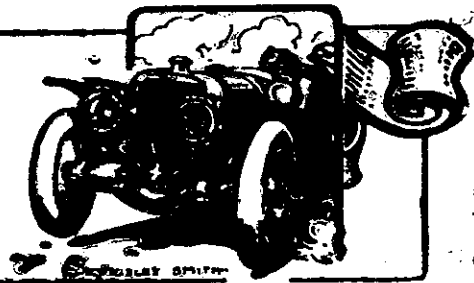


MOTORING & CYCLING



A further advance in the price of petrol has just taken place in France. The current price now ranges from approximately 2s. 10d. per gallon at Rouen, to 2s. 11d. in Paris, and 3s. in Pau, in the Lower Pyrenees.

During the financial year the Canterbury Automobile Association enrolled 225 new members, of whom 112 were secured by the secretary (Mr. C. W. Hervey). The resignations during the year numbered only thirteen.

According to a statement by the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce, there are 450 motor car manufacturing firms in the United States. Of these, twelve concerns are responsible for no less than 80 per cent. of the total production of automobiles in America, leaving only 20 per cent. for the remaining 438 firms.

At the last meeting of the General Committee of the Auckland Automobile Association, several communications were received dealing with the question of dazzling headlights. Two of these recommended the adoption of a hooded lamp, the effect of which was to throw the light downwards. After the meeting a demonstration was held of a patent deflector, but members did not consider this a satisfactory solution of the trouble. Attention was drawn to the danger to boys riding on trolleys on the main streets, and it was decided to ask the City Council to regulate the use of trolleys on the carriage-ways of these streets. Eight new members were elected.

The air fleet in connection with the Canterbury Aviation School now consists of the 60 h.p. Caudron dual control biplane and the Christchurch-built 45 h.p. Caudron type machine, besides the Bleriot monoplane, which is only used for ground work in the earliest days of the pupils' instruction. Much is expected from the arrival of the 100 h.p. engines now on order, and preparations are in train for their installation in what will be fast, light machines.

Eighteen motor cars which went to the bottom of the sea in a steamer that was sunk off the coast of China have recently been recovered. They were, it is stated, so little the worse for being submerged for a period of six months that they have been put in good running order at a cost of about £40 per car.

A London cable early this month reports a big advance in the price of petroleum, which is now quoted at 20½d. Petrol is selling at 41½d. a gallon, being an increase of 5d. for petroleum and 8½d. for petrol. The reason for the increase is the enhanced cost of ocean transportation consequent upon the increased insurance rates.

A most instructive illustrated booklet entitled "Running Instructions for the C.A.V. Dynamo Lighting and Starting System" has been published by the well-known English firm, Messrs. C. A. Vandervell and Co., Ltd., Acton, London, W., whose dynamo lighting and starting system has proved a veritable boon to motorists in all parts of the globe. The C.A.V. dynamo is a simple, shunt-wound machine, self-regulating, and the armature is the only moving part; the portions actually calling for any attention are the commutator and brushes. To examine the commutator and brushes, all that is necessary is to remove the cover, a piece of ordinary soft rag being as good as anything for this purpose. The booklet describes and illustrates the various parts of the C.A.V. dynamo, and reveals to the reader in clear and concise fashion the location of faults which must naturally occur at some time or other in every dynamo, and the best remedial measures to be taken to eradicate the same. The famous C.A.V. lighting switchboards are described and shown, while the instructions to be strictly observed in regard to the

battery are given in a most helpful and interesting style. The principal components of the C.A.V. electric starter are also explained and illustrated, and are well worth the attention of all motorists. In addition, the booklet contains a wealth of information regarding C.A.V. specialties in electric equipment, which, together with the many hints and valuable instruction, makes the little catalogue an indispensable asset to every car user. Our readers could not do better than obtain a copy of the catalogue from their agent or from the C.A.V. Company direct.

