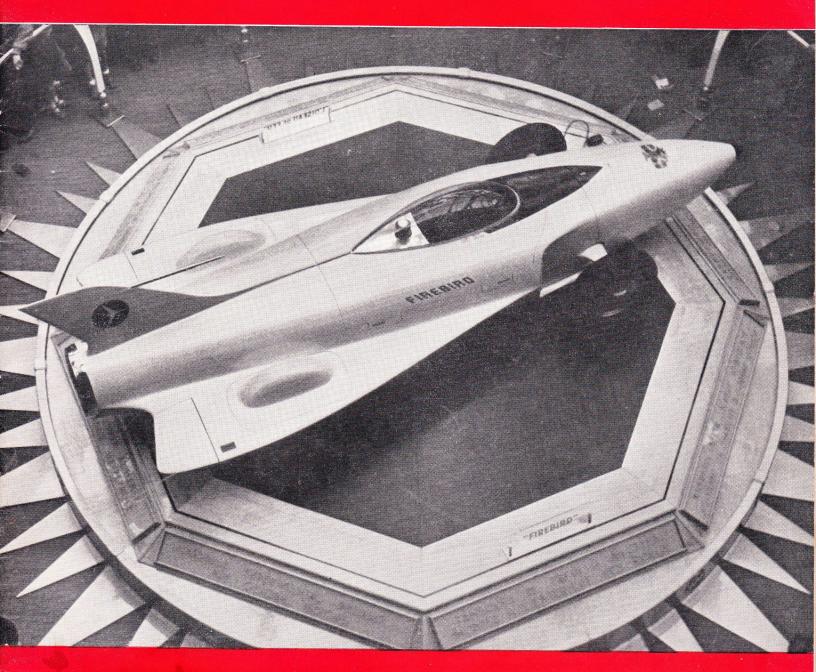
FULL REPORT OF THE PARIS SALON



BRITAIN'S MOTOR SPORTING WEEKLY



## IN THIS ISSUE

EARLS COURT PROSPECT

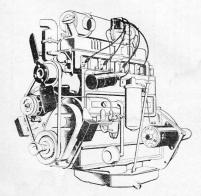
WITH JOHN BOLSTER AT THE PARIS SALON : COUPE DU SALON AT MONTLHERY FINAL RACES OF THE BRITISH SEASON AT SILVERSTONE, SNETTERTON, CADWELL & KIRKISTOWN





# ... the NEW Sunbeam MK.III

## now with an 80 B.H.P. ENGINE



More Power Engineered from 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Litres The 2267 cc engine of the Sunbeam Mark III has a completely new cylinder head with redesigned ports, larger inlet valves, a manifold hotspot and a higher compression ratio of 7.5 to 1.

SUNBEAM-TALBOT LIMITED, COVENTRY,

A superb 80 b.h.p. engine powers the new Sunbeam Mark III. A lusty 2267 cc unit that gives higher top speed, livelier acceleration — yet better fuel economy than before! There's new-style front seating too, a new facia panel — and many more feature improvements. This great rally-bred champion, with its unrivalled background of competition successes, is now, more than ever, a car to judge behind the wheel. It takes you far with never a trace of fuss or strain. Steering is precise and finger-light. Road-holding a revelation. Stopping power immense.

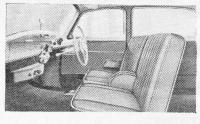
You must see, you must drive, this new Sunbeam to judge its outstanding merit. Ask your dealer to arrange a trial run.

#### **Overdrive Now Available**

THE CAR YOU JUDGE BEHIND THE WHEEL

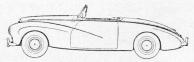
LONDON SHOWROOMS & EXPORT DIVISION : ROOTES LIMITED, DEVONSHIRE HOUSE, PICCADILLY, LONDON, W.1.

Overdrive is now available as an extra on the Saloon and Convertible models, and as standard on the Alpine. Operates by a flick of the switch on the steering column. Gives a higher-than-top ratio for cruising at low engine revs. You use less petrol and get longer life from the engine.



#### More Comfort and Ease at the Wheel

New-style front seating in the Sunbeam Mark III gives even greater comfort for the long journey. Beautifully upholstered throughout, with thick padded rests at centre and sides. On the new facia, controls are neatly grouped — quickly to hand.



The 21 Litre Sunbeam Alpine 2 Seater



The 21 Litre Sunbeam Sports Convertible

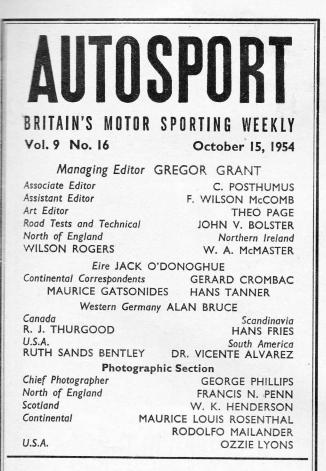
Have you ever Geen a Major Operation "Dr." LAYSTALL says: ON AN ENGINE? 5 OUR SEE "CROMARD" LINERS CRANKSHAFT PRODUCTION ENGINE RECONDITIONING LAYSTALL-LUCAS CYLINDER **HEAD for M.G.s and WOLSELEY 4/44** LAYSTALL CONVERSION HEADS FAMO for FORD CONSUL and ZEPHYR MARD COURT

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# EDITORIAL

SPORTS CAR SUBSTITUTES ....

**D**<sub>business</sub> done in the importation of foreign-built sports cars is not so inconsiderable as their statisticians once tried to make out. Following Chevrolet's introduction of the Corvette, Ford now present the Thunderbird, production of which is planned at the rate of 1,000 units per month. Both cars have been developed in the technical services laboratories of General Motors and Ford respectively, but so far as is known, neither has been subjected to the most severe test of all racing.

Perhaps Detroit is not aiming at the Jaguar-Austin-Healey-TR2 Triumph-M.G.-Porsche market, nor that of the more expensive Italian products, but at a new market which seems to have sprung up in the United States for the pseudo-sports car. After all, there is a type of business executive whose main relaxation lies in his convertible, and it would not be difficult to convert him from the convertible to what expensive advertising persuades him is the answer to a fast open road car for "tired businessmen".

The hard core of sports car enthusiasts in the U.S.A. will be harder to convince, however, and until Detroit demonstrates that its products have been thoroughly proved in International competition, the ever-growing army of genuine sports car fans will continue to purchase from marques with a competition-proven background.

#### TO PAY, OR NOT TO PAY? ....

T<sup>HE</sup> correspondence columns of the American maga-zine Sports Illustrated contain many arguments for and against "amateurism" and "professionalism" in sports car racing. In general, members of the powerful S.C.C.A. appear to be against professional participation in any form, and while many correspondents do advocate some form of payment for racing in the presence of spectators, the majority favour the continuation of a strictly amateur policy. In view of the ever-increasing desire on the part of the American race-going public to watch full-scale road racing featuring top-line European and South American drivers, this would seem to be at variance with the views of the majority of S.C.C.A. members. This issue will have to be faced sooner or later; perhaps if "get rich quick" promotors could be debarred for good and all, then there could be a useful fusion of "paid" and "unpaid" interests.

In Europe there is no distinction between amateur and professional in sports car racing. If a driver does well, he takes what rewards he can get—and good luck to him. Even the wealthiest amateurs do not turn down the chance of making money, and one has yet to hear of anyone turning down a bonus from an oil or components concern in order to avoid the "stigma of the professional"!

#### OUR COVER PICTURE

FOCUS ON THE FIREBIRD: Frenchmen had their first sight of "L'Oiseau de Feu", the American gasturbine powered, plastic-bodied XP21 Firebird at the Paris Salon, where it occupied pride of place amongst General Motors' exhibits.



# Mr. Holt<sup>\*</sup>knows that B.Th.U's mean m.p.g. BENZOLE & BETTER!

Mr. Norman H. Holt knows that when a customer buys petrol he buys energy. And energy is simply another form of heat. And heat is measured in B.Th.U's.

When a customer buys National Benzole Mixture, he buys premium petrol (which is, itself, high in B.Th.U's) plus benzole which is higher than any petrol in B.Th.U's per gallon. The total number of B.Th.U's in National Benzole Mixture is therefore way ahead of what you get in petrol alone.

And experiment has shown that one gallon of National Benzole Mixture gives out even more energy—i.e., *more* miles per gallon—than is indicated by the extra B.Th.U's it contains per gallon.

NBI7/Q

★ Mr. Norman H. Holt, proprietor of the Island Service Station, Handsworth, Birmingham, has been associated with National Benzole Mixture since its introduction in 1919. Mr. Holt says that 'National' has always been a firm favourite with his customers.

**NATIONAL BENZOLE MIXTURE** 

National Benzole Company Limited, Wellington House, Buckingham Gate, London SW1 (The distributing organisation owned and entirely controlled by the producers of British Benzole)

#### F.I.A. AUTUMN CONGRESS

AT the Autumn meeting of the Federation International de l'Automobile, held last week in Paris, dates for major international meetings, of the different member countries were fixed, and a number of other vital points dealt with.

Good news for Formula 3 exponents is that the use of any fuel, bar nitromethane or similar oxygen-producing liquids, is to be permitted. The barred fuels or components are the following: nitro-methane; nitro-propane; hydrogen peroxide; di-tertiary butyl peroxide; ethyl nitrate; isopropyl nitrate; amyl nitrate; iso-butyl acetate; oxygen (liquid or compressed); nitrous oxide. The use

SEVEN STAGES made up the route for the recent Tour of Italy, first event of its kind in that country. Competitors started and finished at Monza circuit, covering a total distance of 5,763 km. Italy's Alfa Romeos dom-inated the event, winning three categories.

\*



PORTS-NEWS

of nitro-benzene in quantities exceeding 30 c.c. per litre is also forbidden.

This is the result of strong R.A.C. representations against the decision made by the F.I.A. in mid-summer that fuel should be restricted to petrol or petrol benzole.

Dates of British International races for 1955 so far agreed upon are the following:

Easter Goodwood, 11th April.

Daily Express/B.R.D.C. Silverstone Meeting, 7th May.

British G.P., 16th July.

Brands Hatch, 1st August.

Oulton Park, 20th August.

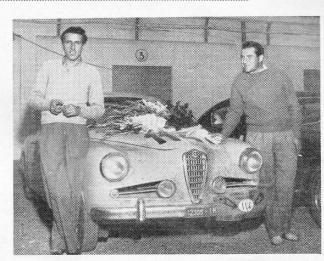
Aintree, 3rd September.

Tourist Trophy, 7th September.

For the World Drivers' Championship next year, it was decided the following races would be eligible: the G.P.s of Argentina, Monaco, Belgium, Holland, France, Gt. Britain, Germany, Switzerland, Italy and Spain, and the Indiana-polis 500 Miles race. A driver's best five performances would count for marking.

Events ranking for the 1955 World Sports Car Championship will be the Argentine 1,000 kms., Sebring 12 Hours, Mille Miglia, Le Mans, Nürburg 1,000 kms., the T.T., Targa Florio and the Pan-American race. The Targa Florio enjoys the privilege of becoming an eligible event in celebration of its 50th anniversary.

Rallies ranking for the next European Touring Championship will be the Monte Carlo, Sestriere, British, Tulip, Nürburg-ring, Midnight Sun, Alpine, Adriatic, Liège-Rome-Liège, Viking and Geneva; best performance in five events will count. An R.A.C. suggestion that it be renamed the "Bally Championship" was renamed the "Rally Championship" was not accepted. On the other hand, their opposition to the complete revision of



Appendix J of the International Sporting Code (regs. for touring and sports cars) succeeded, modifications only being agreed upon. A proposal by the R.A.C being de Belge that engine capacity in sports car races be limited was supported by Italy and U.S.A., and will be examined by the C.S.I. in January next at their Monte Carlo meeting.

#### MOSS FOR MADAME TUSSAUD'S

For the first time in the history of Madame Tussaud's waxworks exhibition, the figure of a road racing driver is to be presented to the public. Stirling Moss, three times Gold Star winner, has been invited by Mme. Tussaud's to accept the honour of having his likeness reproduced for exhibition at their Baker Street premises.

The finished wax "Stirling" will be exhibited in "Sportsmen's Corner", next to motor-cycle star Geoff Duke.



loves met'

# Turismo category in the Tour of Italy.

SUPER SPRINT WINS: The Italians

Taramazzo a n d Gerino with their

Alfa Romeo "1900" in which

they won the pro-

duction Gran

# ALFA ROMEOS' TRIPLE SUCCESS IN GIRO D'ITALIA

THE first Tour of Italy, which began on 27th September, and concluded on 6th October, resulted in an over-whelming triumph for the marque Alfa Romeo with their "1900" model, which took first places in all three categories.

An entry of 103 cars was reduced by almost 50 per cent. during the 10-day, 5,753-km. route around Italy, which be-gan at Monza, passed through San Remo, Naples, Taranto, Bari, Rimini, Trieste, and Turin, and concluded at Monza, when 56 cars signed off. The sole non-Italian victory in the numerous categories was that of the Belgian-entered Plymouth driven by Gendebien and Mme. Gilberte Thirion in the over 2-litre production touring car class.

Martignoni and Favero in a "1900" Alfa Romeo headed this class, irrespective of capacity; Carini and Gay (Alfa Romeo) took the special production class, and Taramazzo/Gerino (Alfa Romeo) won the Grand Touring category. Second came Georges Houel and José Behra in a French-entered "1900" Subject to confirmation, the best overall performance in the Tour was put up by Taramazzo and Gerino. \*

ONCE again the French Grand Prix is to be staged on the very fast Rheims circuit in 1955. It will be preceded by the 12 Hours sports car race, being run for the third consecutive year.

