

Four Wheels—No Brakes



By PROEHL HALLER JAKLON
Drawing by Ray Walters.

"RAY as you enter" and "Leave all hope behind you who enter here," are the signs scrawled on the doors. Where the glass in the windshield used to be is a piece of cardboard bearing the information "Temporarily out of service." A bit of intelligence painted on the hood, warns: "Engine Room—Keep Out!" And almost invariably some place on the ancient bit of wreckage flaunts the legend, "Four wheels—No brakes."

Yes, it seems that all the younger generation of humorists of the republic are riding in second to tenth-hand automobiles. On every available surface they have set forth rare gems of wit done with paint and chalk. Among the wise cracks currently popular, we find these:

I'm Shiftless But Not Lazy.
Pierce Arrow with a Quiver.
Little Go Creep.
So's Your Wild Oats.
Dis Squeals—Mah Junk.
An Accident Looking For a Place to Happen.
One More Payment and She's Mine.
Why Girls Walk Home.
Don't Laugh, You May Be Old and Feeble Yourself, Some Day.
This Car Stops for Blondes, Brunettes and Railway Crossings.
Speed On, Big Boy, Hell Ain't Half Full.
This Can Contains Gasoline.
Mrs. Frequently.
In the cities you see hundreds of these dilapidated motor chariots, metamorphosed by the ravages of time and the ingenuity of their pilots into actual works of art. And it's a rare country town that doesn't boast at least one or two of these wit wagons.

No one knows where this quaint custom started or when. Some say it was the college boys who began the art, and possibly it was, for it is the college town today which boasts the largest representation of these metaphorical monsters.

Columbia university, New York city, possesses one of the most famous of these articulate junk heaps. The property of Clinton Campbell, a junior at the university, it is famous because recently the New York newspapers devoted nearly half a column to an exposition of its charms.

Painted a flaming red, this Ford has been rechristened "Passion 8." It is also labeled "Columbia, the Gem of the Motion." Young Campbell purchased it for \$12 from the New York Street car company in 1915. Included in the purchase price was a can of red paint, used for decorating street cars.

A sign on the back of this masterpiece reads "Follow us for genuine Ford parts." This, however, is slightly misleading as the "Passion 8" boasts a Roamer back, which cost 35 cents,

upon which is painted the warning: "Danger: 6,000 Jolts." Below is a death's head.

Among other things this car contains a Dodge piston, a Chevrolet top, which cost nothing, as it was salvaged from a wrecked car; two Packard seat cushions at 25 cents per equal, a magneto that cost \$3 and a tire that was lifted from a junk pile, and so far has gone more than 100 miles.

A sign on the back of the "Passion 8" reads: "Don't Laugh, Big Boy, Ours Is Paid For." On the running board is the insignia in Greek letters of Pi Kappa Alpha, Campbell's fraternity. On the other running board, one reads: "Rambling Wreck From Georgia Tech."

The front door, marked "Main Entrance," is hooked in place by an ingenious triumph of engineering which defies description. The left-hand door is captioned, "This Door Not Working." Printed on the left side of the rusted hood is the declaration: "Honest Weight—No Springs." On the right, "Engine Room—Keep Out." Another sign reads: "Every Knock Is a Boost."

The tail light of the "Passion 8" is a red kerosene lantern "borrowed" from a steam roller. Over one of the rear doors is a huge "Exit" sign.

Relating the car's eventful history to interested listeners who had stopped to inspect his rare model, Campbell explained that it had crossed the continent five times, has been to Mexico and to Canada, spent two years on the campus at Georgia Tech, and will continue to grace the campus at Columbia as long as it holds together. It has covered 70,000 miles since it came into Campbell's possession, and he says that it can attain a speed of 70 miles an hour, and go 42 miles on a gallon of gasoline. What enables it to perform these remarkable feats, Campbell failed to indicate. When he leaves it standing alone while he goes to class, he always takes out a handful of parts from the motor, so that no one can start the car.

