

Antiquing with Joel Sater

"Motorcycle Craze Started In 1903"

In 1913 Sears-Roebuck put out a small catalog entitled "Sears Auto Cycles." This is what they had to say about motorcycles: "Ten years ago (1903) practically everybody owned or wanted a bicycle; today the call is strong for motorcycles. Only a short time ago a motorcycle was considered more or less of a toy and recreation for racers, but...today (it) is recognized as a practical and superior means of transportation."

Most of us know that the automobile industry swept like a fierce wind out of nowhere at the turn of the century and revolutionized our entire nation in less than fifteen years. But few know that motorcycles for a few of these early years almost paralleled the automobile in popularity.

"Now motorcycles are successfully used in a hundred different lines of work and the sport feature is only one phase of its many uses," the pamphlet continues. Thousands of Uncle Sam's rural route mail carriers were using cycles to replace the horse and buggy mail delivery system. Special delivery and messenger services also were using them. The linemen of the large telephone and telegraph companies were using thousands of them, especially in thinly settled parts of the country.

"In the cities the agent, solicitor and doctor" were finding them great for rapid and inexpensive transportation. Accessories for motorcycles had already become big business by 1913. Sears offered two sidecars, one for only \$66.50, the other \$74.50. A luggage carrier rack could be had with or without a cushion for an extra rider.

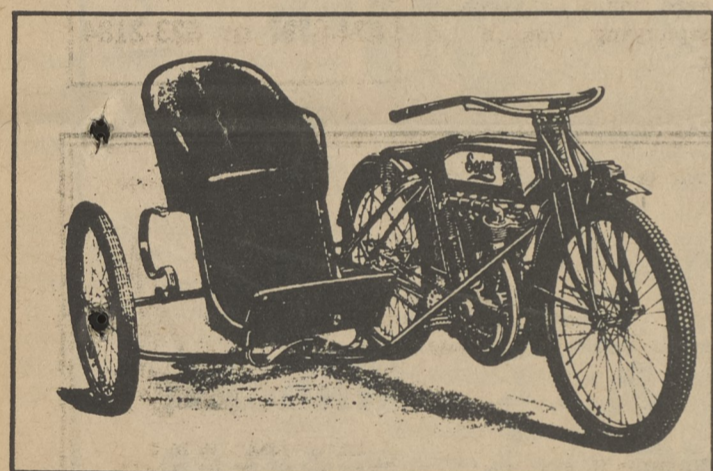
A special set of saddle bags were designed for messenger and postal service. The cycles came without lights, but they were available as "extras" in either carbide or gas types. A speedometer could be had which worked by friction off of a roller against the tire. Goggles, tool kits, locking chains, mud guards and fancy motorcycle suits made of Olive Brown Whipcord were offered with or without leather puttees and gantlet gloves.

At this period, 1913, motorcycles, belt or chain driven, were actually just heavy bicycles motorized. They even had standard bicycle pedal and chain drive to help the motor when needed, or to move you along on wheels if the motor conked out.

According to the pamphlet at this time Sears made four basic models. One called the "Leader," a single cylinder job which sold for only \$150.00, two in-between models and a "Dreadnaught Nine" twin-cylinder with armored magneto, eclipse clutch and a spring seat post. Nine horsepower. The price for all this \$237.50.

The motorcycle today is primarily a sport for recreation vehicle. Why did such a facile means of transportation lose out over the years to the more bulky and costly auto? Anyone know the answer?

(Always happy to receive reader's stories about antiquing and collecting. Material sent becomes the property of this column and cannot be returned. For free list of hundreds of books on antiques send 9x12 self-addressed envelope with 12 cent stamp. Write Joel Sater c/o this newspaper.)



The Dreadnaught Nine, Sears Roebuck's "Big Gun" motorcycle of 1913. The price then \$237.50. With Side Car attached, add \$66.50.

lawn social set Aug. 29 and 30

The annual "Lawn Social" of St. Mary's Greek Rite Catholic Church, Chestnut Avenue, Kingston will be held Aug. 29 and 30.