# THE 10th COUPE du SALON

Successes for Behra (Gordini). Musy (Maserati), Moss (Connaught) and Clarkson (Morgan) at Monthery Sports Car Meeting

THE Coupe du Salon is a race meeting which takes place every year during the French Motor Show. No grande épreuve this, it nevertheless has an enjoyable "end of season" atmosphere. At an unearthly hour of the morning

At an unearthly hour of the morning of 10th October, motor-cycle racing began, but it was not till 11.15 that car racing was scheduled to start, which is quite early enough for a Sunday. Actually, no event ever starts on time at Montlhéry, and this was no exception.

Montlhéry, and this was no exception. The first race was for "Voitures de Hautes Performances", which meant saloons and coupés up to 2-litres. It was completely dominated by Roy Clarkson of Ecurie Bull-Frog, who would have lapped the entire field if teammanager "Jabby" Crombac had not made violent use of the slow-down signal. His Morgan, with aerodynamic closed body, was phenomenally fast, and Chavy, with a supercharged Peugeot, could do nothing about it; nor could Profichet's rapid old BMW or a brace of Porsche "Supers". A 1,300 c.c. sub-division was a Simca benefit, and in the 750 c.c. group, Fayen's pretty little Moretti coupé ran away from the Renaults and Panhards.

The Monomill championship followed. These little Panhard-engined cars were placed in a line, and the drivers drew their numbers out of a hat. There were two heats and a final, which resulted in some close and exciting racing. Some of the less experienced drivers, however, displayed a clottishness beyond belief. A chicane of straw bales had been erected before the grand stand, and several cars actually vaulted right over it, to land yards away in a shower of straw. Formidable!

By the time the Coupe du Salon itself was contested, the meeting was well behind schedule, and there was a danger that it would finish by lamp light. This 151 km. event was for sports cars unlimited, in every sense of the term. It was absolutely dominated by Jean Behra, who drove the straight-eight 3litre Gordini with enormous skill and dash. Masten Gregory, of U.S.A., chased him grimly in his 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-litre Ferrari, and the speed of both these cars was aweinspiring.

Duncan Hamilton, with his C-type Jaguar, dropped slowly back from second to fifth place, being bothered by weak shock absorbers. He then made a great effort when Picard spun his 3-litre Ferrari, and finished third ahead of that driver and Levegh in his famous old Talbot.

Da Silva Ramos, driving brilliantly, led the 2-litre section with a Gordini, only to blow up near the end, which gave the class to Benoit Musy's Maserati. Stirling (Bull-Frog) Moss won the  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -litre class in a Connaught, after nearly letting Peron's Osca beat him in the mistaken impression that this was a 2-litre car! Blache's Ferry was the best "750".

Two Pegasos, one supercharged, ran in this race, but both seemed a little short of speed. The worst hard-luck story was that of Richard Steed, who broke a steering arm of his streamlined Lotus on the warming-up lap, after putting up an excellent show in practice.

#### JOHN V. BOLSTER.

#### B.T.D.A. NEWS

DENIS FLATHER, General Secretary of the British Trials Drivers' Association, announces his retirement from the post owing to business reasons. The position has been taken over, as from 1st October, by Bernard K. Thompson, "Fairways", 38 Torkington Road, Gatley, Cheshire (phone, Trafford Park 1881). Mr. Flather will continue to serve on the executive committee of the B.T.D.A.

At the last executive meeting, held during September, it was announced that a Navigator's Award had been offered to the Association by AUTOSPORT. It would be awarded to the navigator nominated by the winner of the "Gold Star" Rally Competition. Various questions regarding rallies were discussed, including those of adequate scrutineering, time allowances and observers' report forms; it was agreed to recommend to the R.A.C. the scrutineering of all cars at a time control, and the avoidance of cumulative time penalties in the interests



MERC. MEN at the Paris Salon. Driver Karl Kling, team manager Alfred Neubauer and driver Juan Manuel Fangio, photographed while visiting the Ferrari stand.

of safety. Another recommendation was:--

(a) That where a Club indicate to prospective competitors that the rally is a test rally, and as such introduces more than three tests, it is obvious that they are implying that the test is an important part of the rally, and as such will be marked accordingly with the road section.

(b) Where a Club runs a rally in which the road section is all-important and the tests are three or less, then these tests are only to be used aggregated for the deciding, with two tests as a minimum.

Regarding trials, it was stated that the final revised draft of the standard regulations was ready for dispatch to the R.A.C., with the recommendation that they should come into force on 1st January, 1955. The Trials Sub-Committee expressed their approval of the punched card system of marking, and also stated that more attention should, in their opinion, be given to the testing of brakes during scrutineering.

It was announced that the annual dinner and prize distribution of the Association would be held on 18th December, at a venue to be announced later; presumably it will, as usual, coincide with the R.A.C. Trials Championship event, which is to be held in the South of England this year.

Now confirmed—Lancia are entering two cars for the Spanish G.P. at Barcelona. Drivers will be Ascari and Villoresi. This decision follows successful tests of two F.1 cars at Monza and around the sinuous Ospedaletti circuit at San Remo, where Ascari succeeded in breaking his old Ferrari lap record.

MIKE HAWTHORN will probably drive an entirely new Lampredi-designed Ferrari at Barcelona. The type is designed for the South American races.

THE David Clarke to whom Maureen Mitchell, daughter of Mrs. Nancy Mitchell, has become engaged, as announced in "Pit and Paddock" last week, is not the Frazer-Nash/Cooper driver associated with Bob Gerard Cars, Ltd.

STIRLING MOSS was voted "Driver of the Year" at the dinner party staged by the Guild of Motoring Writers at the A.C.F. headquarters in Paris. He will receive the Guild Trophy, first awarded last year to Johnny Claes.

MANY parties were staged during the Paris Salon. Two of the most enjoyable were given by Rover and Renault. At the former, plans were announced for greatly increased production of all types of vehicles.

HALF-LITRE Championship goes to Don Parker (Kieft) for the third year running, subject to final confirmation. He heads Les Leston by  $\frac{1}{2}$  point.

MAURICE WILSON has resigned from his position as racing manager to the Gilby Engineering Co.'s équipe.

Wow! Ferrari have officially entered four 4.9-litre cars for the Pan-American road race. Three  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -litre Borgwards from Germany are also down to run.



## SILVERSTONE FINALE North Staffs M.C. Close the Season at Popular Northants Circuit with Well-Supported 13-race Programme

THE curtain fell on the 1954 Silverstone season in glorious autumn weather last Saturday, when the North Staffs M.C. packed 13 scratch and handicap races into five hours' first-class sport. Proceedings opened with six scratch events, the first a combined affair including 750, 1,172 and general classes up to 1,250 c.c. In category 1, Austen Nurse proved the superiority of his Lotus, leading J. P. Whitehouse's Austin home by a fair margin, E. Lewis settled his feud with Marriott and Lambert in the 1,172 section, two seconds covering the three at the finish, and H. S. Ladd, in Garfith's M.G., took the general class.

The up to 1,500 c.c. race was dominated by J. P. Hacking's Cooper-M.G., which tore off from the start looking and proving a certain winner, whilst behind him J. P. Naylor (Cooper-M.G.) and E. J. Newton's Kileen gave each other no quarter, travelling wheel to wheel till Naylor squeezed past, spun, lost his place, and regained it in a magnificent last-lap effort, beating Newton over the line by less than half a second.

This warmed things up nicely for the 10-lap half-litre race, which once more, however, provided a fairly easy winner in Charles Headland (Martin), who was never seriously threatened by the pack. Second place was hotly argued by R. A. Anderson (Staride), Ken Smith (Smith) and R. E. D. Harrison (Cooper). On the eighth lap Harrison had consolidated his position in front of Smith, but Whitehouse (Kieft) made the most of his chances and came into the picture in the closing stages, pipping the Smith into third place.

W. A. McMillan's Cooper-Bristol looked promising in the up to 2,000 c.c. sports car race, but it was off colour, a blown head-gasket putting paid to its chances, and Naylor took the lead from D. Howard's Alta, Jackson's Cooper-M.G. and Clairmonte's Clairmonte. The latter moved up to third place but Clairmonte was presumably reserving his energies for the *Formule Libre* race to follow, and rested content with this position, Naylor winning at 70.86 m.p.h. with a very healthy sounding motor.

The 10-lap *Formule Libre* event drew 13 starters, six of them half-litre cars. In the initial full-bore rush through Copse, Headland had an uncomfortable moment when his plug-lead came off, the Martin pulling to the inside and retiring. R. E. Berry's very fast and special XK Jaguar took the lead, most determinedly pursued by the Clairmonte, now going very much faster than in the previous race. Berwyn Baxter's C-type Jaguar was seemingly quite unable to match the speed of the leaders, and was in fact hard put to it to keep Harrison's Cooper astern. Doggedly Clairmonte held on to the XK's tail, the pair showing great pace and style; Berry finally winning a fine race at 76.69 m.p.h., with Clairmonte less than 2 secs. behind.

It was almost superfluous to run the unlimited sports car scratch race, since the irrepressible Berry did it again, this time a shade faster than before. Clairmonte and Baxter once more filled the places and Baxter, after a brief initial lead, fell even farther astern and was gesticulating unhappily as he passed the pits, whilst farther back among the field a minor traffic jam round Woodcote caused A. P. Hitchings (Healey) to get among the marker drums on the inside of the course.

A production car handicap gave J. Venn (Healey Silverstone) a nice win to consolidate his growing reputation on this circuit, although pressed hard by P. J. Simpson's sister car, which was laying a considerable smoke-screen. Gillie Tyrer's hard-top XK Jaguar looked and sounded fast, and thoroughly earned THE FLAG FALLS on Silverstone, 1954, as J. P. Hacking (Cooper-M.G.) wins the final race last Saturday.

third place, and R. H. Higham's Austin-Healey tried too hard at Woodcote, where it meted out further punishment to the steadily diminishing *Daily Express* sign.

A somewhat involved Vintage Handicap followed, in which some cars received time allowances and some credit laps. However, W. P. S. Melville's 30/98 Vauxhall, from 20 secs., went just too quickly for MacDonald's scratch Bentley, the Austins of Harris and Udall had a delightful dice which landed Harris in third place, Winder's little Humber was as astonishing as ever, and R. R. Keiller, popular Towcester host to many Silverstone habitués, drove his first race in a Brescia Bugatti of mixed ancestry, said to include the mortal remains of "Cordon Bleu".

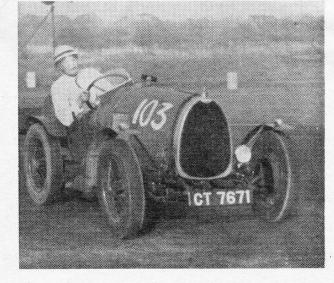
The delay at the start of the 10-lap racing car handicap was somewhat trying to the dozen half-litres in the two front rows, but once on the move Anderson and Harrison went out in front and held the advantage for some laps. McMillan's Bristol blew its second gasket and retired, and by lap 8 A. E. Marsh had brought the big Cooper-J.A.P. through the field from scratch to win in masterly style at 78.95 m.p.h., followed home by Clairmonte and Harrison's Cooper-Norton.

In the first heat of a series of sports car handicaps an unhappy accident befell T. J. T. Hiers, driving the newly acquired Stoneham 750, which slid and overturned in front of the pits, throwing the driver out in the fairway. Efforts to stop the race failed, but the unfortunate driver was happily avoided by following cars, and was taken to hospital suffering from severe concussion.

suffering from severe concussion. C. H. Summers (Austin) finally won the heat, and the two following heats brought further success to J. B. Naylor (Cooper-M.G.) and J. Venn in his welldriven Healey, the latter still manfully pursued by his permanent shadow, Simpson.

Dusk was falling as the unlimited sports cars started in the final race, Baxter punctiliously switching his lights (Continued on page 510)

MINE HOST, R. R. K eiller, popular Towcester hotelier, driving his Brescia Bugatti in the Vintage Handicap. This car is said to contain the earthly remains of Raymond Mays's famous old Brescia, "Cordon Bleu".



EARLS COURT

INTERNATION.

CHOY

# PROSPECT

No Racing Car Stand This Year, but Many High-Performance Models to be Seen at Britain's Motor Show from 20th to 30th October

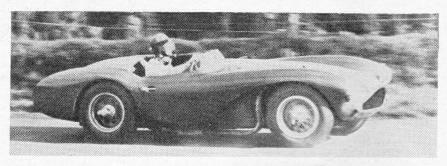
> of today is a rich *gâteau* by comparison with its predecessors, and one is often hard put to it to draw the line between sports cars and family vehicles.

> In addition to their new M-type Mark VII saloon, already announced, Jaguars will show three versions of their new XK 140 with 190 b.h.p. engine and rack and pinion steering. This will be obtainable as a two-seater sports, drophead coupé or 2/3-seater hard-top

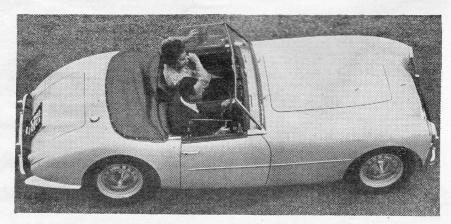
WHEN the doors of Earls Court are opened next Wednesday morning, a remarkably interesting assembly of vehicles will be on view to those who enter. The average motorist will make his way, as usual, straight to the stands of Messrs. Morstin, Dorf or Hilldard, there to contemplate the latest developments in the realms of low-priced motoring. The sporting enthusiast, regardless of the state of his personal bank balance, will look for other things.

STATE OF THE OWNER OF THE OWNER

Unfortunately, he will search in vain this year for that unstaffed, rather-pushed-into-a-corner stand



ALL YOURS: The DB3S Aston Martin, famous 3-litre competition sports car (above), and the 2-litre TR2-engined Swallow Doretti (below) are now freely available on the home market.

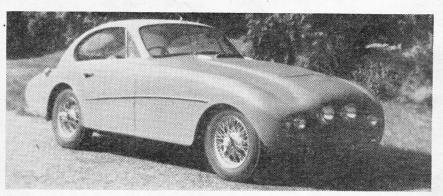


coupé: further to cloud the distinction between sports and family cars, both of the coupés will have occasional seats for children at the back. To the delight of the sports car racing man, the D-type competition car will be available to the public, replacing the well-tried C-type.

