to deserve the benediction of all members this year. It will serve members only, but they can have unlimited information concerning touring routes and conditions anywhere. The complete new touring board numbers 27 members and 21 states are represented on it.

The Portland Automobile club at a recent meeting appointed a committee to confer with the Auto Dealers' association, in an effort to secure co-operation in order that a first-class racing meet be held this year at Irvington race track. Two years ago there was a racing meeting, held at Irvington, and while the races were not up to the usual order, the general results were satisfactory to all concerned. This year finds twice as many automobiles in Portland and they are of a higher grade and better class. A first-class race meet would attract four or five thousand spectators, and if it is conducted with intelligence it would result in the best kind of advertisement for a monster automobile show in Portland next spring.

It is evident that the foreign makers will not relinquish the American field easily, for there are rumors of further advances in the direction of making European models in factories here. There is now an American Mercedes, an American Berlet and an American Mors. The fact that such concerns as the American Locomotive company and the St. Louis Car company are entering this field of building under French license is significant. The American Locomotive company imports the engine and principal metal parts for the American Berlet car.

On a rural road, not far from Philadelphia, some tourists discovered a quaint, Quakeresque sign, evidently one erected by the adjoining property owner. It reads: "Ye that toll not, shall not spin in automobiles along here faster than 15 miles an hour. So saith the law."

An automobile show in Portland—if it were conducted on the proper lines, would do more for the general trade in the city and adjacent cities and towns than anything else that the dealers might suggest or attempt to carry through. By this time next year, there is a very modest estimate, there will be over 1,000 automobiles in this city. In this 1,000 machines will be represented all of the first-class machines made in America today. In many respects there is as much interest today in machines in Portland as there is in any city in the country, and there can be no logical reason why a high grade exposition could not be successfully handled.

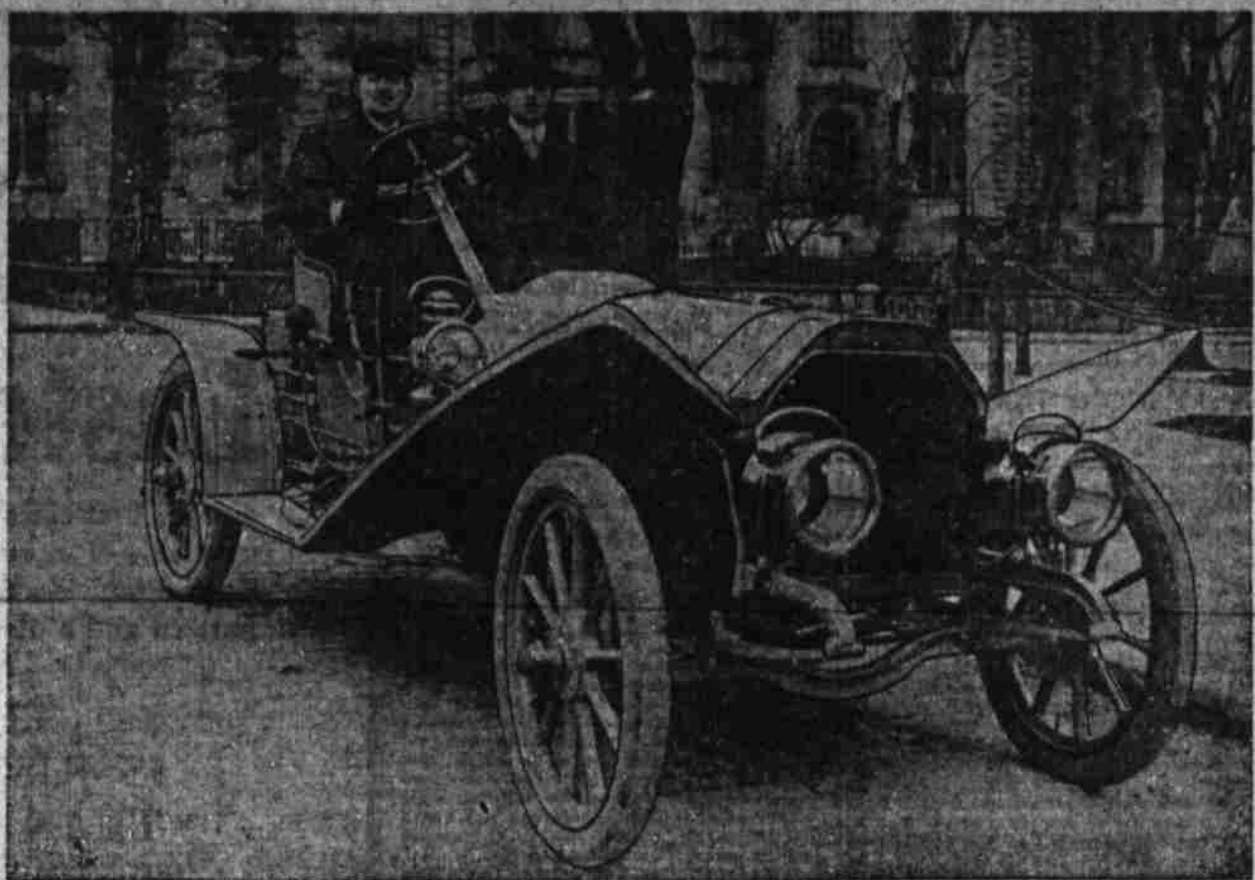
One of the minor changes made in the construction of the Thomas Flyer this year, but one which shows the care taken in making every possible improvement, is the placing of the ratchet of the back stop safety device inside the rear hubs instead of on the outside rim. By this change of location the ratchet is protected from dust and mud which might tend to clog it.