The new capitalisation of the Dunlop Rubber Co., which the shareholders have decided to make £6,000,000, may be regarded as an indication of the extraordinary expansion of the motor movement during recent years, and of the great prospects in the future, says "The Motor Export Trader," the well-known English trade journal. This decision to increase the capital by so large a sum as £3,000,000 is not the consequence of the difficulties which lead to over-capitalisation, but a measure actually required to bring the finance of the company into conformity with the magnitude of its operations. Do we always realise the value of the stock such a concern as the Dunlop Com-

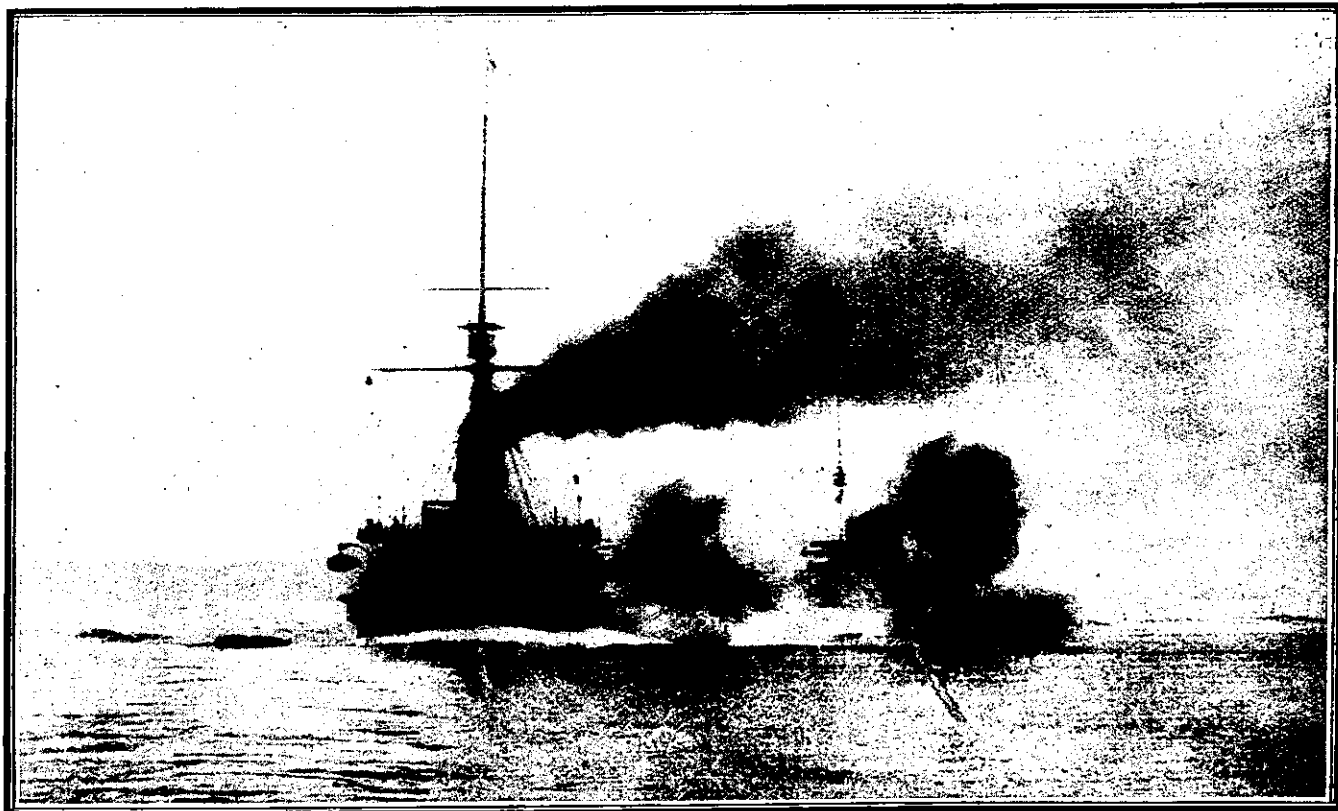
Two more pupils of the Canterbury Aviation School—Ross Brodie, of Rangitata, South Canterbury, and E. T. Sutherland, of Wanganui—passed their flying tests last week, and will be drafted into the Royal Flying Corps. It is stated that Sutherland will be the first Maori to enter the Royal Flying Corps. The conditions laid down by the Imperial Government provide that a candidate must be of pure European descent. Communication, however, was established with the Imperial authorities on the point, and they agreed to accept as a pilot any candidate with Maori blood, provided he was not a full blooded Maori.

