

PHILOSOPHY.

I love to ride in a touring car,
And zip on the old stone road;
I love to tour the burgs afar,
And joke with the merry laud.

DIAGNOSING ILL OF YOUR MOTOR.

Expert Gives Advice Concerning Engine Troubles Motorists are Likely to Encounter.

By Jack Reid.

This small tract is written condensing the data concerning motors for the purpose of guiding the car owner, saving him many mistakes and at the same time avoiding the pitfalls that surround him.

It will help him to diagnose his motor symptoms or at least know if, when he goes into a stange shop for some repairs, the mechanic knows his business and does not put in needless time on probably the wrong thing.

Your motor action is divided into four stages or cycles, intake, compression, explosion and exhaust. That is, the different strokes on each cylinder required to transform the potential energy in the gasoline into kinetic energy.

COMPRESSION.

This displacement of the piston now being filled with gas, the next move is compression. The piston, now at the bottom of stroke, returns upward.

Now, at this period comes the explosion. The spark, timed correctly, ignites the compressed gas, forcing the piston downward. This is the firing or power stroke.

Your cylinder now is filled with waste or burnt gas, which must be ejected, which brings us to the last cycle or the exhaust. After the piston has been forced downward by the explosion, it returns upward, the exhaust valve opens and the used gases are forced out through the muffler.

Here lies the secret of your power. You must have, first, good carburetion to give you the right gas; good compression with no leaks and a hot spark timed correctly. This is the trinity of power in a combustion engine.

Do not be led astray by every quack who promises to give something for nothing. If he says he can give you more power see if his statements agree with the trinity of power.

Now the first stage of these three that compose your power is the carburetor. A good standard carburetor that has been tried and stood the test, that is standard equipment on numerous cars, is your safe guide.

By perfect carburetion we mean proportioning of the gas and air correctly all the way through the range and speed of the motor, giving the maximum power and speed; quick, smooth acceleration at any speed; an easy starting motor at all seasons; more miles per gallon and atomization of gas.

Now we come to the second stage or the compression of this gas. Here is where trouble occurs. The pistons compress the gas, but with the aid of piston rings that closely hug the cylinder walls to prevent any escape of this gas past the piston head.

You hate to hear noises in your car, but far more important are those tell-tale sounds in your motor. It is wrong to run your car until it falls apart, neither should a man drive one that is not giving power. Quite a few motorists only get about 5000 miles of good riding out of their new car. It is fine, full of pep and answers his touch like a spirited horse.

Now as to knocks in your motor; these are very important. It is up to you to get the best out of your car and repairs to it are as essential as oil and gasoline.

Never run your motor that is knocking or getting noisy. It means that the bearings are wearing and a loose connecting rod bearing makes a flat crank shaft, which is an expensive operation to repair.

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000 miles you may find the walls out of round and taper.

This is discovered by use of an inside micrometer. If they are so, then they should be reground and new pistons and rings furnished. Now be careful again that you do not make a mistake. If the rings furnished are of a cheap grade you will not have the desired results.

I often hear the remark, "The cylinders have been reground and new rings installed and still I have no power." A good plan to follow is to have the regrinding concerns regrind and furnish pistons without rings and you get your own ring.

The ring should undoubtedly be a lively one-piece ring. A one-piece ring that has a good sealed joint and proper wall pressure will hold up compression and hold down oil.

If you lose compression you lose oil, or, inversely, if you lose oil you lose compression.

Loss of compression is the cause of more trouble than any other and more money is spent foolishly over this than any other thing. For instance, a car is losing power. You do not know how to take hold of your crank and test your compression, but you go to an accessory store and buy a set of different kinds of spark plugs, or you put something on your carburetor or probably you put some new arrangement on your ignition. You might as well put an emblem on your radiator.

Remember this, motoring friend, the compression is the base from which we work. If it is weak, stop right there and have it attended to, but if the compression is good and you are losing power, it will be easily remedied, but do not expect pep, power and comfort with poor compression.

Now, a little information regarding ignition, for in it you find the release of the stored power in your cylinder, for without that little spark in a gun the charge would be useless; likewise that gas is lifeless until released by ignition.

It is not the intention to go into detail of the various forms of ignition; suffice to say that there are two forms, battery and magneto. Some cars have both.

In the battery ignition a coil is used in connection with the distributor and breaker box.

