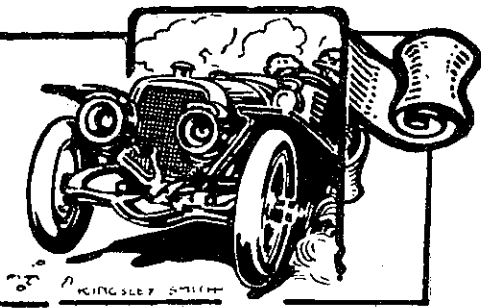


MOTORING & CYCLING



Photographs of private motorists in their cars, snapshots taken while on tour, or accounts of motoring trips and other items of interest to car-owners, will be inserted in these columns if posted to "New Zealand Sporting and Dramatic Review," P.O. Box 52, Auckland.

A satisfactory experimental flight has been made in Sydney with an aeroplane using alcohol as fuel.

The Thames Valley Electric Power Board is, by Order-in-Council gazetted, authorised to raise a loan of £200,000.

Mr. W. Ross, the mechanic from the New Zealand Flying School, who went to Gisborne with the aeroplane, contracted pneumonia while there.

At a meeting of persons interested it was decided to form an aviation company in Timaru to work from there, Mount Cook and southward. Mr. R. Wigley, managing director of the Mount Cook Motor Company, is the moving spirit.

A proposal is being made to the Minister of Internal Affairs to introduce legislation providing for a distinctive mark to be added to the number-plate of motor cars, with a variation in the colour each year on registration.

An old Scotch drover who witnessed an aeroplane flight in Gisborne from one of the country roads, it being his first vision of an aeroplane, remarked: "Travelling in the air. Well, well! That is where they should be. Those motor cars are an awfu' nuisance to us drovers."

King Albert and the Queen of Belgium flew in separate de Havilland 'planes from Brussels to Farnborough to attend the wedding of Lady Cynthia Curzon to Mr. Oswald Moseley, M.P. They had an adventurous trip of three hours through high wind and rain. The King arrived without his cap, and the Queen was nearly frozen.

The Hon. J. G. Coates had a flight over the city of Christchurch with Captain Dickson on Sunday week. When over the aerodrome, at the conclusion of the flight, at a height of 1500 feet, Captain Dickson asked the Minister if he would like "to stunt." Mr. Coates agreed, and Captain Dickson did one loop and one roll, and then side-slipped vertically from 1000 feet to the ground.

Very extensive damage was done to the roads around Rotorua by the heavy motor traffic during the visit of the Prince of Wales. The damage to the Tirau-Ngongotaha road for a distance of about four miles is estimated at £150. The Rotorua County Council has approved of a suggestion for a Dominion tax on motor cars, a fair proportion to be allotted to Rotorua, where a great amount of outside traffic is sometimes congregated.

The large Red Cross motor garage at Trentham Military Hospital was practically destroyed by fire the other day. It appears that when some tyres were being vulcanised flames burst out and set the building on fire. The only car in the garage at the time was saved by Miss Ewen and two members of the Medical Corps, who pushed it into the open, scorched and with the wind-screen cracked. Some tyres, motor tools, and cases of benzene were also salvaged.

The misuse of dazzling lights and "dimmers" on motor cars was discussed at the last meeting of the Canterbury Automobile Association. Mr. F. W. Johnston said that there seemed to be a good deal of misapprehension among drivers as to the use of headlights. He thought the use of the "dimmer" light when passing another car was a dangerous practice, especially in the winter. He did not think any motor should be allowed to travel at night unless it possessed the glass deflectors. He moved: "That the council expresses the opinion that dimming of lights except on the well-lit streets is a dangerous practice, and that no car should travel at night if not provided with anti-glare lenses." The motion was carried.