The two-day affair will feature numerous stands of entertaining, with special areas for the youngsters. A wide variety of foods will be prepared and served by the Rosary Society including holupki, kel-basi, pirohi, pagach, goulash, and potato pancakes.

A special feature Aug. 30 will be the serving of dinners immediately following the second Mass at St. Mary's. Advance reservations are being accepted by Rosary members, Mrs. Joseph Evans, Swoyersville; Mrs. Emil Coach, Edwardsville; and Mrs. Andrew Wallison, Kingston.

General chairman for the "Lawn Social" is William A. Adancevich, Edwardsville, and assisting as co-chairmen are John Evans, Chestnut Avenue, Kingston, and John Petro, Trucksville. Honorary chairman is the pastor of St. Mary's, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Nicholas J. Bonetzky.

Clubs and organizations of St. Mary's are aiding with the plans. These include the American Rusin Club, Catholic War Veterans Post, choir, altar boys, trustees, Rosary, Sodality, Holy Name and interested parishioners.

The public is invited to attend the two-day "Lawn Social."

Thirty-five countries adopted nickel and various nickel alloys for 70 new coins in 1969.



Mrs. Frank E. Wojcik Jr.

Deborah Kleiner, bride in double ring ceremony

Deborah Lee Kleiner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Kleiner, Trucksville, became the bride of Frank E. Wojcik Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Wojcik, 19 Nicholson St., Wilkes-Barre, Aug. 15 at 11 a.m. in the Trucksville United Methodist Church, Trucksville.

The double ring ceremony was performed by Dr. Laurence Beers. Nancy Hoida was the organist and Virginia Jenkins was the soloist.

The bride, given in marriage by her father, wore an exclusive gown in white silk organza over Peau taffeta. Complementing her gown, she wore a bouffant veil of finest illusion arranged to an Alencon lace Camelot embellished in pearls and crystals. She carried a nosegay of white cymbidium orchids and stephanotis.

Wendy Neilson was maid of honor. She wore a maize chiffon gown over silk taffeta and a

white nylon picture hat with maize satin streamers. She carried a fireside basket of yellow and white daisy mums.

Bonnie Long and Sally Harter were bridesmaids. Joanne Suda and Justine Sherman were junior bridesmaids. Jill Crompton was flower girl. All the attendants were attired identically to the maid of honor.

Thomas Zawilski was best man. Ushers were Robert W. Kleiner II, brother of the bride and Dennis Boyle. Junior ushers were William C. Kleiner, brother of the bride, and George Suda.

Following the ceremony a reception was held at the Irem Temple Country Club, Dallas, after which the couple left on a wedding trip to Wildwood Crest, N.J.

The bride graduated from Dallas Senior High School.

The bridegroom is a graduate of GAR High School and Wilkes College, where he received a B.A. degree in English. He is a member of the faculty at Coughlin High School.

The bride was entertained at a kitchen shower given by her bridal attendants; a linen shower given by Mrs. Andrew Christy and Mrs. Raymond Price, aunts of the bride; a variety shower given by Mrs. Robert Scott, Mrs. Preston Sturdevant and Mrs. Josiah Jenkins, aunts of the bride, and a variety shower given by Mrs. Robert Weale, sister of the bridegroom.

The bride's parents entertained the bridal party at a rehearsal dinner at the Irem Temple Country Club, Dallas.

annual Haymarket scheduled Sept. 5

More than 35 antique dealers from Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey will participate in the 11th annual Haymarket Out-

door Antiques and Art Show and Sale which will be held Sept. 5 in a large field on Rt. 309 midway between Dallas and Tunkhannock from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The affair is being sponsored by the Harmony Chapter, No. 58, Order of the Eastern Star and will be held in a large, cleared field in the village of Evans Falls on Rt. 309.

Antique furniture, glassware, china, copper, brass and miscellaneous items of interest to collectors and fanciers will be found at The Haymarket.

Robert Heffelfinger of Scranton will have paintings displayed on the outside wall of a rustic, weathered barn adjacent to the antiques area.

