

# WHAT'S COST TO KEEP AN AUTO?

Maintenance of Car Important Question for Probable Purchaser.

## INTERESTING FIGURES OF A MANUFACTURER

One Hundred and Sixty-Four Sworn Statements Go to Show Average Cost of Repairs Is But 44 Cents Per 100 Miles.

One of the most important questions that arises in the mind of an owner of an automobile, is the cost of maintenance of his car. It is very difficult for one who does not look personally to the upkeep of his car to determine the four points which enter into its maintenance.

How long will an automobile last? What does it cost to operate it? How many miles will it run on a gallon of gasoline? These are probably the four important factors in the life of an automobile. In some cases an automobile in the hands of a competent driver will give a minimum of cost as compared to the same car in the hands of a less experienced man.

**Testimony from Many Sources.**  
To determine the average cost of maintaining and operating an automobile, an enterprising manufacturer has just compiled statistics, showing that with judicious handling and the ordinary care that should be accorded an automobile, the amount to support a machine is not nearly as great as most people believe. The Cadillac company determined recently to discover the cost, it sent invitations through the newspapers throughout the country and to owners of single and multiple automobiles for them to forward statements as to the total expense incurred in the maintenance of their car. Of those who responded, hundreds were willing to make reports of the approximate cost of running their cars, yet none of these was used. Only the actual cost, as shown before a notary public and witnesses, were accepted. One hundred and sixty-four statements were received coming from 30 different states which show all kinds of roads and under all sorts of conditions. From the data received the following statistics were compiled: The mileage gotten out of the cars varies considerably, ranging from \$60 to \$2,000. Many of the affidavits showed a mileage of over 2,000 and nearly 50 per cent had gotten over 10,000 miles out of their car. The total combined made over 1,500,000 miles, or this being 9,651 miles per car.

**Consumption of Gasoline.**  
The gasoline consumption afforded great interest, one car running as low as 2.3 miles per gallon, while another ran as high as 32 miles per gallon. Forty per cent of the number have claimed to get over 20 miles per gallon, while the average of all is a trifle over 18.1-3 miles per gallon.  
The cost of repair. This amount ranges from practically nothing in some cases to several hundred dollars in others. The total amount of repairs, not including tires for the 161 cars was \$42,749, or an average for each car of \$267.74. For the average length of time the cars have been used (1 year 7 months 20 days), it means an average of \$22.74 per month, or less than 81 cents per week. Another way to compute the cost would be to total the distance traveled, taking 161 cars totaling 1,500,000 miles, and with the total cost for repairs of \$42,749, it means that the cost of the upkeep averages .02849 cents per mile, or in other words only 44 cents per 100 miles that is traveled. That certainly is cheaper than walking. In considering these points, do not overlook the number of passengers carried. Some were runabouts, carrying one or two, and sometimes three passengers, while others were four-passenger cars, carrying five or six passengers. The average as shown by affidavits was nearly 3 1/2 persons, so it would make this expense less than 12 cents per 100 miles for each passenger.

**The Record Here.**  
The next item of expense is that of gasoline. The sworn statements show that the miles obtained per gallon run from as few as 2.3 up to as high as 32 miles per gallon. Take the average of the lot, it shows 18.14, or a trifle over 18.1-3 miles per gallon. The cost of gasoline varies in different parts of the country, but may probably be averaged at 18 cents a gallon. It would then make the average 1 cent per mile per car for fuel, or less than 1-3 of a cent per mile per passenger.  
To obtain the amount of expenditures for tires, which in some cases had been included in the repair expenses, because many owners do not keep separate expense accounts, 200 dealers throughout the country were asked the following questions:  
What is the longest time you have known a set of tires to wear?  
What is the greatest number of miles you have known a set of tires to run?  
If a customer were to ask you as to about how long or how many miles a set of tires could be expected to last, with proper care, what would you tell him?

