

Auto Industry Views Future with Optimism

DETROIT, Dec. 10 (AP)—Sales managers throughout the auto industry are more optimistic than ever about prospects for the year ahead.

Perhaps this is a normal attitude. Virtually all the auto manufacturers a year ago believed a new production record would be made in 1949. However, only a few exceeded total and car truck production to top 6,000,000 vehicles. That figure will be reached next week.

New Car Interest

As a basis for optimism the industry's heads note an increasing interest in new car purchases rather than the repeated repairing of older vehicles. Moreover, millions of cars are overdue at the scrap heap.

There continues to be a keen interest in new car price tags. A question most frequently heard in automotive trade circles is whether there ever again will be a \$1000 passenger car of the standard that prevailed before the war.

The answer, so far as established auto makers are concerned, is that the \$1000 standard size vehicle with pre-war refinements is nowhere in sight now.

The prospect for substantial price cuts, too, doesn't look very bright at present. Perhaps there will be several more cheaper cars but they can be produced only by eliminating much of what has come to be regarded as standard equipment in today's motor vehicles.

Cheaper Cars

Several auto manufacturers are pushing plans to build cars in price range lower than their present field.

Several other makers also are considering modifications that will enable them to bring out vehicles that can be priced somewhat lower. But in no instances does any of this thinking contemplate a \$1000 car. In most instances the objective is a broadening of the car maker's marketing area.

What's In Name Of A Meteor?

By J. HUGH PRUETT
Astronomer, Extension Division, Oregon Higher Education System

Inquiries are occasionally received regarding the terms "meteor" and "meteorite." Both are commonly employed but some persons are never sure which to use. Occasionally we hear the whole thing boiled down to the two-syllable "meter," which is perfectly legitimate in connection with the use of water and electricity, but has no place in the naming of "stones that fall from the sky."

Remnants

The brilliant objects which at times are seen tearing across the heavens, producing considerable noise and perhaps actually reaching the earth as solid pieces of stony remnants from some ancient, disrupted planet.

The general tendency at present is to consider the original planet exploded between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter, and that since its break-up the larger masses encircle the sun as the present asteroids and the wandering smaller bits account for our atmospheric fireballs. The small "shooting stars," which burn completely to ash high in the air, are seemingly disintegration products of comets. Swarms of them are known to have trailed in cometary orbits.

Until a few years ago, it was common practice to use three terms in describing these celestial visitors to our earth's atmosphere. When far out in planetary space and speeding toward the earth at 30 or 30 or 40 miles per second as a cold, non-luminous object, one of these masses was given the name "meteoroid." When it got down to within 100 miles or less from the earth's surface and began to flare into luminosity from the heat generated by friction with our atmosphere, it was said to change to a "meteor." If a central core withstood the fiery ordeal and reached the earth as a dark, solid chunk, it finally became a "meteorite." Thus, it could exist in all three stages, in-name at least, within a very few seconds.

Clarify

Dr. Frederick C. Leonard, head of the astronomy department at the University of California at Los Angeles, and a world authority on matters such as we are discussing, has been attempting the past few years to reduce the terminology to two words with definite meanings and without hypothetical changing during a few seconds of time. The present writer is in full accord with these efforts. To Dr. Leonard, a meteorite is at all times the solid mass, whether it is flying in miles through cold space millions of miles from the earth, passing through our atmosphere with a flaming exterior, or finally resting on — or in — the earth's surface, again a cold object.

The luminosity that results when the meteorite is in flight through the air, we see the shining meteor in the sky, but a meteorite at its core is causing the commotion. We actually see the meteorite only after it has landed on the earth or is falling as a dark object near the surface.

Thomas Just Another Jail Inmate

DANBURY, Conn., Dec. 10 (AP)—J. Parnell Thomas, though still a member of congress, was just another prisoner today to officials of the federal correctional institution here.

The New Jersey politician, sentenced to serve six to 18 months at the institution just before 6:30 p. m. yesterday. He had come by train from Washington, where Federal Judge Alexander Holtzoff pronounced sentence, to Bridgeport, and from there was brought to Danbury by automobile.

Attendants in the office of Warden Allen L. Shank had told reporters and photographers in advance that it would be useless for them to be on hand.

No Difference

The institution provides no information about individual prisoners, they said, and Thomas would be regarded as just another inmate. Warden Shank was "out of town for the day and not expected back."

Thomas, who was convicted of padding his office payroll with non-working employees and collecting for himself more than \$800, had his last contact with reporters during the brief transfer from train to auto at Bridgeport.

There he would answer only one question: What did he think of his wife's chances to succeed him in congress?

"I think she'll win," he replied simply.

Resigned

Thomas has resigned, effective January 2. After his sentencing yesterday, Mrs. Thomas, though inexperienced in politics, announced she would seek the nomination in the special election to be held in New Jersey to name his successor.



Photographic History

FIRST TEACHER AND 1910 CLASS—Transfer yesterday of the Henley high student body from the old schoolhouse to the new recalls earlier days at Henley when the school was first established. Pictured in the cart is Mrs. Alma La-Prarie, mother of Mrs. Harry Booth and Roy La-Prarie, who was first teacher at Henley. Picture taken in 1909 and Mrs. La-Prarie taught in the old Richard Melhase residence before the schoolhouse was built. The group shot is of the entire 1910 student body at Henley. Front row, left to right—Jimmy Short, Mabel Irwin, Frances Short, Blanche Short. Second row—Wade body, unidentified, Alton Short, Dehliia Short, Orphia Irwin, Alta Andrews, Ruth Dixon. Third row, Eric McReynolds, Clyde Short, Louis Arnold, Clyde Andrews, Julia McReynolds and the teacher, Miss Rose Mulkey.