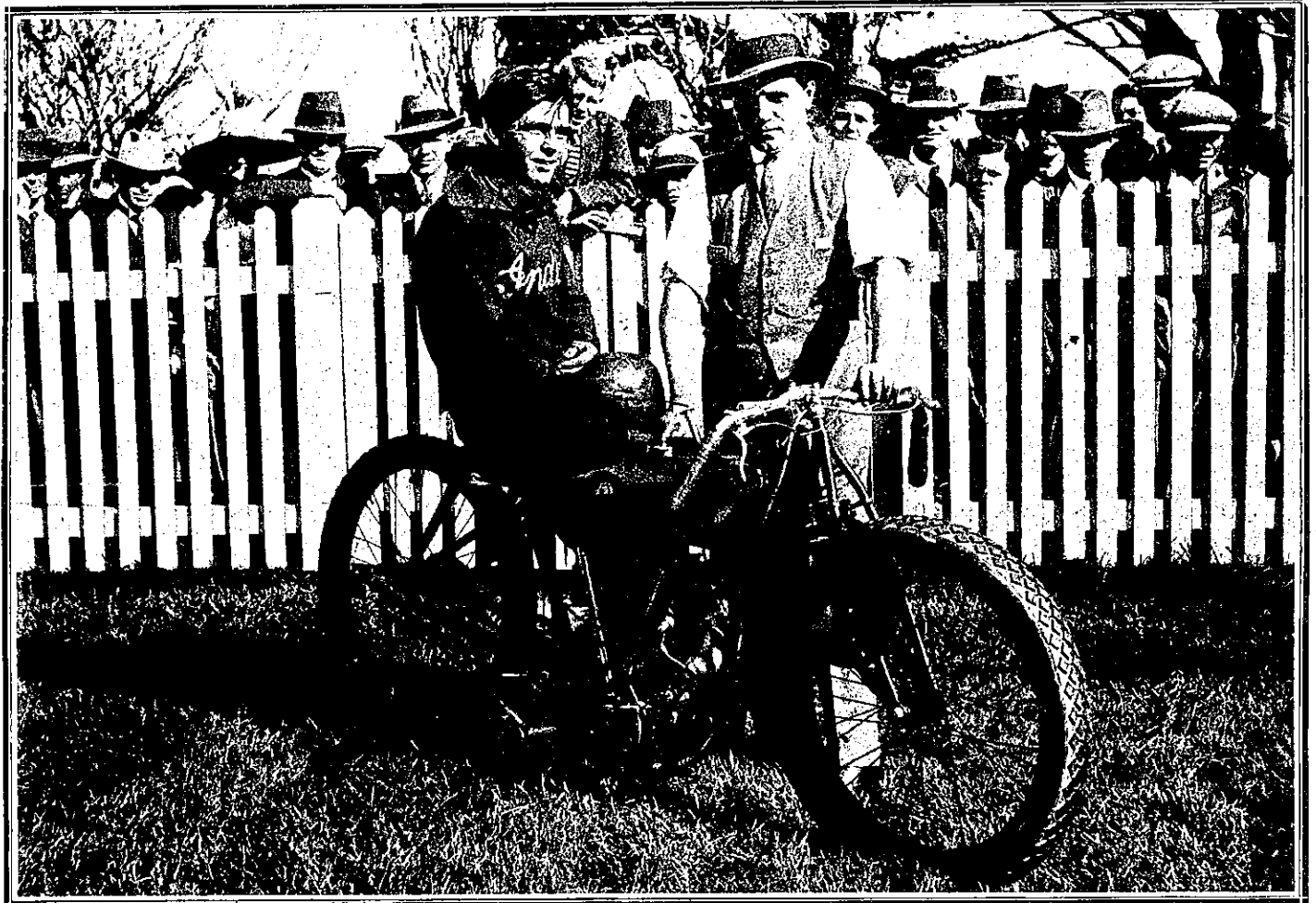
In the course of his remarks at the annual meeting of the Manawatu A. and P. Association, the retiring president (Mr. H. Akers) said that they had to consider the provision of a suitable hall to accommodate motor exhibits during the shows, as at present these valuable machines have to be placed outside exposed to the elements, often much to the discomfort of the attendants and those of the public who may be interested in them. There was also a movement on foot to hold a large exhibition of British and foreign cars next autumn. The Association was at present negotiating with the New Zealand Motor Garage Proprietors' Association with a view to holding this event, which, considering the situation of Palmerston North and convenience of the grounds, should prove a huge success and advertisement for the town and district.

The Ford factory at Detroit produced 96,000 cars in January.

It is reported that cheap cars can be picked up in Germany. Scores of men are over there picking up cars at give-away prices, but the chief difficulty lies in getting them away, or to get them over to England.