**Answers to Three Questions.**  
The answers to the first question were in about two years, in some cases less, and in several cases three years, and one answer was four years. To the second question the answers were all the way from 4,000 to 15,000 miles but the majority run along from 6,000 to 9,000 miles. Regarding the third question, there was a wide difference of opinion, but they averaged up between one and two years, and from 5,000 to 10,000 miles. Many replies being qualified by the statement that the care of the operator and the roads he would have to travel. It certainly is commendatory that only to any one car, but to the whole industry, when after a careful canvass of over 160 automobile owners, it is authentically estimated that the cost of upkeep of a carefully operated car, renders the cost of transportation per mile less than any other means of locomotion.

### COOK MOTOR CONCERN CHANGES PROPRIETORS

L. E. Crowe and A. A. Graham Will Conduct the Business at Old Location.

One of the largest automobile concerns of Portland has changed hands during the past week. F. J. Cook, proprietor of the Cook Motor Car company, has sold out his entire auto business. The buyers are L. E. Crowe and A. A. Graham, who took possession on Thursday, and who will conduct a general sales, garage and repair shop at the old place of business of the Cook Motor Car company, Fifteenth and Washington streets.

L. E. Crowe was formerly in the automobile business in the Dalles. He was a member of the firm of Mayes & Crowe. A. A. Graham is a veteran motorist, and has been in the business ever since automobiles have been handled commercially in Portland. For the past year he has been bookkeeper and manager of the Cook Motor Car company.

# CHAPIN BUYS FINE CAR FOR TRIPS TO TILLAMOOK COUNTRY



Mr. Chapin in His New Auto.

Another fine car has been added to the list of Portland-owned automobiles by the purchase of a 1908 Pierce Great Arrow by H. L. Chapin of the Potter-Chapin Realty company. This car is of the semi-enclosed type, and of 45 horsepower. It is dark maroon in color and is one of the handsomest automobiles in Portland.

This is Mr. Chapin's first automobile, but he is already an enthusiastic motorist. He is another of the many Portland business men who find rest and recreation in the hum and thrub of a powerful machine. It is his intention to use the new car for trips over the hills to Tillamook and Bay Ocean Park, in which Mr. Chapin is heavily interested.

H. M. Covey, one of the directors of the automobile club, recently took a party of three persons to Tillamook in 12 hours time. The last 30 miles were covered in darkness, but the roads near the bay itself are so excellent that a speed of 20 miles an hour was maintained. Mr. Covey sings praises of the roads in the vicinity of Tillamook bay and declares that comparatively little money would be required to put the en-

## MOTING NOTES

A feature of the coming Importers' Automobile Salon show in Madison Square garden, New York, from December 28 to January 4, will be a New York day and evening fête embracing humorous novelties.

York, Pennsylvania, a city of 80,000 population, is an enthusiastic motoring town. A local mathematician recently figured that the residents every 20 days drive for pleasure a distance equal to the circumference of the earth.

Autoists would do well to watch the piece of canvas which is used under machines to protect running parts from dust and dirt. Torn covers often cause a lot of wear and tear on the delicate parts of the running machinery.

"Firecrackers on wheels" is the latest nickname for automobiles. It was invented by the mother of the Brighton Beach race track superintendent, after a sleepless night due to the noise of the cars during the recent 24-hour race.

Although it was plainly an accident when a motorist ran over and killed a man in Switzerland recently, a local tribunal called it a "motor murder," and obliged him to pay his victim's brother \$174 and his fiancée \$3,000.

Although the law forbidding the selling of goods on any of the Atlantic City piers prevents any sales being made, many orders were booked by the manufacturers and dealers who exhibited.

The St. Louis health department will use automobiles to carry the city's fumigating machines about if Commissioner Winn can persuade the municipal assembly that ten men with three cars can do more work than 23 with as many wagons.

Whenever touring of a strenuous nature it is to be undertaken it is wise to see that the car is provided with an adequate sprag, or back-stop, to prevent it from running away on hills in the very likely event of a stalled motor or broken brake connection.