"The 'Passion 8' is mechanically perfect," Campbell declared, "but it looks like h—l."

Like Campbell's "Passion 8," most of the joke autos around the country have interesting histories. Rarely, if ever, are they owned by the original purchasers, who, if they were to come upon what once were their bright, newly-painted vehicles, would find them impossible of recognition. On the other hand, the present owners know little or nothing of their cars' early history. Pedigrees are not included in the bill of sale. They bear no guarantees, and no satisfaction whatsoever is promised. You take it or leave it, and if you take it, the fun begins.

Prices for cars suitable for writing purposes range from \$5 to \$50 per hundred or so pieces miraculously held together until the sale is completed. The condition of the pieces, of course, determines the price. A car with four inflated tires will bring more than a car with four flat ones.

A motor which hits on all four cylinders with scarcely more noise than a war-time boiler factory is likely to bring a higher price than a motor which lacks a cylinder head or a radiator and won't run in its present condition at all.

Possession of a top, either one man or six, adds little to the value of this type of car in the prospective purchaser's estimation. He'll rip it off, anyway. Tops simply aren't being worn.

Prospective purchasers generally shy away from cars which are known to be afflicted with differential gearstrips. To remedy this ailment requires costly treatment which generally amounts to more than the entire value of the car. But in many cases this defect does not manifest itself until after the car has changed hands, and its ultimate discovery is often attended with startling results.

Recently in Ithaca, N. Y., the seat of Cornell university, the slogan, "Four Wheels—No Brakes," described an actual condition. Several sophomore members of Sigma Phi fraternity own an ancient model which had been performing faithfully. One morning Glendon Gerlach, a member of the syndicate which financed the purchase of this pile of iron, with a companion was driving "Pansy" through a hilly section of the town. Suddenly without warning something went wrong with "Pansy's" gears, leaving the plunging car brakeless on a steep grade. The companion abandoned the vehicle as it gathered speed, but young Gerlach, clutching the wheel, stuck to his post. Pulling on the so-called "emergency brake" was merely a futile gesture. At the bottom of the hill the car raced across the intersection which fortunately at the moment was clear. Just ahead at the left was the mouth of a narrow street which offered a steep up-grade. Gerlach steered for it and gradually the car came to a halt, but only for an instant. Then it started down the hill backward. Before it had gained much speed, however, the frightened lad twisted the steering wheel and backed the wild mount into the curb. Here it halted with a crash, breaking a wheel or so and cracking the axle. Later the boys have been walking to their classes.

Civic authorities may well be concerned over the hazards offered to life and limb by a great many of these decrepit vehicles. Barely are they insured. Liability insurance, even if the underwriters would accept the risk, would cost more than the car.

But the boys have a great time with them, and as long as there is a dollar among the crowd to purchase gas and a cut-price tire store or a junkheap to provide tires, these rattling vehicles will grace our streets and highways, amusing us with their belabored wit and terrifying us with their menace to our safety.

Light on Wild Region

A survey of the little known regions between the upper Yangtze and Brahmaputra rivers on the borderlands of China, Tibet and Assam has recently been completed by D'Arcy Wetherbee, Asiatic explorer. After suffering great hardships in the desolate mountain regions where the eastern end of the Himalayas extends into China, Mr. Wetherbee reached the nearest outpost of civilization at Sadiya on the

Brahmaputra. The source of this river he found was derived from the snows around the dangerous Kronjon pass, which he is the first white man to have crossed, it is believed.

Value in Fatness

According to the accident insurance companies, fat people get hurt less often than thin ones. Possibly the explanation is that when a fat man falls he bounces back into some degree of safety. The thin one breaks a bone or is stepped on by the crowd.

Ban on Women Retained

The Paris stock exchange remains barred to women, although so many these days are taking a direct interest in its operations. There was a time when they were admitted to the gallery, but in 1893, when anarchists were placing bombs in all sorts of places, the stockbrokers' association passed a regulation that no woman be admitted, as it was feared that one might introduce a bomb, concealed in

her clothing. The regulation remains in force, although the danger would seem to have been minimized if not entirely removed by women's clothing of today.