The 140 b.h.p. 3-litre engine, as used in the DB3, will now be fitted to Aston Martin's popular DB2-4, shown as sports saloon and drophead coupé. The Feltham concern will also offer their competition version, the 180 b.h.p. DB3S, to the general public. Our lips are sealed at the moment, more's the pity, but we can say that Jaguar and Aston Martin are not alone in making their more exclusive models "over

which was devoted to racing cars, and round which so many plans were hatched and specials designed by ecstatic pilgrims. However, the show as a whole is certainly not lacking in high-performance vehicles, although they must now be sought out on the stands of their manufacturers. The bread-and-butter car

NEW ALLARD: (Right) Entirely new is this Allard saloon on the Palm Beach chassis, fitted with either Zodiac or Consul engine.



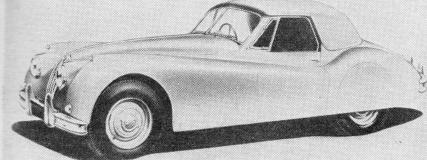
the counter" to the crash-hatted Tom. Dick or Harry.

The Rootes Group have fitted a new cylinder head to their Sunbeam range of saloon, drophead coupé and "Alpine", increased the compression ratio, and reduced the weight by dropping both hyphen and Talbot" from the name. The Allard "Palm Beach" has grown up NEW JAGUARS: (Right) The XK 140 Jaguar as a sports two - seater and (below) in drophead coupé form.



#### EARLS COURT DIARY Oct.

| Hyde Park Hotel     | 18th | B.M.C. Press Luncheon                         |
|---------------------|------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Hyde Park Hotel     | 18th | Rootes Group Function                         |
| Earls Court -       | 19th | S.M.M. & T. Press Pre-<br>view Cocktail Party |
| Grosvenor House     | 19th | S.M.M. & T. Annual<br>Dinner                  |
| Earls Court         | 20th | Official Opening of<br>Motor Show             |
| Grosvenor House     | 20th | Motor Show Ball (BEN)                         |
| Grosvenor House     | 21st | Nuffield Family Party                         |
| Hyde Park Hotel     | 21st | Standard Distributors'<br>Luncheon            |
| Grosvenor House     | 21st | Triplex Cocktail Party                        |
| Constitutional Club | 22nd | Motor Industry Cocktail<br>Party              |
| Connaught Rooms     | 22nd | Fellowship of Motor<br>Industry Luncheon      |
| Park Lane Hotel     | 22nd |                                               |
| Dorchester Hotel    | 22nd | Sunbeam-Talbot O.C.<br>Dinner                 |
| Grosvenor House     | 25th | Austin Distributors'<br>Dinner                |
| Mayfair Hotel       | 25th | Vauxhall Dealers' Cock-<br>tail Party         |
| 23 Knightsbridge    | 26th | British Wagon M.T.<br>Cocktail Party          |
| Shell-Mex House     | 27th | Shell-Mex & B.P. Cock-<br>tail Party          |
| Hyde Park Hotel     | 29th | M.G.C.C. Dinner/Dance                         |



into a three-seater with new bodywork and Ford Zodiac engine; it is also obtainable with Consul power unit. Rovers have increased the capacity of their "75" engine to  $2\frac{1}{4}$ litres, and all models have a restyled luggage boot.

Of interest to all who take a load of tools, spares and other impedimenta to race meetings are station wagons such as the Hillman Husky -a very attractive proposition with its low price, good lines, sturdy s.v. engine and central gear lever.

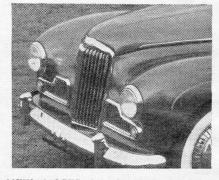
At Earls Court we will be able to see the new 4.6-litre Bentley models which made their appearance at the Paris Salon, the lower Simca "55" Aronde with smaller wheels, the Singer "Hunter", the  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -litre Lan-chester "Sprite", the Bristol 405, the Frazer-Nash "Sebring", the Arm-strong Siddeley "Sapphire" with



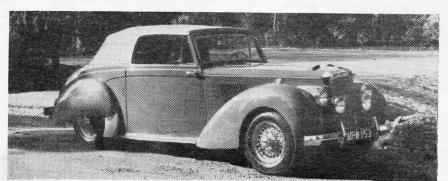
ROVERS (above) have a new luggage boot. ALVIS (right) announce the TC21/100 3-litre model, successor to the "Grey Lady".

automatic transmission — but enough! To write of the prospects with one eye on the photographs of new models and the other on press release dates is tantalizing in the extreme. Next week we shall have more-much more-to tell you about the cars, and you will see them in all the glory of polish and plinth at the great Exhibition Hall. And AUTOSPORT?-We're on Stand No. 65 this year.





NEW NOSES for the Hillman Minx (left) and the Sunbeam (above), together with enhanced power outputs and other features.



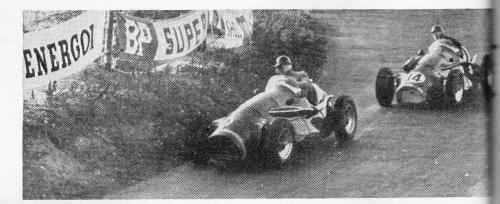
AUTOSPORT, OCTOBER 15, 1954

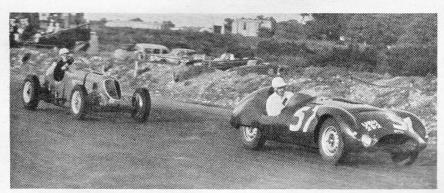
# SNETTERTON SEASON CLOSES

Brisk Eastern Counties M.C. Meeting-Wins for Scott-Brown, Salvadori, Stoop, Chapman, Parker, Sopwith and Kasterine

LAST Saturday's weather at Snetterton was better than many a midsummer day in this most dubious of climatic years. An invigorating autumn crisp-ness was mellowed by bright sunshine, bringing out a sizeable crowd to the Eastern Counties C.C.s national race meeting. This Club's astuteness in selecting a week-end not heavily occupied by other fixtures was rewarded by an ex-cellent entry of 68 cars for their sevenevent programme.

Reversion to "winter" time and un-welcome darkness an hour earlier necessitated a noon start, but schedules were firmly maintained through the afternoon, and all was over well before night-





fall. Race 1 was for cars up to 2,000 c.c., over five laps of the 2.71-mile circuit, with a sub-division for the up-to-1,300s. Alas, only one car, the M.G. TD of R. J. Dunnett, turned out for the latter class, so was able to win at leisure, whereas J. R. Stoop (Frazer-Nash) had to work harder for his "first" amongst the 2-litre cars. Ken Rudd in that very promising A.C. "Ace" of his was rünner-up, with Dick Jacobs third, some way back in his plastic-bodied M.G. coupé.

Race No. 2, for the over 2-litre sports machines, brought a surprise in the shape of an XK 120 Jaguar driven most fleetly by D. Kasterine, new to racing this year, but who successfully evaded this year, but who successfully evaded the threat of Roy Salvadori in an Aston Martin DB2; both won their respective classes, while Rudd's "Ace" popped up again, third amongst the up to 3,000 c.c.s behind Shale's 2.6-litre Austin-Healey. A plague of Lotuses swarmed on Snetterton circuit for the third race, and,

#### THE RESULTS

**Event 1. Combined sports cars up to 2,000** e.e. (5 laps): 1, J. R. Stoop (Frazer-Nash), 10 mins, 48 secs. (74.98 m.p.h.); 2, K. Rudd (A.C.), 10 mins, 57 secs.; 3, R. W. Jacobs (M.G.), 11 mins. 18 secs.

Up to 1,300 c.c. Class: 1, R. J. Dunnett (M.G.), 14 mins, 13,4 secs. (56,95 m.p.h.). Fastest lap: Stoop, 77.65 m.p.h.

Event 2. Combined sports cars over 2,000 c.c. (5 laps): 1. D. Kasterine (Jaguar), 10 mins, 31.4 secs. (76.97 m.p.h.); 2, J. Sears (Jaguar), 10 mins, 42.6 secs.; 3, H. Kemp-Place (Jaguar), 11 mins, 1

Fastest lap: Kasterine, 79.41 m.p.h.

**Agential Agential State Program State Progr** 

Event 3. Combined sports cars up to 1,500 c.c. (10 laps): 1, C. Chapman (Lotus), 19 mins, 31.4 secs, (82.97 m.p.h.); 2, J. Coombs (Lotus), 19 mins, 39.6 secs.; 3, D. Margulies (Lotus), 21 mins. 9.6 secs

Fastest lap: Coombs, 84.23 m.p.h.

**Up to** 1,200 c.c. Class 1, D. R. Moore (M.G.), 22 mins, 31 secs. (71.95 m.p.h.); 2, F. G. Nichols (C.S.M.), 22 mins, 37.4 secs.; 3, R. R. Rayner (Lotus), 23 mins, 17.2 secs.

Fastest lap: Nichols, 73.86 m.p.h.

Event 4. Combined sports cars over 1,500 c.c. (10 laps): 1,501-2,500 c.c.: 1, W. A. Scott-Brown

(Lister-Bristol), 19 mins, 21 secs, (83.72 m.p.h.); 2, R. Salvadori (Maserati), 19 mins, 42.8 secs; 3, P. Scott-Russell (Frazer-Nash), 19 mins, 58.4 secs, Fastest lap: Scott-Brown, 85.86 m.p.h.

Over 2,500 c.c.: 1, T. Sopwith (Sphinx), 19 mins. 29.4 secs. (83.12 m.p.h.); 2, D. Kasterine (Jaguar), 20 mins. 41.8 secs.; 3, N. Cunningham-Reid (Aston Martin), 22 mins. 12 secs. Fastest lap: Sopwith, 84.82 m.p.h.

Event 5. Formula 3 racing cars (10 laps): 1, D. Parker (Kieft), 19 mins, 34 secs, (82.79 m.p.h.); 2, J. Russell (Cooper), 19 mins, 38.8 secs.; 3, L. Leston (Cooper), 19 mins, 56.8 secs.; 4, I. Bueb (Cooper); 5, C. Allison (Cooper); 6, R. J. Barrett (Cooper).

Fastest lap: Parker and Russell, 84.50 m.p.h.

J.A.P.-engined cars: 1, C. M. Lund (Cooper), 22 mins, 35.6 secs, (71.70 m.p.h.) Only finisher,

22 mins, 35.6 secs. (1.70 m.p.n.) Only number. Event 6. Formule Libre racing cars (10 laps): 1, R. Salvadori (Maserati), 18 mins, 7.6 secs, (89.37 m.p.h.); 2, D. Beauman (Connaught), 18 mins, 41 secs.; 3, W, J. Whitehouse (Connaught), 19 mins, 14 secs.; 4, J. Riseley-Prichard (Connaught). Fastest lap: Salvadori, 91.26 m.p.h.

First E.R.A. to finish: J, A. Williamson, 20 mins, 17.6 secs, (71.96 m.p.h.).

Event 7. Sports cars handicap (5 laps): 1, J. R. Stoop (Frazer-Nash), 10 mins. 53.8 secs. (77.91 m.p.h.); 2, R. Salvadori (Maserati), 11 mins. 6.2 secs.; 3, J. Sears (Jaguar), 11 mins, 7.4 secs. Fastest lap: W. A. Scott-Brown, 85.56 m.p.h.

REAL ROAD-RACE ATMOSPHERE is in these Snetterton pictures taken by George Phillips last Saturday: (Above) Two Connaughts in the Esses, that of Bill Whitehouse leading Don Beauman's.

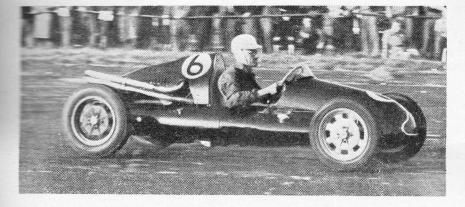
(Left) Peter Walker in the Whitehead sports Cooper-Jaguar is chased hard by Formula 3 driver Jim Russel, trying his hand at a big car-H. C. Spero's 3-litre Maserati.

locust-like, proceeded to gobble up all the places. The event for "sports-racing" cars up to 1,500 c.c., over 10 laps, pro-duced a goodly scrap between Colin Chapman in his Mk. 8 Lotus and John Coombs in the Connaught-powered ditto. The M.G.-engined car just had the edge of the other, but Coombs, coping nobly with marked understeer, managed fastest lap. Both outstripped the rest of the field, but two more cock-tailed Lotuses, driven by Margulies and Allen, came home third and fourth. The class for cars up to 1,200 c.c. went to Don Moore in his remarkable "cart-sprung" M.G. PB, after an exciting tussle with D. J. Hayles (Lotus), F. G. Nichols (C.S.M.) and R. R. Rayner in yet another Lotus.

Next came the 10-lap event for the bigger sports car boys, in which Salva-dori (Maserati) manœuvred sensationally through the field at flag-fall. Tommy through the held at flag-fail. Tommy Sopwith in the big Sphinx and Tony Crook (Cooper-Bristol) were quicker away, however, from a front row start, while Archie Scott-Brown, bearing Castle Combe in mind, seemed determined that his Lister would head the Maserati this

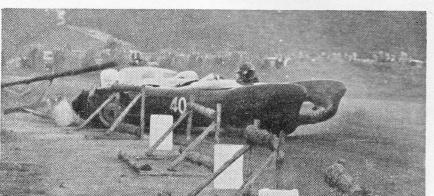
time, and got by on that opening round. Sopwith had little to lose in letting the fleeter 2-litre cars by, as they had the 1,501-2,500 c.c. class to battle out, whereas he led the over 2,500 c.c.s comfortably. On lap three, Scott-Brown was ahead, with Crook and Salvadori in his wake, while Peter Scott-Russell and C. A. S. Brooks in Frazer-Nashes duelled mightily. Next lap and Tony Crook, who was afflicted with a ferocious cold, went was afflicted with a ferocious coid, went off-course at Riches, resumed racing, then dropped out with a drive shaft coupling gone. Scott-Brown went on to win a fine race, Sopwith and Salvadori spaced well out behind, whereas Scott-Russell and Brooks roared across the line abreast, mere inches between them.