It is a mistake to depend upon patches to repair a damaged tire, especially in hot weather, when the heat of the atmosphere aids the friction in working them loose. It is a saving of money, time and temper to have the tubes properly vulcanized.

The real secret of the failure of the Vanderbilt race commission to pull off the race this year came in a few days ago. William K. Vanderbilt Jr., simply put his foot down and refused to allow another contest without protection against accidents.

Three alcohol-driven cars designed expressly for the use of traveling salesmen went through the recent French industrial motor vehicles contest without a penalization and, as a result, a series of trials for cars of that character, to cover 5,500 miles, will be held.

The Congo Free State government has an automobile department which for a year has been building a system of roads running from the River Nile over which motor trucks can haul freight into camps for cars which will see railroads for many years to come.

It is absolutely essential that the crank case be thoroughly cleaned of oil and dirt before a new supply of lubricant is administered. Without doing this the new oil simply dilutes the combination of grease and dirt which accumulates from time to time.

Unless an owner soon turns up the police department of Hamilton, Ohio, will add an automobile to its rolling stock. A deserted touring car was found on the streets not long ago and, although the fact has been widely advertised, no claimant has made an appearance.

At a cost approximating \$100,000 the Philadelphia Reading Coal & Iron company, which controls practically the entire Pennsylvania anthracite field, will equip its district superintendents with automobiles at a time such as this, present they travel in carriages or on trains.

Actually thrown together in an automobile collision at Atlantic City in July, Miss Marie Letter of Boston, and Eugene Barber of New York recently were married at the former city; then, appropriately, toured to the scene of their first meeting in a motor car for the honeymoon.

It is surprising how much difference in the steering is produced by a very slight dryness of the knuckle bearings. Aside from the difficulty of controlling the car readily under such circumstances, it is important that such stiffness be removed at once as it may be the forerunner of some more serious ailment.

W. M. Hodson of the Hodson Auto company is now a visitor in this city and expects to remain here for several days. Mr. Hodson is doing much to promote interest in the automobile in southern Oregon. Mr. Hodson resides in Medford.

## PROSPECTS FOR FALL SALES VERY GOOD

The H. L. Keats Auto company report the prospects for fall automobile sales to be extremely good. They state that they are daily having inquiries regarding the 1908 models, which are soon to arrive.

The Keats company reports the sale of a Franklin to W. P. Hawley of this city, the sale of an Oldsmobile to G. N. Smith, also of this city, a Pope Hartford to W. H. Eccles of Hood River and the sale of a Pope Hartford to Rollie Watson of Tillamook. Mr. Watson, who is boosting for the great city of Tillamook and for the proposed automobile road from Portland to Tillamook, states that with his new Pope Hartford he expects to demonstrate the feasibility of both business and pleasure drives between Portland and Tillamook.

H. L. Keats, who has been in the east for the past five weeks arranging for and taking on the various lines of automobiles for the 1908 trade, will return to Portland next Wednesday.

## AUTO DEALER BACK FROM EASTERN TRIP

Fred A. Bennett, agent for the Reo and Ford automobiles, returned Friday from a trip to the east, where he has been for the past three weeks.

Mr. Bennett paid visits to the Reo factory at Lansing, Michigan, the Ford factory at Detroit and the Premier factory at Annapolis. While at Annapolis he took on the agency for the Premier car. He expects to have the Premier in stock soon. The first car is on its way to Portland now.

"The 1907 Reo and Ford cars are all sold," announced Mr. Bennett. "Both companies are now hard at work getting out the 1908 cars."

On his homeward trip, which was made through the south, Mr. Bennett stopped over at Los Angeles and San Francisco. The automobile business, so he declares, is not quite as good in these cities as it was last year at this time. The dealers expect, however, that conditions will improve this winter.