A snack bar will be set up on the premises and there is ample space for easy, level parking. In case of rain, the show will be held the following day, Sept. 6.

fair features
baby contest

The annual Dallas Fall Fair baby parade will be held Aug. 29 at 12:30 p.m. at the Lehman Horse Show Grounds. Contestants will be ages six years and under. There will be prizes awarded to all entrants and special awards for prettiest, funniest, most original, youngest, cutest couple and largest group.

Chairman of the baby contest is Jackie Sheehan who is assisted by Jane Thomas, Martha Reese, and Ruth Ambrose.

Fiesta revisited on Channel 44

The Misericordia College Folk Singers and the Wilkes-Barre Ballet Theatre Company will appear on "Wilkes-Barre Fiesta Revisited," a special three and one-half hour program to be presented on Channel 44, Aug. 29, at 7:30 p.m. Many other area groups will be included in the program.

observes birthday

Jean Maledar and Minnie Wesley, Loyalville, spent the day recently helping Walter Wesley Jr. celebrate his birthday. He is a multiple sclerosis patient at the Schultz Building in Danville.

WVIA-TV, the area's public television station, taped the special 210 minute show, at the 1970 Wilkes-Barre Fine Arts Fiesta earlier this summer at Public Square in Wilkes-Barre. The Fiesta, the oldest of its kind in Pennsylvania, was staged this year by the Wilkes-Barre Fine Arts Council as part of a statewide "Pennsylvania Festival 1970" program.

WVIA-TV also taped two programs for the state network's "Festivals of Pennsylvania" series, while at the Fiesta. However, the entertainment from those two programs is not to be included in the special broadcast Aug. 29.

executive mansions display American inspiration

by William Pahlman

The executive mansions of our 50 states are all uniquely interesting and display various facets of American inspiration. One of the most historic is the executive mansion of the state of Virginia. Four future presidents of the United States—Virginia Governors Jefferson, Monroe and Tyler and William Henry Harrison, whose father was a Virginia governor,—have lived on this site. Patrick Henry also lived here, as well as Henry Lee, father of Robert E. Lee.

Since 1881, 63 countries have used pure nickel for 159 denominations of coins in 237 types.

The house, which is situated in the heart of downtown Richmond, hard by the State House, was commissioned in 1810 and designed by Alexander Parris, a Boston architect, whose plans were considerably embellished by the Commissioners of Public Buildings. It was completed in 1813, at a cost of approximately \$19,000. Numerous changes and additions have been made since that time. The house was saved from destruction by fire during the Civil War, when a volunteer bucket brigade mounted the roof. The body of Stonewall Jackson is reputed to have in state in what is now the double ballroom. It is a house which has known all the joys and vicissitudes of living.

I was fortunate enough to be invited to visit the Virginia executive mansion during the administration of Governor Mills E. Godwin Jr. When I lectured at the Tuckahoe Women's Club, my luncheon companion was Mrs. Godwin, who graciously suggested a tour. We were met at the house by Allen Denny Ivie, the Richmond interior designer who carried out a partial restoration program for Mrs. Godwin. All areas of the house received some attention during the Godwin administration, but Mr. Ivie noted that the most extensive work was done in the beautiful double ballroom on the first floor.

The mansion is in the Georgian style, with square, vertical lines and columned porch, softened by fine old trees and a circular driveway in front. The entrance hall has two fine Chippendale chests, circa 1775, made of mahogany with serpentine fronts and bracket feet, with the original brass hardware. They are surmounted by a pair of antique mirrors of Federal design, with gold leaf reeded frames and white and gold panels at the top. There are two Queen Anne wing chairs upholstered in capucine silk and cotton damask and a big old Feraghan rug in dark red, dark blue and rust tones.

The color scheme of the Drawing Room derives from the pastel blue-and-rose Kerman rug with a champagne background. The walls are robin's egg blue with a dado and wood trim in antique white. Curtains with shirred valances are antique white-silk damask with blue-and-white silk fringe. The Hepplewhite sofa is mahogany upholstered in a damask of green-and-rose silk and cotton. There is a beautiful oval Adam mirror and a fine portrait in this room.