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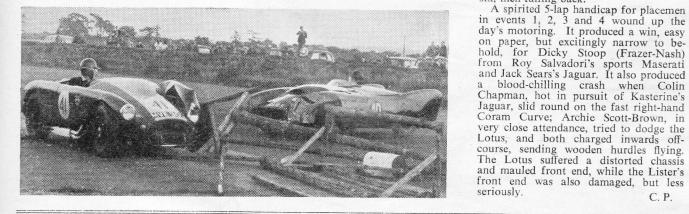


Further excitement followed in race 5, for the 500s—a class which can always guarantee real needle-match racing. Parker, Leston, Russell, Bueb-were names enough to ensure excitement, with the destiny of the 500 c.c. Championship at stake an additional attraction. Less Leston,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points behind Parker, took the initial lead, but that compact little man from Battersea soon got ahead, to lead lap one by two lengths. Leston made a tremendous effort to catch up on round two, but delayed his braking too long at the Hairpin and went wide, letting Russell through. Gradually inch-ing up on the flying Kieft in ensuing laps, Russell made his challenge for the lead on the eighth round, only to touch a rear wheel of the Kieft when braking for a turn. That sent the Cooper sliding wide, and put paid to Russell's chances. Parker won, Russell was second, and Leston third, harried all the way by Bueb and Allison

So to the 10-lap Formule Libre event,



(Above) Colin CRASH: Chapman (Lotus) spins in front of Scott-Brown (Lister) on Coram Curve during the last race of the day. (Below) After the shunt was over-two bewildered drivers in two considerably bent motor cars.



# RON FAULKNER WINS THE ALLEN TROPHY

THE Allen Trophy Trial, organized by The Allen Trophy Irial, organized by the Taunton Motor Club, an event which is included in the R.A.C. Cham-pionship qualifying trials and the B.T.D.A. Gold Star Competition, attrac-ted an entry of 17 competitors, who gathered at Purchase's Garage, Priory Bridge Road, Taunton, at 10.30 a.m. on Sunday 10th October: the only non-Sunday, 10th October; the only non-starter was J. H. Appleton.

After a test, drivers went to the Quantock Hills, already bathed in mornmuddy climb, presented little difficulty, but the next hill, Steep, was climbed by only two competitors, E. J. Chandler (1,172 Chandler) and R. Kemp (1,172 Kemp). The next batch of hills, Hill-side 1, 2 and 3, proved extremely diffi-cult. Nos. 1 and 2 were unclimbable and 3 was cleared by only six competitors, these being P. A. Atkinson (1,225 Atkin-son), F. T. Lewis (1,172 Squamigerous), E. J. Chandler, J. Debley (1,172 Cran-ford), the ultimate winner R W ford), the ultimate winner R. W. Faulkner (1,172 Paul II) and G. Pettit (1,172 Deeford). Then followed Pit 1 and 2 before competitors stopped for the lunch break at Bishops Lydeard.

Immediately after lunch Manor Hill was tackled, only three competitors retaining a clean sheet, these being R. W. Faulkner, E. J. Chandler and F. P. Faulkner (1,172 Paul). Then came Pit 3 and 4, the latter being a sharp turn over a bank, a slight dip and then an almost vertical bank, but five drivers managed to overcome this very tricky hill. F. T. Lewis was the first to conquer it, fol-lowed by E. J. Chandler, R. J. Harris (1,172 Ford), F. P. Faulkner and G. Pettit.

Within a very short distance Gibwood, then Gib Stream, Upper Gib and finally Quarry had to be attempted before competitors returned to the Market Garage.

#### Results

Allen Trophy: R. W. Faulkner (1,172 Paul II), 17 marks lost. Bonner Trophy: E. J. Chandler (1,172 Chandler), 20. Alan Small Trophy: R. J. Harris (1,172 Ford), 23. First Class Award: F. T. Lewis (1,172 Squamigerous), 26. Second Class Awards: F. P. Faulkner (1,172 Paul), 27; G. Pettit (1,172 Deeford), 27. Club Award: R. Willson (1,172 Dellow), 46.

EX-MOSS: (Left) Ron Searles takes Stirling Moss's old Cooper "twin" Stirling Moss's old Cooper "twin" through the Esses during the formule libre event at Snetterton.

which brought out the Grand Prix Maserati of Salvadori and a sprinkling of Connaughts, Coopers, an E.R.A. or two, the Emeryson-Alta, Peter Walker's Cooper-Jaguar and others, 16 cars in all. Jim Russell, "local 500 boy", was trying something much heavier in Spero's famous ex-Straight-Rose-Bira-McAlpine Jamous ex-Straigne-Rose-Bila-McAipine 3-litre Maserati of 1934 vintage. No-body could approach the speed of Salvadori's Maserati, which sped comfortably round to victory, followed by a string of warring Connaughts. At first it was Bill Whitehouse's fuel injection

model leading them, but Don Beauman

got ahead when his rival lost time with

a fractured exhaust pipe. Riseley-Prichard also went past, only to be recaught on the last lap. Russell handled the big Maserati well, running fourth on lap

A spirited 5-lap handicap for placemen in events 1, 2, 3 and 4 wound up the day's motoring. It produced a win, easy

Lotus, and both charged inwards offcourse, sending wooden hurdles flying. The Lotus suffered a distorted chassis and mauled front end, while the Lister's front end was also damaged, but less

C. P.

six, then falling back.

seriously.

AUTOSPORT, OCTOBER 15, 1954

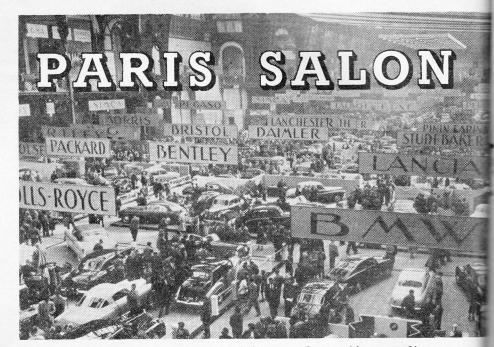
With JOHN BOLSTER at

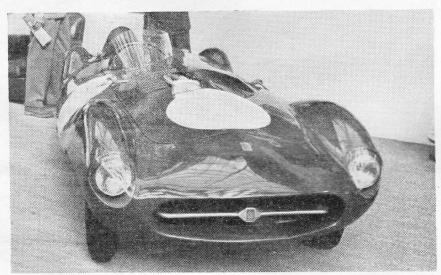


Accent on "Gran Turismo" Closed Models – Many Superb Continental Sporting Cars, but Fewer Novelties at the Grand Palais

On the occasion of the last Paris salon, I remarked that the typical highperformance car had become an aerodynamic coupé. This year, the tide is even more marked, and the 1954 exhibition might well be called the "Gran Turismo" motor show. Certain tendencies are apparent in the development of these hard-tops. For instance, an improvement in all-round visibility is manifest, and many cars have a remarkable area of glass, much of it curved to preserve the streamlined shape.

Then, there is the question of beauty of line. Today's bodies have more overhang of noses and tails, and bonnets are





COMPETITION STYLE: The 1,100 c.c. Nardi-Danese super sports model bears a resemblance to the D-type Jaguar.



being worn longer this year. Yet, an artistic balance has been achieved so that this extension does not appear obvious. Front ends are lower and luggage space is for ever growing, rendering the modern fast car a very practical magic carpet.

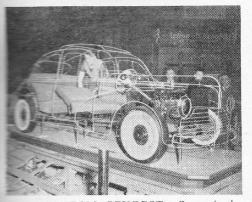
The perfect example of the type is a  $4\frac{1}{2}$ -litre, 12-cylinder Ferrari, with a Farina body. This poem is not merely the most beautiful car at the Salon; it is, in my opinion, the loveliest machine that has ever been exhibited at any motor show. It is grey, with a very long bonnet and a minimum of chromium. There are two small fins incorporated in the long tail, a practice which is desirable to secure stability in a 160 m.p.h. projectile. A 3-litre car of the same make is of more usual appearance.

#### A Desirable "1,300"

Almost as perfect, though on a smaller scale, is the Alfa Romeo Giulietta Sprint. This 1,300 c.c. car is claimed to reach 100 m.p.h., and has a twin-cam engine of typical Alfa design. The box-section frame is suspended in front on very long wishbones, with ball joints for the ends of the king pins. The springs, front and rear, are helical, surrounding telescopic dampers. A conventional back axle is located by radius arms, and has a ribbed sump beneath the differential. The surprisingly large brake drums are turbofinned in front, and the tiny central air intake is traditionally shaped, there being also horizontal entries on either side of it. The only fault one can find in this most desirable coupé is the steering column location of the gear lever, though one might prefer wire wheels to the discs fitted.

A different kind of coupé is the Maserati Mille Miglia model. It has such a literally enormous fuel tank that there is no luggage space. The engine and chassis are similar to those of the open two-seater which Roy Salvadori

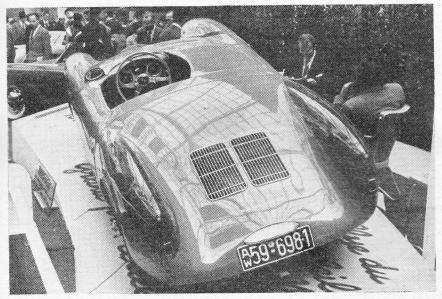
SLEEK "750": The graceful fibreglass, coupé model shown on the D.B.-Panhard stand. The dummy wire wheels with large hubs are pointless but fashionable. This marque also exhibited a blown edition of their racing "750".



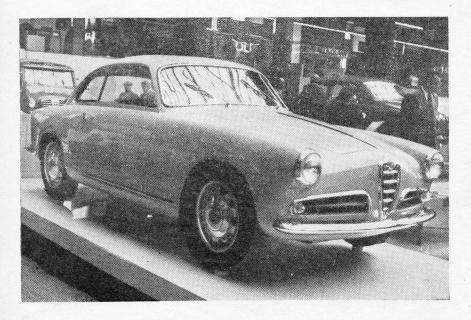
PHANTOM PEUGEOT: One of the Salon's novelties was the "203" Peugeot chassis, with coachwork outlined in tube to demonstrate folding seats and other amenities.

drives; in fact one of these cars is also on view. Chassis features include helical springs and wishbones in front, with





GERMAN: A proved performer, the very fast and sleek-looking Porsche 1,500 Spyder.



FRENCH: The Chrysler-engined Vega 55 with Facel bodywork has a complex frontal treatment.

quarter-elliptic rear suspension. The back axle is located centrally by a triangular member, and the chromium plated wire wheels are of Rudge type. A stubby little central gear lever works in a visible gate. Of course, this is a very expensive car, whereas the Giulietta is competitively priced in Italy.

A Grand Prix racing car is also shown, and it is of interest that, although tubular space frames are used on all Maseratis, the diameter of the tubes is much greater on the racer than on the sports models. The front suspension of all types is similar, but the G.P. car has a de Dion axle with transverse leaf spring. Talking of Formula 1, the new Gordini racing car is shown, in addition to the 2½-litre sports two-seater that most of us have seen before. The new racing engine has direct valve operation from its twin overhead camshafts, instead of the rockers that were previously interposed.

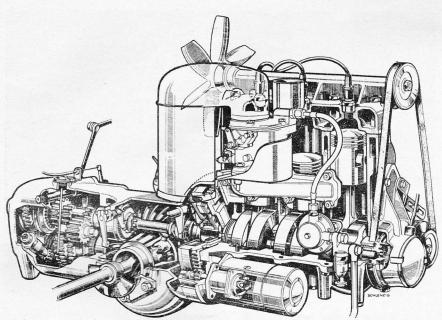
#### The G.P. Gordini Now

The G.P. Gordini now has disc brakes, built by Messier, who also supply the shock absorbers. These brakes have twin hydraulic cylinders, and are of the type in which the disc is mounted solidly on the hub, while the rest of the unit can slide on very large splines to give correct alignment. Another Formula 1 racer is the D.B., a supercharged 750 c.c. Panhard derivative. As the air-cooled motor is only blown at low pressure by a beltdriven compressor, it cannot develop anything like the power that one expects in this class. However, its light weight and superior handling qualities may allow it to give a fair account of itself on slow and difficult circuits. To return to coupés, D.B, show a new one, with Panhard machinery and a fibreglass body.

The Porsche coupés, hard-top and drophead, still look almost futuristic. The type 550 open sports is also shown, with the engine ahead of the swing axles instead of behind them. It has a four-

ITALIAN: The pretty little 1,300 c.c. Alfa Romeo Giulietta Sprint coupé has performance to match its fast appearance. Juan Fangio ordered one for his wife while visiting the Salon.

501



camshaft engine delivering 115 b.h.p. at 7,000 r.p.m. from  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -litres. This is claimed to be a 130 m.p.h. car.

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There is a really lovely little coupé on the Panhard, by Pichon-Parat, and a rather heavier Autobleu version of the Renault. Most exciting is the fabulous GORDINI INNO-VATION: (Right) The Messier - type disc brake as fitted to the latest 2½-litre Grand Prix Gordini.



Pegaso, which can now be had with a larger engine of 3,178 c.c. One of the display features even excels the previous efforts of this firm. There is an absolutely complete car, made of transparent plastic, with sectioned engine and transmission actually in motion. Another Pegaso is a red and black hard-top by Saoutchik. It has somewhat individual lines, with considerably less overhang than most Continental coachbuilders produce. The light body has many detail features, including air scoops in the sides for cooling the inboard brakes. The roof is covered in thick foam rubber to protect the occupants' heads.

