REVIEW SHOWS LIGHT ELECTRICS GAIN IN FAVOR

Growing Prestige of Commercial Wagons, Taxicabs and Roadsters

DEVELOPMENT IS SLOW

By A. JACKSON MARSHALL Secretary Electric Vehicle Association of America.

The last year has seen many changes and improvements in the electric vehicle industry, all of which point to an unusually bright future, both for the electric in the commercial field and as a passenge car. There have been no sudden, illusors spurts of popularity in the progress of the electric vehicle; rather it has been a gradual, steady growth, forming a good, strong foundation upon which to baild up its ever-increasing business. Ever since the transportation world has recognized the value of the motortruck as a medium for transporting merchanas a medium for transporting merchan-dise it has invariably been admitted in the larger cities, where there are oppor-tunities of testing the various forms of funities of testing the various forms of trucks, that, while the gasoline motor-truck is especially adapted for long, un-interrupted hauls, the electric vehicle is the desirable and economical vehicle for city and suburban work.

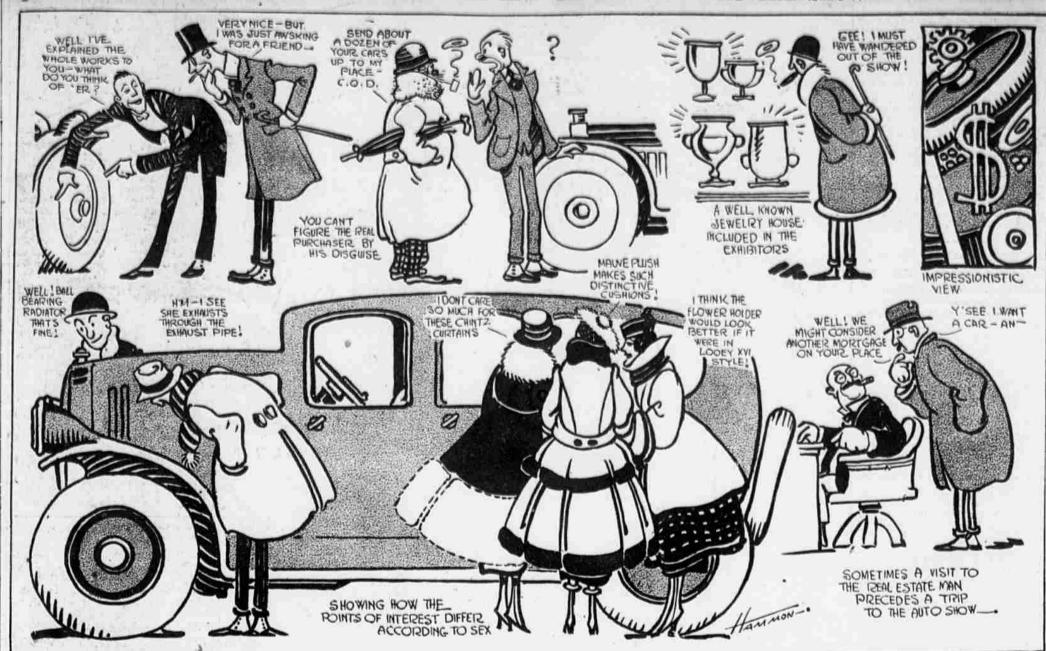
The Boston Institute of Technology employing the best authorities in an un-blased study of transportation problems, bears out this statement of the electric's adaptability to city traffic after four years of observation and statistical study. In-deed, all we need do is to observe the large fleets of electrics in our city streets large fleets of electrica in which have been adopted by our largest and most conservative business houses. LIGHT ELECTRIC WAGON.