When the batteries show signs of weakening in cold weather, they often can be revived sufficiently to carry home simply by warming them thoroughly.

After a thorough inspection of all the 1907 models shown in the sales-rooms of that city the Pittsburg Elks decided by a unanimous vote to buy a Thomas Flyer. The committee was composed of experts who are either members of the lodge or were asked to serve by it. The car will be the grand prize to be given away at the Elks carnival to be held soon.

W. M. Phelps of Hartford, Conn., representing the Pope-Hartford company, is in Portland demonstrating the new Pope-Hartford car. The machine is a 30 horse-power car and capable of great speed and endurance. Mr. Phelps will remain in Portland about five days.

Until the arguments that caused the executive committee of the National Association of Automobile Manufacturers to recommend to its members last Wednesday that they refuse to



H. Wempe in His Forty-Horsepower Oldsmobile Gentleman's Touring Car.

## WHAT THE AUTOMOBILE MEN ARE TALKING ABOUT

**Brief Notes, Short Hints and Suggestions About the Ups and Downs and General Handling of the Honk Honk Cars.**

One cannot expect full mileage with a battery on an electric machine until after it has been used four or five times. A battery, like other machinery, works better after it has been used a little.

A French doctor, who has made a study of the subject, now pronounces the motor car the safest and most hygienic vehicle for the medical man to use on his rounds.

Should the front tires show abnormal wear, the front wheels should be looked after, as possibly they are out of alignment. Shortening or lengthening the transverse steering rod may be necessary.

The Automobile club of America figures that its members will cover 1,500,000 miles in touring this year, and has asked them to furnish information as to routes for its touring bureau.

Through the efforts of the Automobile club of Pittsburgh the courts compelled local authorities to erect road signs at nearly every cross-road in western Pennsylvania, as required by state law.

When the car takes a railroad journey an officer is dispatched ahead of his train in a motor-propelled car to guard against possible attacks and get killed by a bomb, if it be.

Congress, during its closing week, passed the amended denatured alcohol bill to allow farmers and small manufacturers to readily make alcohol for denaturing.

The route of the Grand Prix has been fixed. It is entirely within the department of La Seine Inferieur, and is triangular, Dieppe, Eu and Londreux being at the angles.

Treat leather-lined clutches with castor oil if they slip. Never use rosin. If the clutch slips after a dose of castor oil, tighten the clutch spring.

Millie Dupree, who was proprietress of a large Paris garage which made a specialty of providing automobiles for sleepers, is dead.

French automobile manufacturers are much worried over the increase in exports of American cars, and may make some move to further protect their industry.

A European maker now is turning out motors which weigh but three pounds per horsepower, but it is said both durability and reliability have been sacrificed.

It is a bad plan to use acid in the water of the radiator to prevent freezing. Acid should be used only for cleaning purposes and removed after it has been used.

The recent motor boat show at New York proved that the demand is for craft both speedy and reliable, there is hardly a boat of the flimsy type, once so popular, shown.

King Edward hardly ever makes an excursion nowadays without employing automobiles.

To prevent goggles steaming rub them with glycerine and dry with a soft cloth or chamois leather.

The French newspaper, Mattin, is offering a cup to the winner of a motor trip from Paris to Peking.

support the Glidden tour on a competitive basis are known it seems very probable that some of the most prominent members of that organization will at least withhold judgment as to the desirability of adopting it. And it seems fully as probable that the reasons for this move will have to be reasonably strong to cause them to refrain from a contest that would show to the world the reliability and efficiency of their cars.