Of contrasting shape is the red coupé by Ghia on a 1900 Alfa Romeo. This has an extremely long tail, with

DYNA-PANHARD: (Right) Suggestive of a rounded TR2 Triumph is this Arista Berline open model on the famous "750" Panhard front-drive chassis.

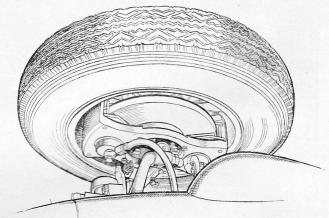


chromium plated louvres in the top of it and air scoops ahead of the rear wheels. The intention appears to be to give an impression of rear engine location. The same thing is observed in a somewhat peculiar Farina-bodied Lancia and a Pichon-Parat version of the Salmson. To return to Ghia, they also show a Jaguar with a white coupé of somewhat Pegaso-like lines. It has enormous space for luggage, including a vast trunk where the rear seat would normally go, but some bulges on the sides are rather vulnerable. The air outlets from the bonnet are emphasized as a styling feature.

#### De Dion G.T. Lancia

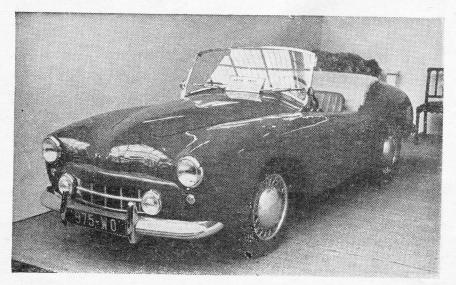
Of course Lancia show the  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -litre Gran Turismo, now with de Dion rear end instead of independent suspension. The appearance has remained the same for some years, but this is still a wellproportioned car. Fiat display their full

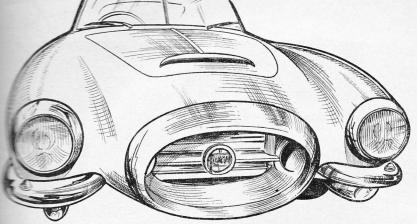
GERMAN UTILITARIAN: (Left) The 3-cylinder two-stroke engine-cum-gearbox-cum-transmission of the highly successful DKW "3-6", drawn in section.



SIMCA: (Left) A Ghia-bodied Simca, w i th lines suggestive of the Dodge "Fire Arrow" sports car, also designed by Ghia. range, including that fine car the 1,100 *Turismo Veloce*. Excellent all-round visibility is provided. The fast, twin overhead camshaft Salmson has a workmanlike streamlined coupé body, but, in common with many French cars, has rather unpleasant wire wheels of the bolt-on variety.

(Continued on page 504)





Lancia showed the latest development of this distinctive style of coachwork by Pinin Farina, which has featured at two previous Salons.

# Salon Sketchbook

—Around the Grand Palais with THEO PAGE

> Pictured below is the BMW transmission and longitudinal rear torsion bars, and (left) the front suspension, showing the double wishbones and inclined telescopic dampers, also one bank of the 2.6-litre light alloy V8 engine.

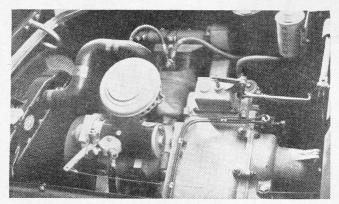
Above is seen the latest Pinin Farina tail treatment of the  $4\frac{1}{2}$ -litre Ferrari.

0

On the right, the new and very compact sports-racing version of the wellknown 2-litre six-cylinder Maserati. The entire tail behind the two seats is occupied by a huge fuel tank.

AUTOSPORT, OCTOBER 15, 1954

### THERE ARE ENGINES ...



520 c.c. DIESEL: The twin-cylinder two-stroke engine of the pretty little Panther coupé, a new Italian design.

Britain has not yet really taken wholeheartedly to the Gran Turismo type of coupé, though one hears rumours. However, our three examples are certainly near the top of the tree. One of these is the Bentley Continental, which has a slightly enlarged engine and is certainly one of the world's very great cars. Then there is the delectable DB2/4 Aston Martin, which has grown into a full 3-litre since last year. It is exhibited as a hard-top and as a drophead coupé, alongside the sister Lagonda. The third British speed coupé is the Bristol 404. This 2-litre car is somewhat expensive, but it has a fine reputation. The 405 is the long-chassis version which supplements the 403. It has similar styling to the 404, and is a very fine car, but there is rather less leg room than in its predecessor.

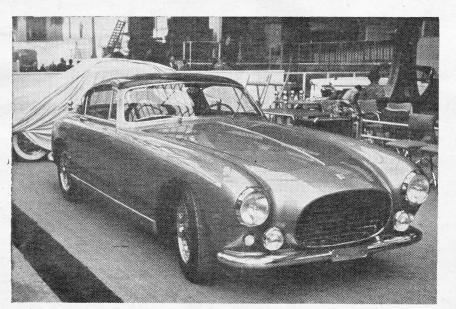
#### No Sports Mercedes-Benz

Curiously enough, in this large display of speed machinery, Mercedes-Benz have elected not to show their sports models. Nevertheless, they present one of the streamlined Grand Prix cars alongside their bread and butter models. One is able to notice various details that escaped one on the circuits; for instance, the front wheels have larger hubs than the back ones. The 180, 220, and 300'are unchanged, though the 220 is really quite a recent model, having undergone some redesigning a little while ago.

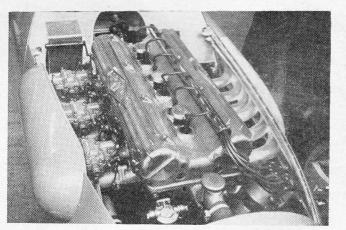
Another German car is the BMW, and this appears with a new V8 engine. A light alloy block is used, the bore and stroke being 74 mm. x 75 mm. (2,580 c.c.). The power output is 100 b.h.p. at 4,800 r.p.m., which endows this machine with a 100 m.p.h. maximum. The wide and rigid frame is of very deep oval tubes, while both the normal rear axle and the independent front suspension work on torsion bars. These are of a phenomenal length, the rear ones being something like 7 ft. long. The body styling is a little conservative, but the engineering is beyond reproach. The very successful DKW and the Borgward are other examples of German craftsmanship.

#### Well-finished Fords

Among the normal products of the French industry, the new Fords stand out. They now have similar suspension to the Zephyr, but a redesigned side-



SUPERB coupé by Farina on the  $4\frac{1}{2}$ -litre Ferrari chassis, which is amongst the finest cars at the Salon. It is credited with a maximum speed of well over 160 m.p.h.!

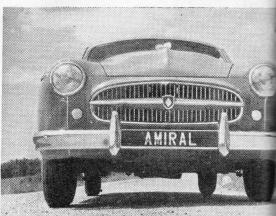


2,500 c.c. GRAND PRIX: The latest Gordini G.P. six-cylinder engine, with twin-overhead camshafts now operating directly on the valves.

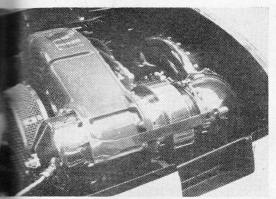


REVOLVING RENAULTS: A clever a drew crowds to the Renault stand. The





FUNCTIONAL: The new Frégate Amiral mode Renault has a radiator grille fairly devoid of superfaornamentation.



TURBINE: The remarkably neat appearance General Motors "Firebird" gas turbine car, a major attraction at the Salon.

#### . AND ENGINES



eaturing two Frégate saloons which constantly on an endless conveyor.



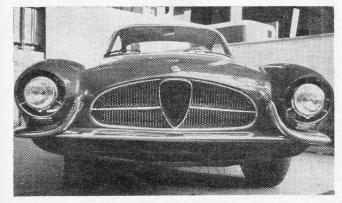
GHIA JAGUAR: (Above) The very fine XK 120 Jaguar with white coupé bodywork by the famous Italian Ghia concern. (Right) Rear view of the car, showing the four exhaust tail pipes. How many are dummies, we wonder?

valve V8 engine of 2,353 c.c. develops 80 b.h.p. at 4,600 r.p.m. The styling shows American influence, and the finish is better than that of most French cars, which is frankly shoddy in some cases.

The new Citroëns have still not appeared, but the 2CV can be had with a bigger engine of 425 c.c., giving 12 b.h.p. instead of the former 9 b.h.p. There is also an automatic centrifugal clutch for these cars, which allows traffic driving without the use of the pedal. Renault have a similar type of clutch as an extra and the Frégate has been improved in detail, which slightly increases the performance. Frenchmen pay about £414 for the 4CV Renault and £366 for the 2CV Citroën. The new Panhard Dyna 54 is now seen in large numbers on the road, in spite of its £760 price ticket.

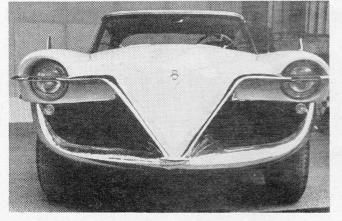
The Peugeot stand contains a display car with a "ghost" body. The folding seat is shown in action, with the model of a glamorous young woman reclining thereon. The Simca has been improved and lowered, and there is a new sports drophead coupé. Delahaye, Delage, and Hotchkiss have now amalgamated, though all their old models are still listed. Unfortunately, however, most of their production is of the Willys Jeep under licence.

A representative show of British cars



EXOTIC: Ghia's edition of the "1900" Alfa Romeo departs from this coachbuilder's tradition for good taste.

... AND FRONTS



ECCENTRIC: The Cadillac-engined Valkyrie, designed by American Brooks Stevens. Invert this picture and you have a fair impression of a pair of sunglasses!

are on view, though a full description would be pointless with Earls Court approaching. Among sporting machinery, the D-type Jaguar appears, as do the Austin-Healey and the Triumph TR2. A few of the cars, such as the M.G. Magnette and the new Sunbeam, look very well, but generally speaking the vehicles we produce have a somewhat stodgy and uninspired appearance; that is, in comparison with the more handsome continentals.

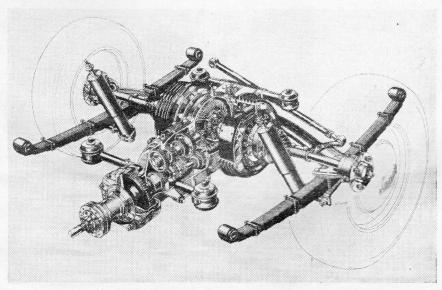
#### A Baby Diesel

The Salon would not be the Salon without a selection of novelties and tiny cars. These include the Italian Panther Diesel of only 520 c.c. It is a pleasant looking little coupé with swing axles all round, hydraulic suspension, and front wheel drive. It is claimed that the 2cylinder 2-stroke engine gives phenomenal economy, but the speed is probably below 50 m.p.h. The whole design is full of novel features.

Among the babies, the best made and most practical is the Isetta. This has a novel front-opening door which carries the steering wheel with it, and must be one of the easiest cars to enter ever built.



NOW FOR PRODUCTION: The D-type Jaguar, second at Le Mans this year and first and second at Rheims, is now listed in the Jaguar 1955 range.



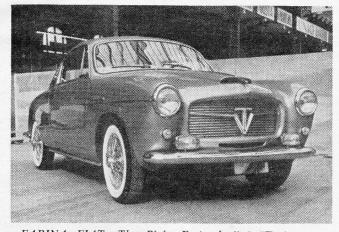
COMPLEX but proven; the latest de Dion rear axle assembly, utilizing semi-elliptic springs, of the  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -litre "Gran Turismo" Lancia in detail.

Small sports cars include the Nardi and the Siata, the last-named being built largely of 1,100 Fiat parts.

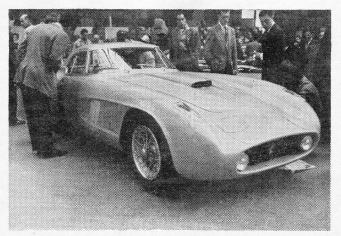
Finally, there are the usual large American vehicles—worthy, vast, but unexciting. Most American manufacturers are now making a prestige-model coupé with Continental styling, but these are too large and cumbersome to be regarded as sports cars. The Studebaker, smaller and lighter than most, is a pretty car by any standards.

#### A Veteran Exhibit

The 1954 Paris Salon shows few novelties, and is perhaps less exciting than usual. Nevertheless, very real progress has been made in the field of high-performance cars, and there is now a large array of really delectable sports coupés. Perhaps one should conclude by mentioning the astonishing old Fiat on the Figoni stand. This is a 1907 racing car of about 17 litres capacity, in absolutely original condition. In choosing to display this, the stand holders have ensured a large crowd around their exhibit, and the contrast with modern vehicles is, of course, enormous.



FARINA FIAT: The Pinin Farina-bodied "Turismo Veloce" 1,100 c.c. Fiat, with TV motif embodied in the radiator grille.



FARINA FERRARI: Coupé body somewhat à la Mercedes-Benz 300SL, produced by Pinin Farina on a 4½-litre Ferrari chassis.

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1st LISTER-BRISTOL W. A. Scott-Brown\*

(Subject to official confirmation)

## \*Also using BP Energol

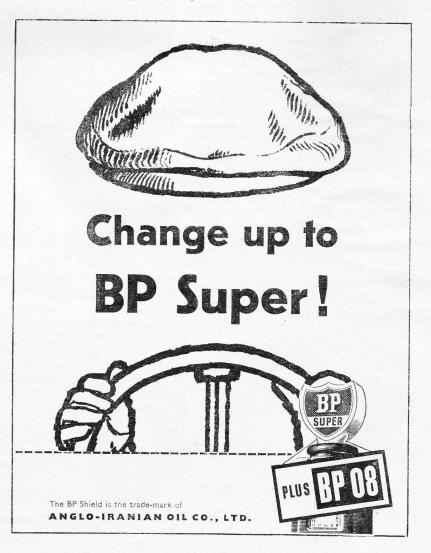
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YOU DO NOT NEED to be a racing motorist to appreciate the advantages of BP Super plus BP 08. This smooth-burning petrol is the ideal fuel whatever the make and year of your car. You will find it makes a considerable improvement under all conditions, from stopstart traffic in towns to hilly country and the open road.