## NATIONAL LEAGUE Brooklyn Wins Double Header.

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Brooklyn, N. Y., Sept. 14.—Brooklyn defeated New York in both games of a double-header here this afternoon. The first was a free hitting contest and went thirteen innings before the Trolley Dodgers won. In the second game Brooklyn shut out the Giants. The game was called in the fifth inning on account of darkness. Score: First game—R. H. E. New York 2 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 1—1 15 1 Brooklyn 2 0 0 0 0 3 0 1 0 0 0 2—4 14 3 Batteries—McGinnity, Ames and Bowerman; Bell, McIntyre and Ritter and Bergen. Second game—R. H. E. New York 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0—0 2 0 Brooklyn 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0—2 3 2 Batteries—Lynch and Bresnahan; Stricklett and Bergen.

Cubs Overcome Big Lead.  
(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Chicago, Sept. 14.—Cincinnati batted four runs across in the first inning and was then stopped short. Chicago hit

Cookley all over the lot and won the game easily. Score: Cincinnati 4 0 1 2 0 1 3—7 13 1 Cincinnati 4 0 0 0 0 0 0 1—5 11 3 Batteries—Freister and Kling; Cookley and McLean.

Seattle Wins From Tacoma.  
(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
Seattle, Wash., Sept. 14.—Seattle won a free hitting game today by a score of 6 to 3. Welch had the best of Butler throughout the game. Score by innings: Seattle 0 0 0 2 0 1 0 0—6 Tacoma 0 0 0 0 2 1 0 0—3 Batteries—Butler and Shea for Tacoma; Welch and Kreitz for Seattle.

The success of the Missouri State Federation of Labor in the matter of obtaining the enactment of a number of laws in the interests of organized labor has attracted a great deal of attention in the east.

Machinists and other workers in the railroad shops of the Great Northern, the Northern Pacific and the Milwaukee railroads are to be granted a nine-hour day, for which the men have been fighting for years, as a trial. About 2,300 machinists will be affected.

# LAST CHANCE

LAST CHANCE TO ENTER GREAT PRIZE MEAT CONTEST

# WRITE TODAY

Friday, September 20, the answers will all be turned over to the judges, and ten splendid prizes, valued from \$5 to \$50, will be awarded; the announcement of prize winners will be made in this paper next Sunday. If you have not mailed your answer do so today; if you do not know the details of this contest send for them at once; you have plenty of time. The last answer written may be the best one—you may win the \$50 prize. Address Contest Dept., 15 Hamilton Bldg., Portland.

CLIP ALONG THIS LINE

CONTEST DEPARTMENT,  
UNION MEAT CO.,  
15 HAMILTON BLDG., PORTLAND, OR.

Please mail me at once your free book on Government Inspection. I wish to enter the prize meat contest. Stamp inclosed.

NAME .....  
STREET .....  
CITY ..... State.....

# UNION MEAT COMPANY

# "GAMBRINUS"

Is the drink to make you enjoy to the fullest this glorious autumn season.

Its healthful, invigorating properties act on the system like a day in the exhilarating August air—the kind of August air that we have in Oregon at its best.

Use "GAMBRINUS" regularly and in the right quantities and you'll enjoy life better for the improved appetite and health it will bring you.

Keep it constantly in your home and derive for yourself and your family the benefits that come from a regular use of this perfect liquid food.

PHONE EARLY TOMORROW MORNING AND HAVE THE WAGON STOP WITH A CASE OF GAMBRINUS. DON'T WAIT TILL LATER IN THE WEEK, OR YOU'LL BE ORDERING IT DELIVERED ON SATURDAY AND WE'LL BE TOO BUSY TO FILL YOUR ORDER PROMPTLY.

TWO DOZEN PINTS  
Fresh from brewery sparkling and healthful, only.... \$2.00  
25c dozen for the bottles when returned.

ONE DOZEN QUARTS  
If you prefer the larger bottles, cost the dozen.... \$1.75  
40c dozen for the bottles when returned.

Phone the Brewery and Be Sure That You Get the Best, the Purest and Most Nourishing Beer in All Portland

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