Nearly all cars that have magneto equipment have the high tension.

When we speak of correct time in ignition we mean that the spark is caused by the breaker box causing the spark to ignite in the cylinder when the piston is at the top. A late spark or late timing is when the piston is too far over the center and is going down on the explosion stroke before the spark ignites the gas.

An early spark occurs before the piston arrives at the top, consequently causing a knock.

Ignition troubles are sometimes difficult to determine. A weak coil is most of these troubles. Bad points and weak connections also give their share of annoyance. Either of these three will cause hard starting, miss firing and backfiring.

Another important thing that is the source of much trouble in a motor is the vacuum tank.

The vacuum tank is used to store a small quantity of gasoline so that the carburetor might have gravity feed. This tank is so constructed that the vacuum caused by the displacement of the pistons causes gasoline to rise from the rear tank into the vacuum tank and then into the motor.

While the motor is running this tank is kept full. A float inside shuts off the valve and keeps it from overflowing, but sometimes this float becomes loaded and overflows or the valve sticks, causing the overflow of gasoline into the intake, escaping through the carburetor, causing the motor to load, miss fire and backfire.

An experienced mechanic can locate this trouble, but it is one that is difficult to diagnose, as its symptoms are like carburetor and ignition troubles inasmuch that it causes the carburetor to flood and your motor misses and backfires in the muffler like faulty ignition.

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HAD GENIUS FOR INVENTION

Man Who Began Life as a Prairie Sheep Herder Made Most Remarkable Record.

It is probable that Walter Turner was the world's most prolific inventor. Starting life as a shepherd on a prairie sheep ranch in the far West he knew nothing of the mechanics of railway engineering. One day, however, while tending his sheep on the prairie in the neighborhood of a railway, Turner came to where the ruins of a train were scattered, and among the fragments he picked up as a curiosity a vital part of the Westinghouse brake. This he was allowed to carry away. During his lonely life on the prairie he would ponder over the mechanism of this brake. His chance came when, having failed as a sheep farmer, he got a job as a wheel tapper on the railway, ultimately being promoted to the engine shops. A series of inventions, improving brakes patented by the company, led to his further advancement. Mr. Westinghouse, who took him into his works, finally made him the head of the engineering department. Westinghouse patented two hundred inventions, but the shepherd from the prairies patented four hundred. Westinghouse made an air brake that would control fifty railway carriages; Turner improved it so it would control a hundred. When he died it was said that the value of the shepherd's inventions to the world was over thirty-five million dollars in gold.

NEXT JOB IS WHAT COUNTS

Good Thing to Forget What One Has Done, and Look Forward to Something Else.

James J. Hill, who possessed a phenomenal memory, said it is easy to remember things you are interested in.

What to do, therefore, is to discern what things are useful, what things one ought to be interested in, and then forget the others.

That sounds easy, but it isn't easy as we all know. However, if we try we may accomplish something. If we don't, we won't.

Let's see, therefore, what are some of the things we ought to forget.

First, and most important of all, forget that brilliant record you made at school or that wonderful sale you made which caused all the boys to talk, or that remarkable piece of work you did which won your raise of pay and promotion.

Forget the big things you did yesterday or last year.

Forget all about the time you topped the list and were made a fuss over.

Forget that you are (in your own eyes) a wonder, a world beater.

Water that has gone over the mill-wheel can grind no more corn.

Forget what you have already done and address all your mind and strength and talent to the next job.—Forbes Magazine (New York).

When Thunder Roars.

When caught in a thunderstorm don't rush for any shelter.

Remember that any tall, isolated object, such as a tree or a flagstaff, or even a tall building, is liable to attract lightning, and for that reason should be avoided.

If trees are chosen as shelters during a storm, select a group in preference to one standing by itself, and avoid the highest.

Never run to escape the rain, as a flash is likely to be diverted to the vicinity of the air thus set in rapid motion.

In a house, keep away from open windows—it is best to shut them—and fireplaces.

It is safer to be soaked by the rain than dry under an umbrella; wet clothes will be chosen by the lightning in preference to the wearer, and the wearer in preference to his dry clothes.

The Calling of Wild Geese.