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Livelier performance because starting is quicker, acceleration better, running smoother. Greater economy because you get still more miles per shilling and your engine doesn't need an overhaul so often.

BP Super plus BP 08 costs you not a penny more—and will cost you much less in the long run.



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#### AUTOSPORT, OCTOBER 15, 1954

#### Results

1, I. Bueb, 7 mins. 26 secs.; 2, D. Parker, 7 mins, 27.6 secs.; 3, J. Russell, 7 mins. 28.4 secs.; 4, S. Bloor, 7 mins. 49.4 secs. All these four were inside the previous record of 7 mins, 55.8 secs. for 6 laps held by S. Bloor.

The eight-lap final produced racing of

a very high order. Summers had the misfortune to break his gear lever at Barn Corner on his way to the start and had to retire, leaving the line-up with Bloor, Russell, Parker and Bueb in the front row, and Thornton, Brown and Spreckley behind. Bueb was first off the line, but by the time the mountain was reached Parker was in the lead, with Russell in third place. With seldom more than two or three lengths between them, these three speedily outdistanced the rest of the field. On the third lap, the rest of the field. On the third lap, Russell was challenging Bueb going up the hill. Next time round he was through into second place, and chal-lenging Parker strongly for the lead going up the mountain. Pressed too hard by Russell, Parker must have met with by Russell, Parker must have met with trouble in the Esses, for by the time the leaders reappeared at the start of the sixth lap he had dropped back to third place, and Russell was leading from Bueb by two lengths, and barring acci-dents looked a certain winner. How-ever, on the penultimate lap he overdid it and, going through the Esses, spun, clouted the bank with his rear wheel, and somersaulted, finishing upside down. Fortunately uniniured, he was able to Fortunately uninjured, he was able to wriggle out from under the car without a scratch. Bueb was, meanwhile, in first place from Parker, with Bloor third and Brown fourth, which positions remained unchanged for the final lap.

#### Results

1. I. Bueb, 9 mins. 46 secs.; 2. D. Parker, 9 mins. 47.2 secs.; 3. S. Bloor, 10 mins, 17.4 secs.; 4. J. Brown, 10 mins, 17.6 secs.; 5, R. Spreckley, 10 mins, 47.6 secs.

All five were inside the previous record of 10 mins, 55.3 secs, held by C, H, Allison.

The afternon concluded with a handi-The atternon concluded with a handl-cap race in two six-lap heats and a final. This latter, over eight laps, saw back markers Bueb and Parker conceding 30 secs. to limit men Spreckley and Parker parker the 30 secs. to limit men Spreckley and Robinson. Parker retired on the mountain after leading Bueb for four laps, and Bueb came through the field to win from Manning by 8 secs., with Bloor third 3.8 secs. behind and Thornton fourth. Russell did not start in the final; using Elliott's car in the second heat, he had missed a gearchange and eventually lost a sprocket having and eventually lost a sprocket, having to retire. Anderson (Staride) also dropped out with engine trouble.

I. C. B. PEARCE.



Russell takes Bueb on Barn

Straight in the

championship final.

Bueb about to take Parker on the hill

at the end of the course.

The third heat was a very different story, and with Parker (Kieft), Bueb, Russell and Bloor (Cooper-Nortons) all in the field, it was, as might have been expected, run at an extremely fast pace. Russell took the lead on the first lap with Bueb and Parker close behind, but going up the hill Parker got past Bueb into second place. Up the mountain Russell nearly became airborne, and at the end of the second lap had dropped back to third place. Bueb was now challenging Parker for the lead and on the next lap appeared in first place with Parker and Russell barely a couple of lengths behind. A considerable gap separated these three from the remainder of the field headed by Bloor, and the race finished in that order.

# SUNSHINE AND SPEED at Cadwell Park

Victory for Bueb Again in Half-litre Races

SUNDAY'S half-litre championships at Cadwell Park started in unpromising fashion with heavy mist and a damp and greasy track which gave drivers much trouble during practice. However, the sun came out in time for the first race and shone brilliantly throughout the rest of the day, with the result that the track dried out and the day was marked by high speeds and new track records. The strong field included Don Parker, fresh from his success at Snetterton the day before, Ivor Bueb and Jim Russell, all racing at Cadwell for the first time, and track record holder S. Bloor.

From the start of the first heat A. E. Elliott (Cooper-Norton) jumped into the lead up the hill on the back leg of the course, but coming through the Esses he tried too hard and overturned just outside the first-aid box, happily without serious injury to himself. The end of the first lap saw J. Brown (Staride) com-(Cooper-J.A.P.) second, J. Higham (Kieft) third and B. A. Manning (Mack-son-J.A.P.) in fourth position. These positions were maintained until the end of the race, but Spreckley was hard put to it to keep ahead of Higham.

#### Results

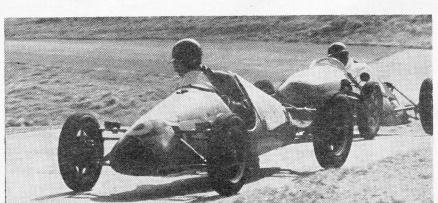
1, J. Brown, 8 mins, 7.2 secs.; 2, R. Spreckley, 8 mins, 10.8 secs.; 3, J. Higham, 8 mins, 11 secs.; 4, B. A. Manning, 8 mins, 11.6 secs.

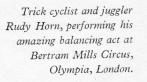
Heat 2 was a travesty of a race, with only four starters, and of these P. Jopp, only four starters, and of these P. Jopp, who had been occupied throughout practice in fitting a new liner, had the misfortune to stall on the line. E. H. L. Thornton (Cooper) went into the lead from the start from C. G. Summers (Kieft) and W. A. Jones (C.R.M.), with Jopp bringing up the rear, and the first lap was completed in this order. Lap 2 saw Jones producing much smoke, and obviously far from happy, and by the end of the lap he had been overhauled by Jopp. The field was by this time well strung out and the order continued un-changed until the end of the race, Jones changed until the end of the race, Jones being lapped by Thornton and Summers on the sixth lap.

#### Results

1, E. H. L. Thornton, 8 mins. 15 secs.; 2, C. G. Summers, 8 mins, 20.1 secs.; 3, P. Jopp, 8 mins. 39.2 secs.; 4, W. A. Jones.

On the mountain, Thornton takes a look to see if Summers is still there.





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#### AUTOSPORT, OCTOBER 15, 1954

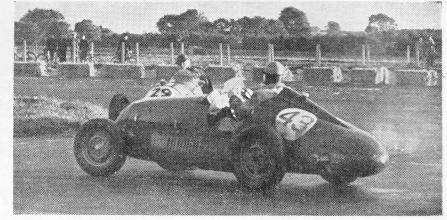
# **KIRKISTOWN** CONCLUSION

MOTOR racing in Ulster came to an Motor for the 1954 season with the 500 Motor Racing Club of Ireland's meeting at Kirkistown airfield on Saturday, 9th October. It must be confessed that the promoters took something of a chance in staging a meeting so late in the season, but it was part of their programme to make full use of the Kirkistown venue, on which they have taken a lease. At first entries were slow in arriving, but eventually speeded up to the research be total of 46. Attendence the respectable total of 46. Attendance at the meeting was, perhaps, smaller than for previous events here, but quite good having regard to the late meeting and drizzling skies.

Handicap racing was predominant, the only scratch race being that for Ford-based specials. It had even been found desirable to make the 500 c.c. race a handicap affair, with the two McCandless cars conceding a lap to the rest of the field. As events were to show, this concession failed to even out matters, Rex McCandless winning handsomely with the earlier version, although Laurie McGladery was forced to retire the Mark II with clutch trouble.

#### W. A. McM. Results

Saloon Handicap (10 laps): 1, S. Pentland (1,911 Citroën 1 lap and 30 secs.), 15 mins, 46 secs., 54.62 m.p.h.; 2, J. B. Emerson (1,172 Ford, 1 lap



In the first heat of the Open Handicap at Kirkistown, Wotson's M.G. TD Spl. spins in front of R. G. Lovell-Butt's Magnette.

and 1 min.), 15 mins. 50 secs., 52.64 m.p.h.; 3, A. Hutchinson (1.250 Morris-M.G., 1 lap), 15 mins. 53 secs., 56.04 m.p.h. **Fastest lap:** Lovell-Butt (3,442 Jaguar), 1 min. 27 secs., 63.199 m.p.h.

500 c.c. Handicap (10 laps): 1, R. McCandless McCandless Spl., scr.), 15 mins, 67.20 m.p.h.; 2, J. L. Meikle (Cooper, 1 lap), 15 mins, 3 secs., 59.06 m.p.h. Fastest lap: R. McCandless and L. McGladery (McCandless), 1 min, 20 secs., 68.73 m.p.h.

Ford Specials (Scratch): 1, A. R. Scott (Ford), 15 mins, 45 secs., 58,18 m.p.h.; J. McDonagh (Ford), 16 mins, 12 secs., 56,56 m.p.h.; 3, B. W. Tughan (Ford), 16 mins, 22 secs., 55,99 m.p.h. Fastest lap: Scott and Tughan, 1 min. 33 secs. 50 12 m.p. 59.12 m.p.h.

Open Handicap-Heat 1: 1, D. W. Archibald

(498 Cooper, 1 lap and 10 sees.), 14 mins, 35 sees., 60.64 m.p.h.; 2, R. G. Lovell-Butt (1.087 M.G., 50 sees.), 14 mins, 38 sees., 63.56 m.p.h.; 3, J. B. Johnstone (1.991 Triumph, 1 lap), 14 mins, 57 sees., 59.12 m.p.h. Heat 2: 1, A. Hutchinson (1.250 Morris-M.G., 1 lap and 1 min, 10 sees.), 14 mins, 33 sees., 55.68 m.p.h.; 2. E. D. MaGuire (2.660 Austin-Healey, 1 lap and 30 sees.), 14 mins, 40 sees., 59.62 m.p.h.; 3, B. W. Tughan (1.172 Ford, 1 lap and 50 sees.), 14 mins, 46 sees., 57.81 m.p.h.

Final: 1, E. D. MaGuire (Austin-Healey, 1 lap and 30 secs.), 14 mins, 10 secs., 61.85 m.p.h.; 2, A. Hutchinson (Morris-M.G., 1 lap and 80 secs.), 14 mins, 29 secs., 56.94 m.p.h.; 3, J. B. Johnstone (Triumph, 1 lap), 14 mins, 47 secs., 61.32 m.p.h.; 4, J. L. Meikle (499 Cooper, 1 lap and 10 secs.), 14 mins, 50 secs, 60.34 m.p.h.

# SOME RECENT RESULTS

#### WIRRAL "100" M.C. SPRINT MEETING

Rhydymwyn, 9th October

#### Sports Cars-

**Event 1. Up to 1,250 c.c. (U/s.):** 1, P. Hughes (Tojeiro), 1 min. 21.6 secs.; 2, D. A. Haigh (Buckler), 1 min. 33.2 secs.

Event 2. 1,251-1,500 c.c. (U/s.): 1, J. H. Gee (Fiat/BMW), 1 min. 25.9 secs.; 2, H. Porteous (Porteous Spl.), 1 min. 27.4 secs.

Event 3. 1,251-1,500 c.c. (S.) and over 1,500 c.c.: 1, E. P. Scragg (Alta-Jaguar), 1 min. 22.8 secs.; 2, J. P. Chapman (Chapman Mercury), 1 min. 24.1 secs.

#### Racing Cars-

Event 4. Up to 500 c.c.: 1, M. C. Kearon (Cooper), 1 min, 18.7 secs.; 2, C. A. N. May (Cooper-J.A.P.), 1 min, 20.4 secs.

Event 5. 501-1,250 c.c. (U/s.): 1, P. Hughes (Tojeiro), 1 min, 19.6 secs.; 2, M. C. Kearon (Cooper), 1 min, 20.2 secs.

**Event 6.** 501-1,250 c.c. (S.) and 1,251-1,500 c.c. (U/so.): 1, C. G. Arengo (Cooper (S.)), 1 min. 25.3 secs.; 2, D. A. Hosking (Fiat/BMW), 1 min. 27 secs.

Event 7. 1,251-1,500 c.c. (S.) and over 1,500 c.c.: 1, W. Goodwin (Goodwin (S.)), 1 min. 22,2 secs.; 2, R. W. Phillips (Fairley-Ford), 1 min. 23,1 secs.

Pursuit Races. First Race: M. C. Kearon (Cooper 500), 2 mins, 35.8 secs. Second Race: M. C. Kearon (Cooper 1,100), 2 mins, 35.2 secs.

#### M.G.C.C. WESTON RALLY

#### 8th/9th October

Nuffield Rally Challenge Cup: A. Day (Sunbeam Alpine), 63 marks lost.

Navigator's Award: Mr. Fullwood.

Class I: D. J. A. Smith (M.G. TA), 106. Class II: S. H. Smythe (Hillman Minx), 194. Class III: B. Day (Triumph TR2), 122. Class IV: R. Davis (Sunbeam-Talbot), 91.

S.W. Centre Cup: R. T. Mason (Citroën), 138, Midland Centre Cup: M. J. Hawley (Triumph TR2), 145. S.E. Centre Cup: Sqd.-Ldr. D. Giles (Triumph TR2), 124.

Team Challenge Cup: A. Day and B. Day, 185. Special Test Cup: R. Davis (Sunbeam-Talbot).

Bristol Starters' Award: Dr. Gibbs (Ford Consul), 162. Birmingham Starters' Award: Sir Charles Kimber (Sunbeam-Talbot), 109. London Starters' Award: P. Johnson (Triumph TR2), 124.