The Briscoe Motor Co., Lambton Quay, Wellington, have now been taken over by the present manager and will in future be known as the Holmes Motor Company. This firm are concentrating their efforts on pushing the sales of one of the best known and most popular cars in America, viz., the six-cylinder Paige. The whole block of buildings on the corner of Stout Street and Lambton Quay is now occupied by the new firm, and is being fitted up as an up-to-date repair shop, garage, and showrooms. A car lift has been fitted for the use of the upper floors,

A motor car has six points of control in addition to the steering. There is a gear lever, a brake pedal, a clutch pedal, an accelerator and sometimes a magneto control. A motor cyclist usually has ten things to attend to to obtain the same results. An exhaust lifter, a brake lever, a brake pedal, a clutch pedal, a magneto lever, two extra clutch controls on the handlebar. In addition there is the oil pump.

Cable advices received from England convey information to the effect that the leading British motor tyre concerns have had to make a further rise of 25 per cent. in their prices owing to the big increase in the cost of raw materials, principally cotton. Since March last, there has now been a total increase in England of over 40 per cent. on motor tyre retail prices. Motor cycle tyres, according to the latest advice, have gone up 30 per cent.

America's first order for motor transport for use in the European war has now been placed, and is a contract for 35,000 lorries of both classes for prompt delivery.



BROADSIDES.—TWO BRITISH BATTLESHIPS FIRING A SALUTE.

pany has to carry? Its business is to meet the sudden demand for some size or type of tyre which since the solid tyre was taken up seriously may be one of between 250 and 300 different sorts. Unless the company is to live from hand to mouth so far as concerns the balance between production and supply, and unless the 3000 stockists and the public are to complain of service incompatible with its reputation, an enormous stock must be carried. In August, 1915, the stock was valued at £780,000, but it was recognised at the time that the normal trade of peace time required at least £1,500,000, and war as much more as possible. To-day the stock is valued at £2,250,000, more than half of which is the complete manufactured article. To have accumulated such a stock is extremely creditable in view of the difficulties of increasing productive capacity in these times. It is true the whole of the new three millions is not to be called up immediately, and, in fact, we understand half of it is to be called up and the balance at least twelve months from this date, but the magnitude of this financial undertaking can be accepted as an earnest on the part of the "founders of the pneumatic tyre industry" to keep in step with the progress of the times.

where expert work will be specialised in, including repairing and charging storage batteries and oxy-acetone welding. Arrangements are also being made to have a Bowser petrol pump installed on the footpath, where petrol can be secured day or night without delay. The experience Mr. Holmes has had among garages, manufacturing concerns and works in America, is proving a great asset to him in the above enterprise, and the new firm are certain to receive wide patronage from the motoring public.

The auto wheel is a small motor attachment designed to convert the bicycle into a lightweight motor cycle. It is now being extensively used in England in connection with hand operated tricycles, etc., as a means of enabling limless soldiers to get about.

When the motor transport section of the French Army places a contract with the factories, it is usually for bare chassis. The reason is that not many French makers produce their own bodies, and it is simpler for the motor service to deal direct with the body maker than to allow the chassis builder to act as an intermediary. Even when the lorry comes back from the body maker it is not complete, for the Army department finds that it can fit out and supply accessories much cheaper than it can obtain them from an outsider. The lamp and headlight brackets are produced and fitted in the army shops, the spare petrol can carrier is another army product, tool boxes and spare parts boxes are produced by military labour, all accessories are bought direct from the manufacturers and not through an intermediary, also most of the spare parts are made by the army instead of being produced in the lorry works.



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