Yesterday during the expiration of the time marking the challenge for a reliability run from New York to Chicago and return, issued by E. R. Thomas, the automobile manufacturer of this city to the Hon. C. S. Rolla, the British manufacturer and member of parliament, could be accepted. Recently Mr. Rolla visited the United States and on his return to England made an address before a number of the automobile manufacturers of that country in which he cast aspersions on the high grade cars made in the United States. Called on as a representative of the American manufacturers to answer the statement, Mr. Thomas did so by means of the challenge for a stock car reliability contest between a Thomas Flyer and a Rolls-Royce, the only conditions being that it be under charge of a committee to be appointed by Judge W. Hotchkiss, president of the A. A. A., and that it be run within thirty days, the last of which passed yesterday, in order that the road would be in their worst possible condition.

Gasoline, used in connection with a hard nailbrush, is better than anything else for cleaning the hands.

The Magyar Automobile club of Budapest already is planning to entertain the Americans who participate in the Gold Cup tour.

Tourists on reaching Italy are required to deposit an amount equal to the duty on their cars, which is returned when they leave the country.

Eighteen cars, representing seven different countries, have thus far been entered for the Targa Floria race, at Palermo, Italy, April 21.

Thirty-two states are represented on the touring board of the American Automobile association, recently appointed by President Hotchkiss.

The only monarch known to possess a racing car is the Kaiser, and in addition he has a first class racing crack to drive it. It is believed by many that this powerful motor, which is capable of speeds up to 80 miles an hour, is the emperor's war car, which, in the event of hostilities, he would use to flit from point to point.

Saturday, October 13, probably will be selected as the date for the Vanderbilt cup race, according to Chairman De Mont Thompson, of the Racing Board of the American Automobile association. This course probably will be dumbbell shaped, 15 miles long, with wide turns at each end, so the cars will pass the grand stand twice every 30 miles.

A matter of importance in the care of chains is to keep them at the proper tension. A chain at too great a tension not only increases wear, but also causes a greater loss in the transmission of power. On the other hand, a slack chain is liable to climb the sprockets or to jump off the driving wheel. The proper tension is that which will hold the chain between the two sprockets in two straight lines without sag and without bringing a greater strain upon the bearings than is necessary to accomplish this.

Prince Henry of Prussia, though a motorist, is the only prince who ever has been known to take part in a motor-car race. Last year he competed in the Herkomer cup contest, and drove a big car with skill and nerve.

It cannot too often be pointed out that novices in motor matters should be very careful to see the ignition lever of their cars is retarded before they attempt to start the engine. Otherwise

a nasty blow caused by a "back-fire" may be experienced.

A Cleveland statistician has figured out that the year's production of automobiles in that city would, if placed together in a straight line, stretch eight and a quarter miles, or if piled one on top of another, would tower three and four-fifths miles.

New Jersey's state commissioner of motor vehicles estimates that the receipts from licenses and fines by his department during the fiscal year ending May 1 will be \$80,000, which will be spent on repairing state improved roads.

Many drivers are too impatient when changing from high to lower speeds, and do not allow the fixed gears to slow down sufficiently before moving the change speed lever from one notch to another. The correct practice is to disengage the clutch and wait for a few seconds before putting the gears in mesh.

One of the newest inventions is a removable rim by means of which a tire can be changed in a fraction of a minute.

The city council of Toledo, Ohio, has appropriated cash with which to buy tags for motorists who thus will be saved the trouble of procuring them personally after paying the license fee.

The popularity of the six cylinder motor seems to be on the increase in the motor-boat field, as it is with the automobile maker and user, because of its beautiful balance and smoothness of running.

For the first time in seven years the ice on the Hudson river at Tarrytown, New York, recently was sufficiently strong to bear automobiles and there was an interesting series of races between cars of four different makes.

The Chicago Motor club has placed its competitive program for the coming season in charge of two distinct committees—racing and contests, the former to look after track racing, the latter road and hill climbing competitions.

Ardmore, Pennsylvania, a small town a few miles west of Philadelphia, has purchased an automobile combined chemical engine, hose wagon and hook and ladder truck, capable of a speed of 30 miles an hour.

The tarring of roads, says Connecticut's state highway commissioner, who has been experimenting, will not be a success until someone invents a way to spread the material smoothly and evenly while it is hot.

State Senator Freelinghuysen, author of New Jersey's drastic automobile law, has introduced another bill providing more officials to look out for violators and a three days' license to tourists, to cost one dollar.

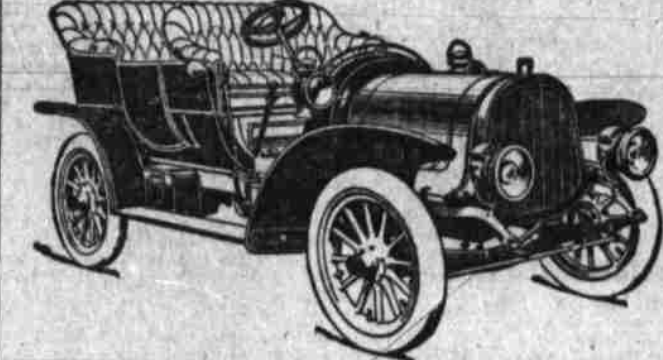
Alno Aekte says: "I cannot express myself more to the point than to voice the sentiment of Messrs. Jean and Etouard de Reszke: 'My preference, conviction and artistic judgment have been and are for your superb masterpiece only. . . . Use all haste in shipping it (the Stewey's), as I am anxious to show my friends the treasure I have brought with me from America.'"