First Class Awards: B. Phipps (Morgan Plus 4), J. W. Waddington (Triumph TR2), J. F. Haarer (M.G. TD), H. E. Hardman (M.G. TC), W. B. Thresher (Riley 1}-litre), J. Yates (Austin-Healey), H. B. Bryant (M.G. TF), B. W. J. Lovell (Austin A30), Mrs. M. Sylvester (Triumph TR2), Dr. E. W. Deane (Sunbeam-Talbot), A. E. West-brook (Austin Utility), I. F. Walker (Austin-Healey), T. G. Cunane (M.G. TF).

#### Silverstone Finale-contd. from page 495

on! A magnificent finale was played out by G. G. MacDonald and J. P. Hacking in their strangely contrasting cars, both driving on the absolute limit, and the lighter Cooper challenging on every corner. Hacking finally wrested the lead and held it by 1.4 secs., and Tyrer's desperate bid to take the Bentley for second place failed by a bare second. A truly grand finish to a grand season!

#### G. H. DEASON.

#### Results

Sports Cars up to 1,250 c.c. (7 laps, scratch)— 750 Formula: 1. A. J. Nurse (Lotus), 65.95 m.p.h.; 2. J. P. Whitehouse (Austin); 3, T. J. T. Hiers (Austin), 1,172 Formula: 1. E. Lewis (Lotus), 65.32 m.p.h.; 2. W. G. Marriott (Ford); 3. F. V. Lambert (Ford), General: H. S. Ladd (M.G.), 59.82 m.p.h. Up to 1,500 c.e. (7 laps, scratch): 1. J. P. Hacking (Cooper-M.G.), 70.86 m.p.h.; 2. J. B. Naylor (Cooper-M.G.); 3. E. J. Newton (Kileen-M.G.).

Formula 3 (10 laps, scratch): 1, C. Headland (Martin), 74.03 m.p.h.; 2, R. E. D. Harrison (Cooper); 3, J. W. Whitchouse (Kieft). Sports Cars, 1,500-2,000 c.c. (7 laps, scratch):

## WEST CORNWALL M.C. CONCOURS D'ÉLÉGANCE Truro, 9th October

Truro, 9th October Class 1: 1, J, F, Hoghen (Hillman 1929); 2, J, Simmons-Hodge (Bentley 1929); 3, A, J, New-man (Ford Model 'T' 1910). Class 2A: 1, L, J, Limmer (Riley); 2, T, H, Woods (Austin); 3, N, R, Littler (Lagonda). Class 2B: 1, B, S, Prewett (Daimler 1925); 2, Dr, Shier (Rolls-Royce 1930). Class 2C: 1, H, G, Truccott (Austin 1938); 2, Mrs, G, Cornelius (Standard 1938); 3, C, A, Stanbury (Morris 1938). Class 2D: 1, E, Dennis (Riley); 2, R, Thwaites (Alvis); 3, -- Bunt (Austin), Class 3A: 1, H, Luke-Dunne (M.G, TD); 2, J, L, Simmons-Hodge (M.G, TC); 3, G, C, Courtenoy Hocking (Austin A40). Class 3C: 1, J, R, Johns (Austin A40); 2, R, Jenkins (Morris Minor); 3, J, C, King (Ford Prefect). Class 3D: 1, A, A, Polkinghorne (Mercury); 2, W, P, Michell (Triumph).

1, J. B. Naylor (Cooper-M.G.), 70.86 m.p.h.; 2, D. Howard (Alta); 3, C. M. Clairmonte (Clair-monte). 2,000-2,500 c.c.: 1, J. Venn (Healey), 69.79 m.p.h.; 2, P. J. Simpson (Healey); 3, D, J. T. Randall (Healey).

Formule Libre (10 laps, scratch): 1. R. E. Berry (Jaguar), 76.80 m.p.h.; 2. C. M. Clairmonte (Clairmonte); 3, B. Baxter (Jaguar).

Sports Cars, unlimited (7 laps, scratch): 1. R. E. Berry (Jaguar), 76.80 m.p.h.; 2, C. M. Clairmonte (Clairmonte); 3, B. Baxter (Jaguar).

(Clairmonte); 3, B. Baxter (Jaguar).
Production Cars (7 laps h'cap): 1, J. Venn (Healey); 69.72 m.p.h; 2, P. J. Simpson (Healey); 3, G. Tyrer (Jaguar).
Vintage Cars (10 laps, h'cap): 1, W. P. S. Melville (4,224 Vauxhall).
(9.19 m.p.h.; 2, G. G. McDonald (4,576 Bentley); 3, M. J. Harris (747 Austin).
Racing Cars (10 laps, h'cap): 1, A. E. Marsh (1,100 Cooper-J.A.P.), 78.95 m.p.h.; 2, C. M. Clairmonte (1,960 Clairmonte); 3, R. E. D. Harrison (499 Cooper).

**Sports Cars up to 2,500 c.c.** (7 laps, h'cap)— **Heat "A":** 1, C. G. Summers (747 Austin), 61 m.p.h.; 2, D. Rees (747 Austin); 3, P. Taylor (747 Austin), **Heat "B":** 1, J. B. Naylor (Cooper-M.G.), 70.60 m.p.h.; 2, N. Naylor (Riley); 3, J. H. Price (Lotus-M.G.). **Heat "C":** 1, J. Venn (Healey), 69.74 m.p.h.; 2, P. J. Simpson (Healey); 3, H. M. Barron (Morris).

Sports Cars over 2,500 c.c. (7 laps, h'cap): 1, J. P. Hacking (Cooper-M.G.), 71.87 m.p.h.; 2, G. G. McDonald (4,596 Bentley); 3, J. Tyrer (2,442 Jaguar).





# By Wilson McComb

Some photographs which arrived at this office within the last few days emphasize what I have suspected for a long time-that it is not possible to achieve attractive lines in a full width body fitted to a short-wheelbase car; not, that is, unless the height can be reduced to a drastic extent. Modern radiators, being both wide and efficient, help a good deal in this direction, and the present-day engine, with its rela-tively short stroke, is far from tall. Unfortunately, however, human dimen-sions have not changed in the same way, resulting in a fairly constant scuttle height which tends to make the short car look like a distressed tortoise. The most attractive Austin special which I have ever seen had its wheels out in the fresh air-and very handsome it looked, too, in a businesslike sort of way.

**S**<sup>OMETHING</sup> novel for this year's Vesey Trial will be **Sunbac's** addition of a rally starting the previous night, 23rd October—and the rally itself promises to be a little out of the ordinary. Not more than three controls will be compulsory ones, drivers will choose their own routes, and the maximum average for the night section will be below 30 m.p.h. Only series production cars may be used; naturally, this rule does not apply to the Vesey Trial, which will start at 10.30 a.m. the following day, 24th October. Jack Woodhouse, 106 Jockey

\*

\*



WHO DAT DOWN DERE? D. L. U. Scott (Austin-Healey) looks in some surprise at R. H. Higham's similar car, nestling in the ditch on the outside of Woodcote. Occasion is the production car race of last Saturday's North Staffordshire M.C. meeting at Silverstone.

Road, Sutton Coldfield, will close the entry list tomorrow, 16th October. . . . Mid-Surrey A.C.'s second annual Speed Trial at Brands Hatch will start at 11 a.m. on 24th October, with capacity classes for open and closed cars registered before and after 1945. Entries to Mrs. O. Richmond, 154 Wickham Avenue, North Cheam, by next Monday, 18th October. . . Loughborough College M.C. invite members of the Pathfinders and Derby M.C., Nottingham S.C.C., Leicestershire C.C. and Combined Universities M.C. to take part in their 250-mile night rally on 27/28th November. It will start and finish in Leicestershire, and entries must be received by B. Simpson, Loughborough College, Loughborough, Leics, before 24th November. . . West Cornwall M.C. plans include a film show at the Mounts Bay Hotel, Penzance, on 29th October,

# M.G. CAR CLUB'S NORTHERN RALLY

WATERSPLASHES figured largely in the M.G.C.C.'s Northern Rally, run by the N.E., N.W. and Scottish Centres on 1st/2nd October, and in one remote village many of the inhabitants turned out at 3 o'clock in the morning to watch the fun. The competitors had started at midnight from Leeds, Manchester and Edinburgh, going through some stiff navigation sections before the breakfast stop at Rushyford, north of Darlington. At this stage only 10 were unpenalized on the road section.

The day section was defined by route card, and two driving tests were held at Croft Aerodrome, the second time control; fastest were M. Watson-Smyth (TD) and, in the saloon class, Dennis Butterwick (1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-litre). After Croft came a journey into the Cleveland Hills, with a 60-mile navigation section before lunch. As usual, many chose the oddest of so-called short cuts in preference to good main roads.

Lunch was taken at the Black Swan Hotel, Helmsely, and competitors then set off on the last 50 miles of the event. Butterwick was second to K. N. Lee (Morgan Plus Four) in a test on the White Horse Hill at Kilburn, and best in a coasting test down Boltby Bank. The route ended at the Yorkshire Agricultural Show Grounds, where a large crowd gathered to watch the final test, in which the best performances were made by Vernon Lewis (TF), Watson-Smyth and K. N. Lee. Awards were presented after dinner at the Hotel Majestic by Mrs. F. Howarth, wife of the N.E. Centre Chairman.

#### Results

Cobbett Challenge Trophy: N.E. Centre Team [D. Butterwick (M.G. YB), K. N. Lec (Morgan) and V. Lewis (M.G. TF)].

Northern Challenge Trophy: V. Lewis, North-Eastern Challenge Trophy: K. N. Lee, Navigators' Awards: A. Bould and P. Toynbee.

Class Awards: A. Bould and P. Toynbee. Class Awards. Class 1: 1, P. Chisholm (M.G. TC); 2, N. Paterson (M.G. TD); 3, M. Watson-Smyth (M.G. TD). Class 2: 1, D. Butterwick (M.G. YB); 2, G. K. Armstrong (Ford Prefect); 3, D. G. Scott (Ford Anglia). Class 3: 1, E. S. Sneath (Morgan); 2, J A. Beaumont (Triumph TR2); 3, H. B. Jacoby (Morgan), Class 4: 1, L. G. Stross (Jaguar).

Team Award (invited clubs): B.A.R.C. [J. T. Scott (M.G. TF), J. D. Scott (Triumph TR2) and L. G. Stross (Jaguar)]. Starting Control Awards: Leeds, D. Butterwick: Manchester, D. G. Scott; Scotland, N. Paterson. Special Award: F. Buglass (M.G. TF).

and a night navigation trial on 27th November. Details of the latter will be available shortly from H. Luke-Dunne, 8 Tolver Place, Penzance. . . . Members of the B.A.R.C., Maidstone and Mid-Kent M.C., Oxford M.C., North London Enthusiasts' C.C., Singer O.C., Herts County A. and A.C. and Surrey S.M.C. are invited to take part in the Margate and D.C.C.'s Ramsgate Autumn Rally on 26/27th November. This event, some three to four hundred miles in length, will start from the Tudor House, Bearsted, Maidstone, and finish at Ramsgate Harbour. Entries close on 15th November, and regs. may be had from the secretaries of invited clubs . . . Public Schools' M.C.'s second annual Publican Rally on 24th October is open to members of any R.A.C.-recognized motoring club. It will start after lunch from Keston Ponds, Bromley, Kent, and regs. are obtainable from M. F. Ellis, 90 Sandford Road, Bromley. Vintage S.C.C. (Frazer-Nash Section) will be meeting at the Two Brewers, Chipperfield, at 6.30 p.m. on Saturday, 30th October. . . Blackpool Rally, the Riley M.C.'s 250-mile event on 6/7th November, will start at 8 a.m. on the Saturday from five controls and finish in time for breakfast at Blackpool. Entries must reach E. M. Wainwright, 10 St. Michael's Avenue, Bramhall, Ches, by 23rd October... Southsea M.C.'s President's Trial, scheduled for this Sunday, 17th October, has been postponed until 14th November because the Longmoor course is not available. . . . Malden and D.M.C.'s next event will be their "Sep-Competitors will meet at reference 078586, O.S. map 170, for a 2.30 p.m. start, and visitors will be welcome.

## MORECAMBE HILL-CLIMB

WALTER FREED has written to inform us that in addition to the placings given (24th September issue) for the Morecambe C.C.'s Warton Hill-climb, held on 12th September, his Jaguar XK 120 recorded second B.T.D. His climb in 20.4 secs. also gave him first place in the combined class for specials, supercharged cars and unlimited capacity open cars.

# 

#### **Driver** Ability

IN AUTOSPORT of the 24th September I have read with considerable interest an article by John Bolster on Formula 1 progress, and I found it interesting as all his articles usually Nevertheless I have been rather astonished to read a very definite statement in which Mr. Bolster affirms that no pre-war driver could equal Fangio and Moss in their polished driving of Grand Prix cars.

I believe that Mr. Bolster talks only of style, because if one talked of general efficiency I believe that such names as Ascari, Farina, the *maestro* Nuvolari, Rosemeyer and Birkin should not be overlooked.

Talking only of polished and unspectacular driving, I really believe that Señor Fangio and Mr. Moss would be the first to say that such men as Varzi, Chiron, Wimille, Caracciola (all of course at the top of their form) would be able to "equal"

their brilliant performances of today. Cars are of course different, but the driving of these men on the "monoposto" Alfas and the big Auto Union and Mercedes monsters was really something to admire. MILANO.

COUNT G. LURANI.

 $A_{fellow}^{s}$  a woman enthusiast, may I be allowed to mention to fellow reader P. Lawless that whilst we all agree that Mike Hawthorn is indeed a veteran driver, it is very natural that Stirling Moss, just as much a veteran, should receive more mention in your magazine, and indeed the National press, than Hawthorn, Moss being such a versatile driver that he is just as much at home in a 500 c.c. Cooper, Lister, Jaguar or Maserati and therefore enters many more events than Hawthorn. To the best of my knowledge, the latter does not make a practice of driving any other cars than Ferrari and, just recently, the Vanwall Special. Moss has had such a run of rotten luck this year that one

does feel a little encouragement, such as AUTOSPORT offers, is not at all misplaced. As for Juan Fangio, it is impossible to ignore the great performance this driver has put up at every race and one must recognize him as one of the greatest drivers in motor racing history. True, he has a wonderful car, but what is the use of even a Mercedes without a driver?