There are certain bird notes which strike strange chords, whose vibrations are lost in a mist of dreams. I remember a little runaway boy who stood in a clover field in a gray twilight and heard the clanging calls of wild geese shouting down from midsky. Frightened, he ran home a vast distance—at least the width of two fields. As he ran there seemed to come back to him the memory of a forgotten dream, if it were a dream, in which he lay in an other land on a chill hillside. Overhead in the darkness passed a burst of triumphant music and the strong singing of voices not of this earth. From that day the trumpet notes of the wild geese bring back through the fog of the drifting years that same dream to him who heard them first in that far away, long ago clover field.

Wonderful Balances.

It was the Italian physician Salvioni who devised a microbalance of such extreme delicacy that it clearly demonstrates the loss of weight of musk by volatilization. Thus the invisible perfume floating off in the air is indirectly weighed. The essential part of the apparatus is a very thin thread of glass fixed at one end and extended horizontally. The microscopic objects to be weighed are placed on the glass thread near its free end and the amount of flexure produced is observed with the microscope magnifying 100 diameters. A mote weighing one one-thousandth of a milligram perceptibly bends the thread.

No Place to Boil It Then.

At the bank of the Missouri river, one mile west, I questioned a man, who replied that he had heard nothing about Sitting Bull. I then asked him whether it was true that they drank the Missouri river water, which was rolling by us like a tidal wave of sand. "No," he said, "we can't do that, but we often break off a piece and suck it like molasses candy."—Fred Cope-land in the Youth's Companion.

MANY ABLE TO HEAR COLORS

According to Investigator, the Gift is Not Uncommon—Possessed by One Person in Eight.

Color hearing, or chromaesthesia, the constant association of colors with words, letters, musical notes and noises, is inherent, the New Orleans Times-Picayune says, in one of every eight persons.

A few years ago a noted physician told his audience that the day was not far distant when sound would be seen and color heard, and time has confirmed his statement. It seems incredible that a beam of light can produce sound, yet it has been accomplished by throwing a ray of sunlight through a lens on a glass vessel containing lampblack, or colored silk or worsted, or any similar substance. A disk having slits or openings cut in it is made to revolve swiftly in the beam of light so as to "cut it up" into alternate flashes of light and shadow. When the ear is placed to the glass vessel the sensitive ear can distinguish strange, faint sounds as long as the flashing beam falls upon the vessel.

A still more extraordinary effect is produced when the beam of sunlight is first made to pass through a prism, so as to produce what is known as the solar spectrum. The disk is turned so that the colored light of the rainbow passes through it and is alternately interrupted and transmitted by it. Now, if the ear be placed to the glass vessel containing the silk or other material, it will be noticed that the colored lights of certain parts of the spectrum will make sounds, and those of other parts will not. For example, if the glass vessel contains red worsted and the green light is flashed upon it, there will be comparatively loud sounds, and when the red and blue parts of the rainbow fall upon the vessel there will be faint sounds; but other colors will produce no sounds at all.

CIVILIZATION PROVES FATAL

South Sea Islanders Are Rapidly Passing Away as Result of White Man's Coming.

There are today but 2,500 persons in the 50 Paumotu islands, separated from each other by about 40 miles of water in the South seas, where 15 years ago there were more than 4,000. If equally distributed there would be but 30 persons to each island, but on more than half of them no person lives. Epidemics have cut the people down in throngs, and it is the belief of Frederick O'Brien, writing in the Century Magazine, that the time is not far off when the last Paumotu will have perished.

When Captain Cook made his survey of the Tahiti islands there were 70,000 happy, healthy people, and today there survive scarcely 2,000. They were not slain, but perished by diseases concomitant with intercourse with civilization.

The Tahitians and the Paumotians understand each other easily, though many words are different. The former lived with Europeans for 100 years, and they soon became the most cultivated race of the South seas, while the Paumotians remained the coarse, primitive savages that they are for centuries. The Paumotians are a quiet people, serious and contemplative, while the Tahitians are laughter-loving, light-hearted, frenzied dancers, orators, music worshippers and feasters.

Ghost for Fish Bait.

Siamese fishermen do most of their fishing by means of what is known as a ghost boat. This consists of a long board, painted white, and arranged in position in the water. The top must not be too high above the surface of the water for the fish it is desired to capture to leap over. When in position the ghost resembles very much the white side of a boat or punt. The fish, seeing this white board, become frightened, and in fear they leap over the board. At the back of the board, however, nets are arranged in such a position that those fish that succeed in leaping the board land in the nets and are caught. The amount of fish caught by the employment of ghost boats is very large indeed, and the method has the advantage of preventing the smaller fry from getting into the nets, as they are unable to leap over the board.