Reds Seek U.S. Market For Journal

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10 (AP)—The Soviet embassy's English-language magazine, barred from a number of American schools, today invited subscriptions from "many thousands of Americans eager for more truth" about Russia.

The latest issue of the USSR information bulletin, after listing some of the "fine articles and revealing photographs" it has carried in the past to give a "thorough-going rounded picture" of the Soviet Union, says:

"Your relative, neighbor or shopmate is missing all these things through no fault of his or her own. We believe you could help us—and them—and therefore are addressing you on this page.

"We want these Americans to know our publication, to become acquainted with both it and the Soviet people."

Special Rate

It said it is offering special gift-rate Christmas subscriptions—\$1 for 24 issues—so its readers can "join with us in building friends in the cause of peace, international understanding and good-fellowship."

The bulletin is a slick-paper magazine offering a strictly Soviet view of world issues, along with a bright picture of life in Russia.

It lists its regular price as 10 cents a copy. Recently, a number of American schools have received free copies for their libraries. The magazine has been barred from schools in Springfield and Fall River, Mass., Columbus, Ohio, and Washington.

'Proof'

The current issue of the bulletin contains articles with titles like: "Vyshinsky proves U. S. Atom Control Plan Aids Monopoly, not peace."

The state department has said, in response to inquiries, that it has no authority to prevent publication of the magazine, and would not be likely to do so anyhow, since this country stands for free exchange of international information.

How'd You Like Porky To Get in Your Hair?



AP Newsfeatures

A SHARP PUP the porcupine, here and Mrs. Bennett Nielson of Ephraim, Utah, have fun with theirs. Mr. Bennett shows how affectionate it is. "Porky is intelligent, too," says Mrs. Nielson. "He opens our screen door, even though it swings outward. He is better than a watch dog because no one dares to intrude while he is on guard." The little animal eats all kinds of fruits and vegetables. "We found him when he was very small, and raised him on a nursing bottle," says Mrs. Nielson. "Now he weighs 10 pounds. He eats from the same dish as our Irish Setter pup. The pup got a few sharp quills in him at first, but soon learned to stop biting at Porky. Now they play together."

'Big Jim' Thompson Dies in Seattle

SEATTLE, Dec. 10 (AP)—"Big Jim" Thompson, a veteran campaigner in the IWW-led strikes in the lumber and other industries many years ago, died here Thursday at age 76.

James P. Thompson was his proper name, but he was known the breadth of the land as "Big Jim" during the era when the "scabby" label was the popular one for members of the Industrial Workers of the World.

He was one of the founders of the IWW organization and was active as an orator during the 1917 lumber strike in the Pacific Northwest.

Roosevelt said he would serve as a director of the new firm.

Radio, Video Draws Elliott Roosevelt

HYDE PARK, N. Y., Dec. 10 (AP)—Elliott Roosevelt said today he was going into radio and television production.

The second son of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt said he and Morgan Jones, New York City radio and television executive, had formed the firm of Roosevelt and Jones, Incorporated.

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To the Man Who Is Worried About His Friends ...



OCCASIONALLY, we encounter a man who hesitates to buy a Cadillac for fear his friends might think him ostentatious.

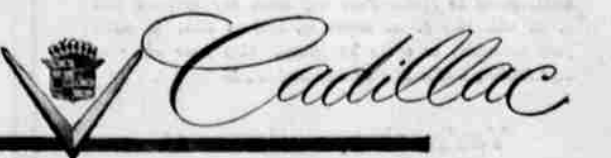
For all such people, we have the most reassuring news: The experience of Cadillac owners would indicate that your fears are without foundation.

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Then there is economy. Innumerable tests show that the 1949 Cadillac actually approaches the lowest-priced popular cars in gasoline economy.

And, finally, there are the dependability records—which prove that the car's freedom from the need of repairs is just as unusual as its performance and beauty! Yes—if you are ready for a Cadillac, come in. You will never make a more sensible purchase—or one of which your friends will more heartily approve.



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Film Fanfare
Brave Film Tells Wives How to Keep their Huses
By BOB THOMAS

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 10 (AP)—Men, have you ever felt like telling your wife that her housekeeping is sloppy and mismanaged?

That common urge is the basis for a new film, which perhaps should rank among the "brave" pictures Hollywood is making. The picture is "The Skipper Surprised His Wife," in which Navy Officer Robert Walker takes over a household after wife (Joan Leslie) breaks her leg.

The navy man hangs a sign for everything and everything has its place. On each cupboard and drawer is a sign telling its contents: "Glow Locker," "China Locker," etc.

Every minute of the day is regimented, from the time the two sons are awakened with a loudspeaker announcing, "Man the brooms, men! Life is so carefully scheduled that one boy moans, "How do you get out of this man's navy?"

Highlight of the film is when Walker addresses a meeting of navy wives:

"Housework need not be a burden; it is just inefficiency that makes it so."

"By adopting navy methods, you could cut your housework in half. Why, you should be able to do an entire week's shopping in 30 min-

utes. Just plan your menus in advance.

"Most of you who complain about your work are soap opera addicts, fence-hanger-overs, salacious encouragers, book-of-the-month clubbers or just plain lazy."

"Women who greet their husbands looking weary or unattractive just don't have the intelligence, integrity or gumption to work out a schedule and stick to it."

The speech ends in a riot, during which Walker is hit over the head with a microphone.

"I'm going to have all the women in America hating me," Walker told me afterwards, "but in real life, I think the plan could work. Huses can be run more efficiently."

Note: In case my wife reads this, the foregoing are the opinions of Walker and his movie writer and do not necessarily reflect those of this reporter.

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