The dining room is oval in shape and the antique three-legged table by Duncan Phyfe and custom rug repeats this shape. Host chairs are Queen Anne, with high backs and cabriole legs, upholstered in gold worsted satin with the seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia hand-embroidered on the inside backs. Over the Hepplewhite sideboard hangs a portrait of Col. William Byrd II, by George Vaughan Curtis. The Washington Room, so called from the steel engravings in antique mahogany frames, depicting Gen. Washington and his family, which hang there, is distinguished by an unusually fine Hepplewhite breakfront, circa 1790, mahogany with inlay.

On the second floor, the front hall has been treated as a sitting room where personal friends of the governor's family are received. The antique white from the first floor has been used as a background. Curtains and pouf valances are hand-woven silk lamps of French rose and cream on gold, and the Chippendale sofa is upholstered in the same fabric. The governor's chamber on this floor has a color scheme of beige, coral and blue derived from the hand-blocked chintz used for curtain, bed hangings and a wing chair. An antique Hepplewhite chest of drawers, swell-bow front, made of mahogany with inlay, is of unusual interest. It retains its original brass hardware in the eagle-and-snake motif.

Of special interest is the Lafayette room, where Gen. Lafayette is rumored to have slept when he visited Richmond in 1824. The color scheme in this room derives from the Kashmir rug in tones of blue, rose and cream. The bedspread is a cream cotton-and-wool damask quilt with white, twisted-ropé fringe, and the hanging and skirt of the bed are cream-embroidered cotton-and-linen lace stripe, with a canopy of dacron and linen casement. There is a Chippendale chest of drawers, serpentine with chamfered corners, of mahogany with inlay, and a fine portrait of "Mrs. Sinclair," by Sir Thomas Lawrence. Whether Lafayette actually slept here or not is in the realm of legend, but it is well known that the room was occupied by Edward VII, when he was Prince of Wales, by President and Mrs. Howard Taft, Charles Lindbergh, Richard E. Byrd, Queen Mother Elizabeth of England and Winston Churchill.

The double ballroom on the first floor of the mansion, which

(along with the drawing room, the dining room and the Washington room) is used for state functions, is now treated as twin drawing rooms, separated by an open colonnade connecting the entrance hall and the dining room. These rooms are the focal point of the first floor and the center of entertaining activities. The excellent architectural moldings, columns, door pediments and the twin fireplaces are enhanced by the use of an antique white background. Rugs are gold cut pile, custom-made for the rooms. Curtains and valances are white, ivory-and-gold, silk-and-linen brocade, trimmed with gold silk, hand-tied fringe. The same fabric is used to upholster two Chippendale sofas and a wing chair. Overmantel mirrors in three sections, with elaborate gilt carvings, are used in both rooms. In the south ballroom, the fireplace is flanked by half-circle satinwood console tables, of Adam design, and 18th century mahogany chairs with carved fretwood legs and high curved backs, upholstered in red-and-green-on-white floral silk lampas.

In the north ballroom, the seating pieces include a two-back Chippendale settee in mahogany, copied from the chairs in the State dining room of the White House, and a Hepplewhite wheel-back chair, both upholstered in gold silk-and-cotton satin. Coffee tables in both rooms are mahogany with rosewood banding and boxwood inlay, Sheraton ovals with pedestals. They are flanked by Sheraton open-arm chairs of mahogany inlaid with satin wood sunbursts and upholstered in blue, white and gold silk-and-cotton striped fabric. Throughout the first floor portraits of Virginia governors and distinguished Virginians are used. Many of these paintings are on loan from the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

The guest cottage in the garden has an entrance hall, living room and kitchen on the ground floor and two bedrooms and bathrooms on the second floor. The color schemes in all these rooms are based on documentary prints and wallpapers. There are numerous old prints of historical interest. A collection of Colonial cooking equipment distinguishes the old kitchen, which retains its original brick floor.

The elegance and distinction of the interiors of this executive mansion attest to the care, devotion to detail and affection which have animated those who have worked on it.



The double ballroom of Virginia's executive mansion has been restored to its gracious Colonial charm and serves as the center of activities in the house.