That the horse and wagon are gradually being displaced by the light electric delivery wagon has been demonstrated by the very successful campaign recently delivery was a care and a carried on by a well-known manufacturer of vehicles of that type. Within its capacity ratins the small 750-pound electric delivery wason costs less to operate than a single-horse wason and can perform a far greater amount of work. Where conditions are such as to demand ranges of 30, 40 or 50 miles perday, the saving obtained by the use of this car may actually cover its cost in less than two years, and this after all either running expenses have been paid for. It costs less to keep this car in tires than it does to keep a single horse in abost for the same work done. For equal service the cost of current at 5 cents per kiewatt hour amounts to but half the cost of hay and outs alones. In New York city more than 50 livery stables have cost of hay and oats alone. In New York city more than 50 livery stables have expressed a willingness to store and wash this car for 110 per month. These same stables get from 127 to 130 per month for stabling and otherwise caring for a single horse and wason, and there is profit in the former and almost inevitable loss in the latter.

Another important development of the electric vehicle during the last year in a special field is its adoption for munici-pal service by many of our most progres-sive cities in one form or another. It is with considerable interest that fire chiefs throughout the country are watching the results and performance of electrically propelled fire trucks and engines in the

The very latest development and one which will play an important part in further popularizing the passenger electric, is the electrically driven taxicab. The present gasoline taxicab service in many of our larger cities and especially New York is inefficient, in many in-stances unsafe and costly to operate.

Sun Company Buys Sterling Plant The Sun Motorcar Company, of Buffalo, N. Y., which company has for some time been considering the advisability of lo-cating in the Middle West, has finally decided upon Elkhart, Ind., where the plant once occupied by the Sterling Mo-torcar Company has been purchased. "CLOSE-UPS" OF THE PEOPLE AND THINGS NOTED AT THE SHOW



WEALTHY MEN TELL WHY SEVERAL AUTOS ARE KEPT AND USED

People Who Dream of Owning Cars Envy Those Who Do, but the One-Machine Man Wants More

MANY POSSESS A DOZEN

To thousands of persons the summit of their dreams is to own an automobile—one automobile. In Philadelphia there are thousands of persons for whom the dream is a reality; that is, who own an automobile—one automobile.

automobile—one automobile.

These facts are readily admitted. But in addition there are several hundred persons in Philadelphia who own two automobiles and probably a half hundred. who own anywhere from two to seven

To the man in the street wending his way from here to there on shank's mare the latter class is a source of absolute wonder and perplexity. "What in the

money to spend seldom spend it need lessly. And it is because they know well what they are doing that they own several cars. Let us investigate the garage of a man

who owns seven cars. He is telling you about them himself: "You see, in the first place, I live in the country and I ride to my office every morning, in my own limousine, during the winter. Besides I have a daughter who goes out a great-deal socielly in the evening and she uses the same car to take her to and from her affairs. In summer I ride to town in an open touring car, which is also used by the family at large when we tour together in summer. For my wife I have a landaulet, which she my wife I have a landaulet, which she can use all the year, since it closes up for winter use or the top may be put

back in summer. back in summer.

"Now my daughter has a car of her own, a little raceabout which she uses when she wants to drive alone or to fool around with in the daytime. Her brother at college has a similar car, although I permit him to use it only in summer or other vacation periods.

"That makes five and the total of what

That makes five and the total of what I term my family's pleasure cars. We have a light delivery car to carry baggage to and from the station and to do whatever other hauling is to be done about the place. This latter amounts to a great deal. It havis dead leaves in the fall, ma-terial for repairing the roadways and saves me considerable expense of one

wonder and perplexity. "What in the world," he says to himself, "could anybody do with six or seven automobiles? They must be so rich they don't know what they are doing."

Now, it is true that a poor man cannot own seven cars, and those whodo are well endowed with this world's goods. But at the same time people with a great deal of the servants miss it they must wait for the next or if it is the last one at night walk home."

PEDESTRIAN MUST EXERCISE CAUTION

Decision of Court of Appeals Helps "Safety First" Movement for Street

No longer will careless pedestrians who attempt to cross a street without looking to see if they are in danger be able to secure damages in the event of an accident, according to a recent decision handed down by the Court of Appeals, which reverses the findings of the lower court where the trial judge charged the jury that "the law does not require that a pedestrian should look at all, but should

only exercise ordinary care for his own safety.