Largest Venomous Snake.

The bush master is the largest known venomous snake. It inhabits the Amazonian region in South America. Its teeth and poison apparatus resemble those of a rattlesnake, and the fangs are very large. Death has been known to occur within 10 minutes after the bite of one of these reptiles. It lives in dens and holes in the ground, frequenting river banks and does not climb trees. This snake attains a length of 12 to 15 feet; the color of its body is yellowish pink, with brown patterns and tints of purple.

Profitable Companionship.

Among the most curious and interesting of natural phenomena are those pertaining to the mutual relationships of common organisms. Two plants, two animals, or a plant and an animal, may live together for their mutual benefit. Very often one of the partners gets food for the combination, while the other receives protection. This is the arrangement that subsists between tropical plants and certain species of ants which live and feed in their hollow stems, and in return drive away other insects that would do damage.

Real Success.

"Uncle George, what is success in life?" asked the small boy. "Uncle George—It's gettin'ither folla' to think as highly o' you as you think o' yourself.—London Blyghty.

SURE THAT ANIMALS DREAM

Eminent Authorities Have Gone on Record, Though It Has Been Subject of Dispute.

Aristotle's history of animals declares that horses, oxen, sheep, goats, dogs and all viviparous quadrupeds dream. Pliny, in his natural history specifies the same animals. Buffon describes the dreams of animals. Macnish calls attention to the fact that horses neigh and rear in their sleep, and affirms that cows and sheep, especially at the period of rearing their young, dream.

Darwin, in the "Descent of Man," says that "dogs, cats, horses and probably all the higher animals, even birds, as is stated on good authority, have vivid dreams, and this is shown by their movements and voice."

George John Romanes, in his "Mental Evolution in Animals," says that the fact that dogs dream is proverbial, and quotes Seneca and Lucretius, and furnishes proof from Dr. Lauder Lindsay, an eminent authority, that horses dream. Bechstein holds that the bullfinch dreams, and gives a case where the dream took on the character of a nightmare, and the bird fell from its perch, and four great authorities say that dreaming becomes so vivid as to lead to somnambulism. Guer gives a case of somnambulistic watch dog which prowled in search of imaginary strangers or fowls, and exhibited toward them a whole series of pantomimic actions, including barking. Dryden says: "The little birds in dreams the songs repeat."

SHREWD IDEA IN POLITICS

Pictures of Presidential Candidates on Letter Heads Was a Popular Thing in 1840.

Back in the early days of the republic it was considered a fine idea to decorate paper with the portraits of presidential candidates. In this way the letter writer showed not only his preference, but tried to influence his correspondents for his candidate, remarks the New York Sun. A fine example of this sort of political propaganda was unearthed recently in New York. It dates back to 1840, when William Henry Harrison was running for president on the Whig ticket against Martin Van Buren, Democrat.

The letterhead shows the two sides of the gold medal awarded by congress to General Harrison for his services in the War of 1812. The picture to the left shows a medallion portrait of General Harrison, while the one at the right depicts the Goddess of Liberty, armed with a spear, placing a wreath of laurel on an Indian tepee. This latter was intended as a compliment to the general for his success in fighting against the British and Indians.

Under the pictures of the two sides of the medal is a copy of the resolution of congress conferring the medals on General Harrison and Isaac Shelby, "late governor of Kentucky."

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Improvized Gun Has Kick.

The Burma government forbids the natives to have guns in their possession, and prohibits trading in arrows and ammunition. But the native's ingenuity enables him to get around this. He will find a piece of gaspise somewhere, fit a rude stock to it and a crude primer and hammer, and will use safety matches in lieu of powder. He cuts off the heads of about two boxes of matches and puts them into the improvized barrel. He then runs his shot home and is ready for business.

And let me tell you, if you never tried to shoot with such a gun, don't ever do so. Why, an express rifle is about as kickless as a .22 caliber Flober compared with this improvized shotgun! I tried shooting one once upon a time and the thing almost kicked my shoulder off.—National Geographic Bulletin.

Getting Rid of a Knot.