Sherman, Clay & Co., Pacific coast agents.

# Pope-Hartford Again a Winner

## Read Carefully Make Comparisons

REGARDING THE RECENT HILL-CLIMBING CONTEST AT PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM WAS RECEIVED AT HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT.



Los Angeles, Cal., March 4, 1907:  
"Pope Mfg. Co.—Dingley Pope-Hartford made fastest time of all touring cars in the Pasadena Alledena hill climbing contest, of one and four-tenths miles in two minutes and 38 seconds, average 8 per cent."  
"POPE-HARTFORD GARAGE."

Thus, the Pope-Hartford has again proven itself the peer of high-grade cars. The 1907 cars as well as those of 1906 are giving entire satisfaction. You will do yourself an injustice if you do not see the handsome touring car of this type on our floors while Mr. W. M. Phelps, the factory demonstrator is in the city. He appears to have an easy task in showing the people that the more they try other cars the more they appreciate the Pope-Hartford.

# H. L. Keats Auto Co.

NORTHWESTERN DISTRIBUTORS  
Pope Toledo, Pope-Hartford, Pope-Tribune, Thomas Flyer, Thomas Forty, Buick, Oldsmobile, and Franklin for the State of Oregon.

## Why Not

equip your new car with all the latest attachments? Send for 1907 catalogue or come in and see our line.



Rushmore, Solar and E. & J. Lamps

Goodrich, M. & W. and Fisk Tires

Dry Cells, Storage Batteries in fact, everything for the Auto

Bicycles and Motorcycles No trouble to show goods.

BALLOU & WRIGHT  
86 SIXTH STREET.  
Opp. New Wells-Fargo Building



CADILLAC MODEL G 20 H. P.  
**\$2150**

The greatest automobile proposition ever offered. The Cadillac is the best automobile, considering what it cost and what it does. Runabout, \$900; light touring car, \$1050.

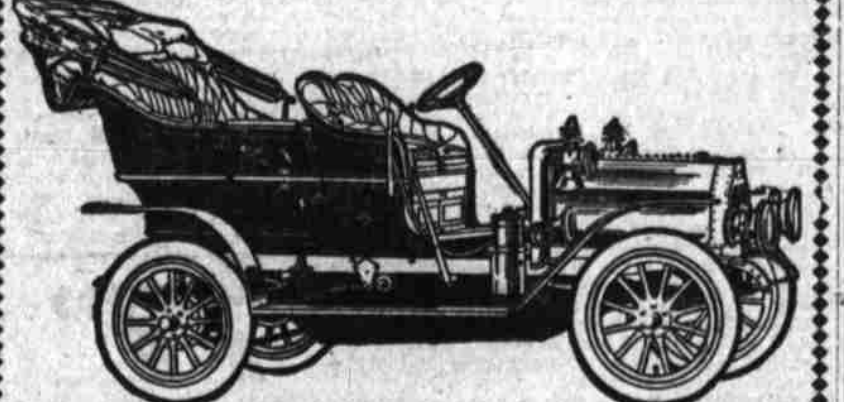
One 45-horse-power and two 30-horse-power Pierce Great Arrows yet unsold, all we can get of this year. Better get busy if you want a Great Arrow, recognized as the best American car.

Thirty-horse-power and 50-horse-power Haynes, prices, \$2650 and \$3650; the car that made such a wonderful record in the Vanderbilt race. One each of these in stock.

Thirty-horse-power Knox, the air-cooled car that cools. Unit power plant, special automatic oiling, \$2650. You do yourself an injustice if you fail to see this car before you buy. Demonstrator in stock.

**Howard M. Covey**  
Agent Pierce Great Arrow, Cadillac, Locomobile, Knox and Haynes.  
TEMPORARY LOCATION, 15th AND ALDER.  
After April 1, New Building, 16th and Alder.

# REO CARS



**20 H-P Light Touring Detachable Tonneau**  
84-inch wheel base, multiple-disk clutch, full elliptic springs, Tonneau seat 48 inches wide, pressed steel frame. See if you find these features in other cars of the same price—**\$1,400.**

**8-10 H-P Runabout**  
The world's record economy car, \$700, with folding seat, \$725. Price f. o. b. Portland.

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