An educational campaign has been conducted under the auspices of the Safety. First Society of New York during the last two years. One of the commands which the society has consistently promulgated since its inception reads as follows: "Look before you cross a street, Cross

at the regular crossing, and not in the middle of a block."

It is the general belief that this decision will have a far-reaching effect in reducing the number of street accidents as soon as it becomes known to those persons accustomed to cross a street without looking in either direction to see if there is any approaching vehicular traffic or street cars, and particularly the care-less pedestrians who take their lives in their own hands by crossing a street at some other point than at the regular inome other point than at the regular in-ersection.

He may go forward unless it is close upon him, and whether he is negligent in going forward will be a question for the jury."

forth in the opinion of the court writ-ten by Judge Cardozo incorporated in an announcement from the Safety First

Society, wherein certain cases are dis

tinguished and have been taken to sup

port this extreme view, and which further "The jury was told in effect that even if the plaintiff left the car without look-ing where he was going and then walked blindly in the path of the wagon, they

might still acquit him of negligence. The law, we think is otherwise. A wayfarer is not at liberty to close his eyes in cross-ing a city street. His duty is to use his eyes and thus protect himself from dan-ger. The law does not say how often he must look, or precisely how far, or when, or from where. If, for example, he looks as he starts to cross and the way seems clear, he is not bound as a matter of law to look again. The law does not even say that because he sees a wagon an-proaching he must stop till it has passed.

ARCHER'S ROAD WAS HARD ONE ALL LAST SEASON

Veteran Cub Catcher Had Much to Contend With. But Played Well

SOME REAL "STUNTS"

The talk of sales and trades that are in prospect at the present time and which will most likely continue until the teams start for the southern camps, brings to mind the fact that the same Jimmy Archer, premier catcher of the Cubs for many years, is mentioned as being sold or traded.

being sold or traded.

A few words about the great player.

Last year Jimmy had 14 passed balls out of the 18 charged against all the Cub catchers. This was more than any other backstop in the National League and it calls to our mind Archer's fine work in previous years. He was far from being at his best in 1915, as the records plainly show, but in his prime he was one of the greatest throwing catchers known to the game.

Archer was a real come-back, a rare bird in the national pastime. Hughey Jennings, smart as he is, discarded him as of no use to a major league club and sent him to Buffalo. There Frank Chance saw him in an exhibition game and at once secured him for the Cubs, where he did brilliant work for a number of

When at his best Archer not only threw very accurately to second base, but he was an adept at picking runners off first and third. His "squat-pegging," as the Chicago critics called it, was deadly in its execution. Archer had the knack of throwing from any position by a quick map of his hurling wing. Catching the pitched ball while in a squatting position behind the bat, he could shoot it on a line to first base greatly to the surprise of the base runner and often to his sudden discomfiture. den discomfiture.

Few catchers have ever been able to make this play with any degree of accuracy, but Archer was and is an exception. His ability in this line shows the real merit of a thinking ball player in comparison with the ordinary mechanical man, who does nothing but the obvious at

A bluff to throw to second, followed by a snap shot to third base, will frequently snare the runner off third; while a hiuff throw to third, followed by a sudden throw to second, will almost invariably prove disastrous to the aggressive run-ner; but there are not many who attempt the latter play. It is catchers like Kling and Archer who have the nerve and the skill to go through with these plays that turn in a victory for their team, for which the pitcher or the batter who makes a hit in the pinch gets the credit.

Gawthorp Takes on the Bell Car W. W. (Pop) Gawthorp, 1805-07 Market street, has taken on the distribution of the Bell car for eastern Pennsylvania, central and southern New Jersey and

He had a dream, a joyous dream. That thrilled him to the soul. He stood with a receipted bill And watched a row of wagons fill His cellar full of coal. —Penn State Froth.

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