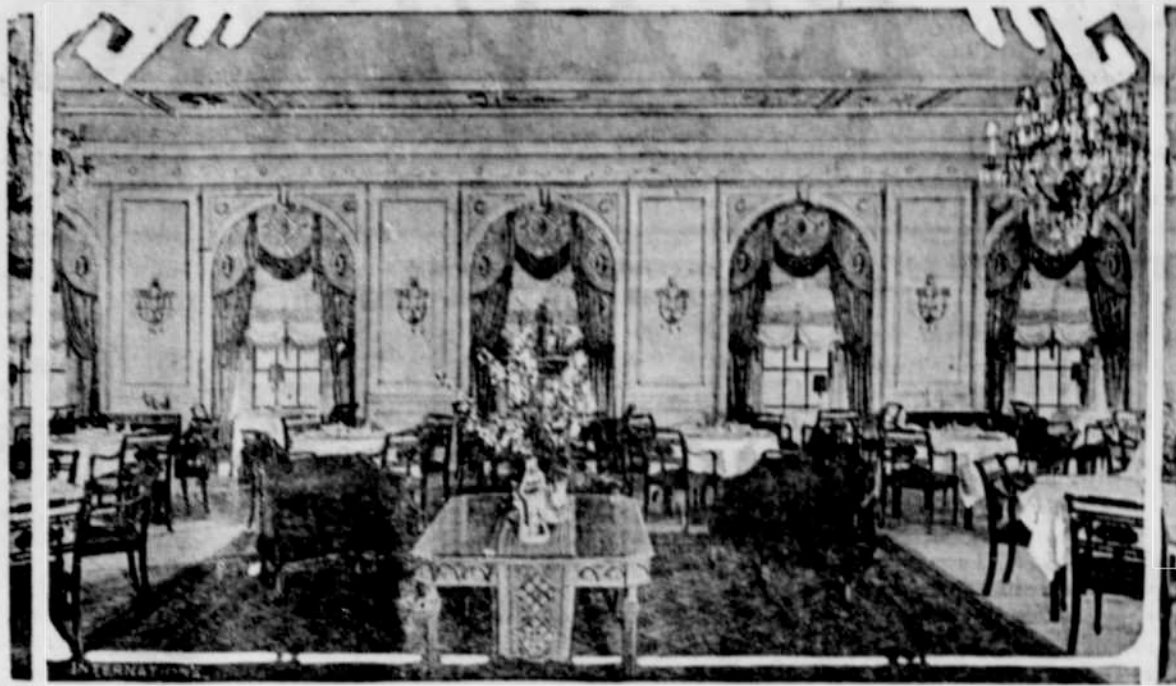
Wind and Shorn Lamb

Contrary to the popular belief, the quotation, "God tempests the wind to the shorn lamb," is not a Bible verse. It is an old proverb of unknown authorship. The earliest known use of it appears in Laurence Stern's "Sentimental Journey." But there it is quoted, showing that Stern did not claim it as his own.

"Yard" Dead Honored

In one of the corridors of Scotland Yard burns a light which never has been put out, and the intention is that it never shall be. It burns in memory of those men of the "Yard" who were killed in the World war, and has an inscription to that effect.