May I conclude by saying how much my husband and I enjoy reading AUTOSPORT. Your reports on race meetings are always written in such a way that they make excellent light reading even for the non-enthusiast. Can you please tell us if there are any clubs or organizations in London which arrange transport to and from meetings. At present we do not own a car and we find it extremely difficult to get to such places as Snetterton and Aintree.

PEGGY GRIFFITHS.

(We know of no club or organization in London which regularly arranges transport to race meetings, other than the larger coach companies who cater for major Silverstone events.—Ed.)

# BOOK REVIEW

Title: "Those Wonderful Old Automobiles".

Author: Floyd Clymer.

LONDON, S.W.8.

Size: 11<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> ins. x 8<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> ins. 214 pages. Many illustrations. Price: \$5.95 (47s. 6d. in U.K.).

Publishers: McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York, U.S.A., or 95 Farringdon Street, London, E.C.4.

'ONSISTING, as it does, mainly of reprinted manufacturers' catalogues and advertisements, Floyd Clymer's latest book can scarcely be considered a bargain; he who seeks detailed specifications of such rarities as the Pic-Pic, Crestmobile, Knox or Maxwell (later the Chrysler) must look elsewhere. or Maxwell (later the Chrysler) must look elsewhere. Still, it is fun to browse over the pictures, cartoons and jokes of the period 1895/1930, and to learn that crooners once sang such masterpieces of the plugging art as "In my Mercer racing car", or "Take me on a Buick honeymoon". There is some reference to the early history of Indianapolis, and pictorial proof that "sports" bodies were actually fitted to Model T Fords. Two pages are given over to paintings by that fine New York artist, Peter Helck; would that they were in colour, and many, many more reproduced.

F. W. McC.

# The Englishman's Guide to Smirnoff Vodka

The Island Race are among the world's most discerning drinkers. They are, however, notably conservative in their tastes, preferring to stick to what they know than experiment with alien beverages of doubtful potency. Believing, however, that Englishmen\* should share in the pleasures of



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#### **IRISH DATE CHANGE**

THE Irish Motor Racing Club have sportingly transferred the date of the I.M.R.C./U.A.C. Inter-Club Trial from 16th October to 6th November, because they feel it might interfere with the Munster 20-Hour Trial, a Hewison Trophy event which is scheduled to start from Cahir at 10 p.m. on the night of the 16th. The I.M.R.C. intend combining the Inter-Club event with their Autumn Trial on 6th November.

#### SOUTHERN JOWETT EVENT

ON Sunday, 26th September, the Southern Jowett C.C. held their last Southern Jowett C.C. held their last field event of the season on Chobham Common, Surrey. In the first of two manœuvring tests, R. H. Ashton (Javelin) returned a time of 64.6 secs. against 78.4 secs. from P. Kehl (Jowett 8) and 78.6 secs. from P. Huntley (Austin A40). Kehl was best in the second test with 45.2 secs., while N L Brockett (Jowett 8) 45.2 secs., while N. J. Brockett (Jowett 8) returned 58.8 secs. and A. J. Hines (Jowett 10) took almost 10 secs. longer.

Details of the club's fourth annual Hertfordshire Point-to-Point, on 31st October, may be had from C. E. Piper, 10 Orchard Avenue, Thames Ditton.

#### WELSH COUNTIES RALLY

THE Welsh Counties C.C.'s annual event for the Barry Corporation's Coronation Trophy was run as a 90-mile rally, mainly in Glamorganshire, on 26th September.

The cars left the Barry Memorial Hall at intervals from 11 a.m. and after passing through various controls and secret checks, via Bridgend and Maesteg, arrived at the lunch control on the Bwlch-y-Clawdd Mountains. Up to this point few competitors had lost marks, although the marshals at one control were somewhat surprised to see several arriving from two different directions, each convinced that they were going the right way!

After lunch the competitors left to collect various items of information on their way to the finishing control in Museum Avenue, Cardiff, where a test was run in order to decide any ties.

#### Results

Results Premier Award: M. K. Monk (Wolseley 6/80). Open Cars: 1, D. J. Parsons (Frazer-Nash); 2, G. E. Turner (M.G. TD). Closed Cars: 1, D. Griffiths; 2, I. Gay. Team Award: D. Parsons and M. Seal.

#### **COMING ATTRACTIONS**

October 16th. Pembrokeshire M.C. Speed Hill-Climb, Lydstep, nr. Tenby, Pembs. Start, 1.30 p.m.

Forces M.C. Driving Tests, Fowler Barracks, Perham Down, Tidworth. Start, 3 p.m.

B.A.R.C., East Sussex Night Navigation Test. East Sussex Branch,

- October 16th/17th. Scarborough and D.M.C. "Two Ridings" Night Trial. Start, Scarborough, 8 p.m.
  - ottingham S.C.C. Nottingham Rally. Start, 9 p.m. Gregory Nottingham Boulevard, Nottingham.
  - Munster M.C. and C.C. 20-hour Navigation Trial. Start, 10 p.m., Cahir House Hotel, Co. Tipperary, Eire.
- October 17th. Coppa d'Oro (S), Syracuse, Sicily.
  - West Essex C.C. Speed Hill-Climb, Stapleford Airfield, nr. Abridge, Essex. Start, 11.30 a.m.
  - B.A.R.C. Yorkshire Centre. "Greenwood Cup", Semi-Sporting Trial. Start, Poole-in-Wharfedale, 12.30 p.m.
  - N. Midland M.C. Hopkinson Standard Car Trial.
  - Thames Estuary A.C. Rally. Start, 10.30 a.m., "Green Man", Navestock
  - Swansea M.C., Hinwood Navigation Trial. Start, Fairwood Aero-drome, 2 p.m.
  - Berwick and D.M.C. Border Rally.
  - Edinburgh University M.C. Rally.
  - Rhyl and D.M.C. "Regal" Trial. Start, Central Garage, Rhyl, 10.30 p.m.

Malden and D.M.C. "Septober" Rally.

October 20th-30th. S.M.M.T. 25th International Motor Show, Earls Court. London.

#### NORTH WALES AUTOCROSS

THE first autocross in North Wales was held in Anglesey by the Caernarvon-shire and Anglesey M.C. on Sunday, 10th October. Local interest was considerable and about 40 cars, most of them competing, assembled at Bangor to drive to the course.

#### Results

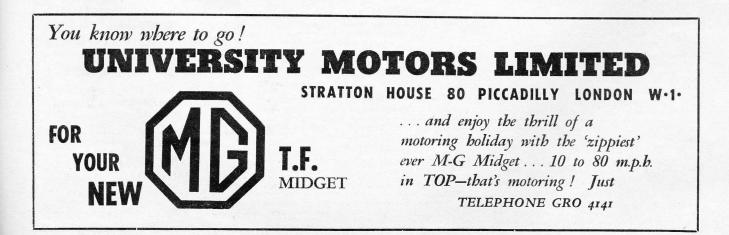
Results National Benzole Trophy (best time in under 1,500 c.c. closed class): M. Hinde (Renault), 1 min. 13§ secs. First Class Awards: Dr. D. N. Kiff (Volkswagen), 1 min. 14§ secs.; D. C. Mills (Renault), 1 min. 15§ secs. Second Class Awards: K. B. Dunn (Volkswagen), 1 min. 16§ secs.; W. Matthews (Austin 7), 1 min. 19§ secs.; and Lloyd Davies (Austin 7), 1 min. 21 secs. Snorts Car Class: 1 J. B. Mulcoley (Mulcoley

Sports Car Class: 1, J. B. Mulooley (Mulooley Spl.), 1 min 2 secs. (B.T.D.). First Class Award: D. W. Jones-Williams (Morean), 1 min. 14 secs. Ladies' Prize: 1, Mrs. E. M. Fenton (Buckler), 1 min. 25<sup>§</sup> secs.; 2, Mrs. V. McNair (Morris Minor), 1 min. 27<sup>§</sup> secs.

#### CLUB FIXTURES

- North London M.C.-Meeting, 15th October, Cat Inn, Cat Till, East Barnet.
- Mid-Surrey A.C.-Meeting, 15th October, Queen Adelaide Hotel, Ewell.
- Coventry and Warwicks M.C.-Annual dance, 15th October, Masonic Hall, Coventry. Guildford M.C.-Talk by S. C. H. Davis, 15th October, Wooden Bridge Hotel, Guildford, 8 n.m. p.m.
- Cambridge '50 C.C.-Meeting, 15th Octobe Ancient Shepherds, Fenditton, nr. Cambridge.
- Bentley D.C.-Mcetinss: 16th October, Callis Court Hotel, Broadstairs, Kent; 20th October, Windmill Inn, Shelf, nr. Bradford, Yorks, 7.30 p.m.; 21st October, King's Head, Rochampton, London, 8 p.m.
- Lancashire and Cheshire C.C.-Scavenge Hunt, 17th October. Start, Dixon Arms Hotel, Chelford, 2 p.m.
- Alvis O.C.—Meeting, 17th October, Punchbowl, Warwick, 7.30 p.m.
   750 M.C.—Meetings: 18th October, Abbey Hotel, Stonebridge Park, Neasden, N.W.10; 19th October, Dog and Gun Hotel, Banbury, and 43 Leigham Court Road, Streatham; 20th October, Higheliffe Hotel, Higheliffe.
- Liverpool M.C.-Meeting, 20th October, Childwall Abbey Hotel, Liverpool.

- Abbey Hotel, Liverpool.
  West Essex C.C.—Film show and talk by A. F. Rivers Fletcher, 20th October, Three Jolly Wheelers, Woodford Bridge, Essex, 8.30 p.m.
  Singer O.C.—Meetings: 20th October, Ashton's Hotel, Praed Street, W.2; 21st October, Prince of Wales, Eccleshall Road South, Sheffield.
  Vintage S.C.C.—Meetings, 21st October: White Lion, Cobham, Surrey; Mill Inn, Withington, nr. Cheltenham. Cheltenham.
- Circle C.C.-Motor Show "noggin and natter", 21st October.
- Southsea M.C.-Meeting, 21st October, Portsmouth Aero Club, 8 p.m.
- Association of Northern Car Clubs.—28th Meeting, 21st October, White Swan Hotel, Halifax, 7.30 p.m.
- Surrey S.M.C.-Meeting, 21st October, Warwick Hotel, Redhill.





PRESS TIME: TUESDAY 10 a.m.

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## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

All copy for Classified advertisements MUST reach this office by Monday a.m.,

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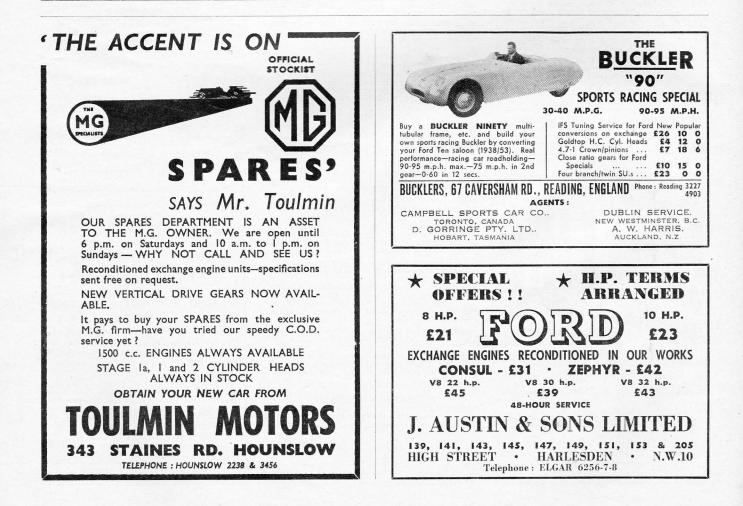
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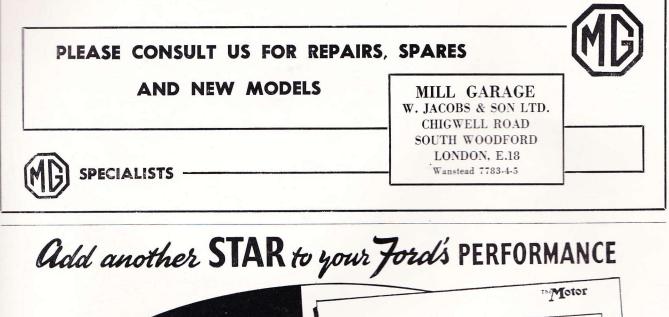
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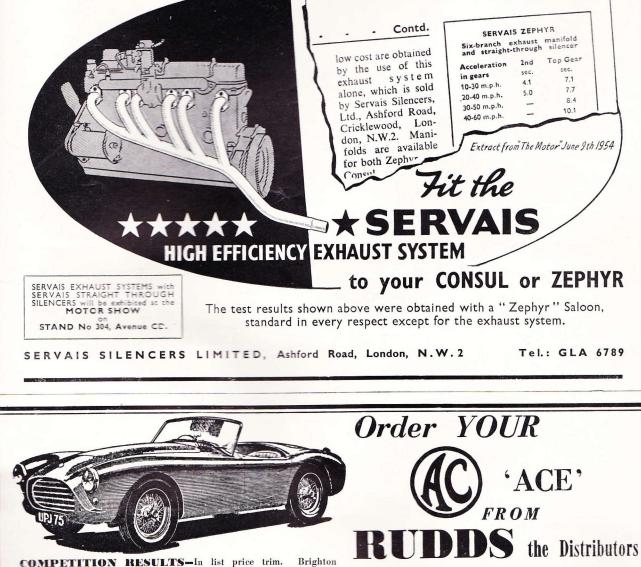
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