It is often a difficult business to get rid of knots, especially if these are of long standing. By following the plan indicated it is a simple matter to free the hardest knots, whether these be in straps, harness, rope, cord or anything of a similar nature. As a first step place the knot on some hard surface and give it a good hammering on all sides with a mallet or a thick piece of wood. Now boil up a little water with soap in it sufficient to make rather a cloudy solution. Then soak the knot for two or three minutes in the liquid. At the end of this time it will be found that it can be quite easily untied, often enough with the fingers. The loosening can be done with some sharp implement.

Origin of "Dutch."

The word "Dutch" is derived from the German "deutsch," meaning German and the original meaning in English was German, Teutonic, except in local, careless or slang usage. The German language is classified into high and low German, the low being spoken by the people of the Netherlands, formerly designated as the low Dutch language. Gradually the usage has changed until in modern times it has reference only to the inhabitants of the Netherlands, their language, etc. Thus Dutch furniture signifies a style developed in Holland in the seventeenth century.

Wonders of a New York Church.

All Saints' church, New York city, built in 1824, contains a wealth of interesting antiquities which may be seen, however, only at the regular services. Among its wonders are a museum of Dutch antiquities, the only open and unchanged slave galleries in the United States, the only colonial window left in New York, the only three-decker chancel arrangement left in the East.—Automobile Blue Book.

WHEN LAWS WERE CRUEL

Barbarous Death or Life Imprisonment the Portion of Thinkers in the Sixteenth Century.

They had a rough and ready way of dealing with spiritualists in the sixteenth century. An act was placed on the statute book in the reign of Queen Mary which made it a capital offense for many persons "to propose to hold communications with the dead," and later the penalty for such an offense was made burning at the stake.

In 1520 a man named Edward Barber, who lived at Ongar in Essex, was ordered by a local magistrate to be put in the stocks for three days, and subsequently to stand for trial for pretending that he had received messages from a dead person, and "for telling divers persons that he had done so."

This luckless spiritualist, however, was never sent for trial, as on the last night of his confinement in the stocks he was burned to death by some of the villagers.

In the reign of Queen Anne a man named Prothero was sentenced to imprisonment for life for writing a pamphlet proving that communication with the dead was possible; and even so late as the reign of George I there are records of severe punishments being inflicted on people who professed that they had received messages from the dead.

In the reign of James I a Dutch merchant named Kolep, living in London, was sent to the Tower for alleging that during a bad illness he had actually died and that his soul had passed for two hours in the world beyond, when it returned to his body.

Kolep was deprived of his property and was sentenced to imprisonment for life. He escaped from prison, however, and managed to make his way back to his native country, where he afterwards published a book giving the experiences of his visit to the world beyond the grave.—Stray Stories.

RULED BY TREATY POWERS

Shanghai Only Great City in the World That Is Under That Form of Control.

Shanghai is an international city—the only international city in the world. It is controlled and governed by the treaty powers, which include all the principal powers that have established treaty relations with China, except France, which has its own territory or concession adjoining the international settlement. In such a community unique solutions have to be found for unique problems, and no problem has been more difficult than that of the administration of justice.

For the foreign resident it is a simple matter, writes Nathaniel Peffer in Asia magazine. He is subject only to the laws of his own country, because of the privilege of extra-territoriality which China conceded to foreign powers some 70 years ago, when she was forced to concede so much else, including parts of her territory. Thus, for the American, there is an American district attorney to administer American law, just as in New York, Chicago, San Francisco or Joplin. As for the British, Russian, Japanese or Italian, even if no special court has been established for him, there is at least a consular court. The result is of course, that your neighbor can do things with impunity that would net you \$25 and costs, or vice versa.

"Catan Finds Some Mischief Still."

The mischief of water is not that it does not run, but that, not running, it corrupts, and, corrupting, breeds poisonous miasma, so that they who live in the neighborhood inhale disease at every breath. The mischief of indolence is not that it neglects the use of powers and the improvement of the opportunities of life, but that it breeds morbid conditions in every part of the soul. An indolent man is like an unoccupied dwelling. Scoundrels sometimes burrow in it. Thieves and evil characters make it their haunt; or, if they do not, it is full of vermin. A house that is used does not breed moths half so fast as a house that, having the beginnings of them, stands empty. Woe be to them, who take an old house, and carry their goods into it! A lazy man is an old house full of moths in every part.

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