Dining Room in Queen Marie's Chicago Hotel



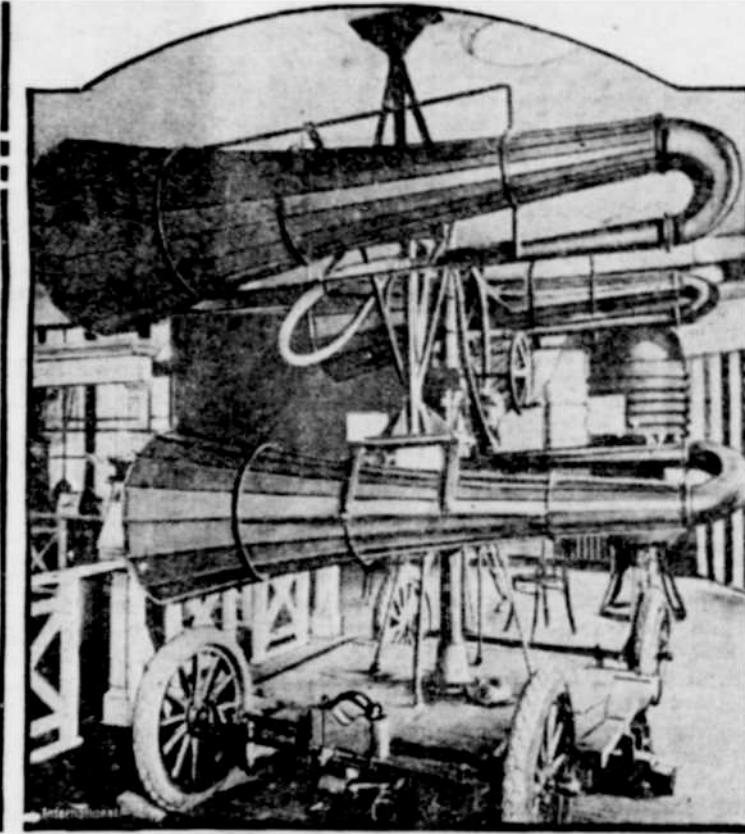
This is the main dining room in the fashionable Lake Shore Drive hotel, the lodging place of Queen Marie of Rumania in Chicago. The management provided a private dining room for the royal guest, but she preferred to take some of her meals in this beautiful room where a solid gold service was placed at her disposal.

Canadian Liquor Smuggled in Coal Is Nabbed



Prohibition agents at Spokane, Wash., found liquor being smuggled across the Canadian border hidden in a car of coal, and after a pistol battle they caught three men and a woman and seized whisky valued at \$10,000 and four automobiles. Above is shown some of the captured booze with the officers.

"Ears" of the Coast Artillery



Among the chief items of interest in the Electrical exposition in New York was this listening device used by the coast artillery to detect the faint buzzing of a plane, along with the distance and direction from whence it comes.

New Flag for the National Capitol



For the first time in history another flag flew from the same mast with the Stars and Stripes on the United States capitol building on Armistice day. It is a service flag donated by the Gold Star Mothers on which is written the number of American boys who failed to come back from "Over There." This photograph shows Mrs. H. H. McClure (right), national president of the American War Mothers, presenting to David Lynn, architect of the Capitol, this unusual flag.

OF INTEREST TO EVERYBODY

Guadeloupe is shipping fancy molasses to Canada.

The Pacific ocean has an average depth of 12,990 feet.

The normal weight of a child at birth is eight pounds.

This country has 120,000,000 rats, according to a recent estimate.

One of the latest additions to the United States navy is a floating foundry.

Mosquito nets were used by the ancient Romans.

Electric curling irons made in this country are popular in the United Kingdom.

Fifteen hydroelectric stations have been under construction in Austria this year.

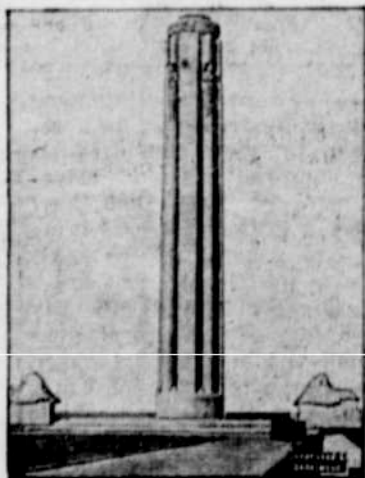
Estimates show about 23,000,000 cubic feet of wood are used every year in this country.

LUCKIEST OF WOMEN



They say "she is the luckiest woman on earth," this Mrs. William Jones of Covington, Ky. She has won over \$1,000 in contest money so far this year. She has been winning for three years past some two dozen or more contests prizes. Proverb contests, prize essays, guessing contests, all come easy for her. She is in every nationally advertised contest and spends two evenings each week working over her answers. Her latest annexation was a \$500 prize for telling people why they should eat salmon, which was given by the National Salmon Packers' association.

TO WAR HEROES



This is the great shaft of the Liberty memorial in Kansas City before which President Coolidge delivered his Armistice day address. The President took part in the dedication of the memorial, which includes two museum buildings not shown in the photograph. The structure cost \$1,500,000.

Success in Business

Behind every business that keeps up with the times is somebody who keeps ahead of them. Successful business is not a mere happenstance, but the product of brains, enterprise, courage, even risk. It indicates a big man whose success it is.—Grit.

Heavy Coffee Drinkers

In the Scandinavian countries are the greatest coffee drinkers. They drink coffee not only at meals, but also between meals.

Colds Fever Be Quick—Be Sure

Get the right remedy—the best men know. So quick, so sure that millions now employ it. The utmost in a laxative. Bromide Quinine in ideal form. Colds stop in 24 hours. La Grippe in 3 days. The system is cleared and toned. Nothing compares with Hill's Be Sure It's **HILL'S** Price 30c **CASCARA** **QUININE** **BROMIDE** with portrait **Get Red Box**

First Twin Beds

The first twin beds known to history were used by the great-grandparents of King Tut's wife, Melandir Wulpi told the Plywood Manufacturers' association at Chicago recently. He said the beds had been unearthed from King Touya's tomb and were made of plywood.

1/2 PRICE INTRODUCTORY OFFER TO DIABETICS
Money Back if Not Satisfied



Raymond Smith says:—

"Now No Doctor Can Find Diabetes In My System!"

"Three years ago I was rejected by my life insurance Co because my blood sugar test was 200 and the best medical treatment known. No help! Then a friend who was cured of Diabetes brought me the Herb Tea that helped him. This Herb Tea was the result of a

Lifetime Study by European Chemist Reading in Europe

"Instant effect in my case—improvement noticeable in 1 week. Big improvement in 1 month. Now blood sugar down to 80 and I'm the picture of health! Every Diabetic should start right away to drink morning and evening—

INGRAM'S No. 11 TROPICAL HERB TEA FOR DIABETES

"Have a Blood Test and Urine Test Now—drink the Tea twice a day for a month—then have a new Blood and Urine Test and—Just Notice the Big Improvement! No Alcohol—No Drugs

HALF-PRICE OFFER

Ingram's Tropical Herbs. Set San Jose Ave. San Francisco. Send for more information without obligation on my part—

NAME _____
NO. _____
CITY _____
SEND TODAY AND SAVE HALF

France Has Plan

to Harness Ocean

France is ahead of other nations in efforts to derive power from the tides. On the north coast of Brittany, at Aber-Brach, an experiment in harnessing the ocean is to be made shortly on a large scale.

The tidal flow up and down the small River Dourois is extremely strong, with a height of 25 feet. This in itself, of course, is not exceptional, but it is sufficient for the object in view.

French engineers expect to obtain from this river a constant supply of electricity of 3,800 horse power, and this in two years would pay for the construction of the two dams which are to impound and control the tidal water and other mechanical installations necessary.

If success is attained at Aber-Brach, there is no doubt that similar enterprises will spring up in other countries. The fjords of Scotland and Scandinavia and the inlets of New England, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia furnish favorable natural conditions.

Many people imagine that "Worms" or Tapeworm cannot be expelled entirely. A single dose of "Dead Shot" proves that they can. 375 Pearl St., N. Y. Adv.

But Why Not Enjoy It?

"What is the best way to eat corn off the cob?"

"As if company were present."

The prosperity of the fool may be either a reward or a penalty.

They talk most who have the least to say.—Prior.

Sure Relief

BELLANS FOR INDIGESTION
6 BELLANS Hot water Sure Relief
BELLANS FOR INDIGESTION
25c and 75c Pkgs. Sold Everywhere