Captain Euan Dickson, the Canterbury Aviation Company's pilot, was to have made a flight to Mount Cook to spy out the land, with the view of selecting landing-places for the proposed regular aerial service from Timaru to Mount Cook. However, advices were received that the high country was under snow, and as that would have made it almost impossible to properly investigate the nature of the country for landing purposes the flight was abandoned, and will be made when weather permits.

Great interest was shown in the first exhibitions of aviation at Gisborne. A de Havilland machine from Messrs. Walsh Brothers' Flying School, Kohimarama, was taken to Gisborne at the instance of the Beach Improvement Society and was to have been employed for three days in passenger flights. But an unfortunate accident which occurred during the course of the third flight partially wrecked the machine and compelled an abandonment of the programme. The privilege of the first flight was submitted to auction and was secured for £31, after which two little girls whose passage had been purchased for £10 were sent for a tour over their country home. The right to the third flight was secured by a lady, but she gave place to Mr. Otto Hansen. The machine left the ground and was banking to ascend, when the benzine pipe car-



NEW ZEALAND'S CRACK MOTOR CYCLE RIDER.—PERCY COLEMAN (7-9 h.p. Indian), who during the motor cycle racing season just closed has captured many championship and handicap events at the various meetings held throughout the North Island.

Mr. John Mitchell, of the General Motors Export Co. of America, who has arrived in Sydney, states that the majority of cars going to China and Japan from America are of the closed-in type. Freedom from dust is one of the chief reasons for adopting this car.

The Automobile Association and Motor Union celebrated the attainment of a membership of 100,000 by a dinner at the Imperial Restaurant, London, W. Lt.-Col. Chas. Jarrott, O.B.E., was in the chair. The A.A. and M.U. has now been in existence fifteen years.

When the Royal party were opposite Inangahua railway station on their journey to the West Coast, one of the motor cars capsized into a ditch. Its occupants, Messrs. E. Coates, representing Reuter's Agency, F. Morgan, the New Zealand Press Association; Taylor, of the Internal Affairs Department, and G. W. Turley, of the Railway Department, were shot into the ditch through a thick mat of bramble, which broke their fall and acted as a buffer to prevent the car crushing those underneath. The car was lifted and the occupants released, shaken, scratched by brambles, but otherwise uninjured, except that the driver was slightly cut by glass from a broken windscreen.

Gargle, Sniff up or Swallow.

1/6 FLUENZOL 2/6
for Throats, Colds or Influenza.

The programme of the London "Safety First" Council for 1920 is an ambitious one. It includes a "Safety Week" intensive campaign to be devoted to propaganda in places of public worship, schools, theatres, picture palaces, etc., and to the exhibition of specially-designed posters and notices in workshops, stables, garages, and on all classes of public service, motor, and horse-drawn vehicles.

Melbourne proposes to experiment with a mechanical device for regulating traffic. Right at the intersection of Collins and Swanston streets there is now suspended from wire ropes, attached to the buildings, a huge arrow arrangement. When Collins Street is clear the arrow points up and down Collins Street, while a large red sign "Stop!" is shown to the traffic in Swanston Street. Two or three minutes, and then the signs are reversed, and the traffic in Collins Street must "stop." The signs are worked by an official high up on one of the corner buildings—but while the apparatus is being tested the traffic policeman remains in his old place right in the centre of the intersection. It is claimed for the new system that it is easier on the traffic controller, and more efficient, no one can miss the big sign, whereas frequently the traffic policeman was hidden in the surging mass of vehicles, and his guiding hand could not be seen. The sign system is an invention of a firm of Sydney engineers. It is already in operation in San Francisco, and it is hoped to introduce it to most of the cities of Australia and New Zealand.

ried away, and the aviator, Lieut. J. Woods, finding his machine not high enough to utilise the auxiliary supply, decided to make a forced landing in the centre of the ground. The nose of the 'plane struck and the under-carriage carried away. The tail tipped up and then came back again. The 'plane fortunately did not overturn and no one was hurt. The damage, however, was too great to permit the flights to continue, and the aeroplane was shipped back to Auckland. On the first flight the machine ascended to 2300 feet, and it was at an altitude of between 300 and 400 feet when the accident happened.

Mr. J. S. Hawkes, president of the Canterbury Automobile Association, stated recently that supplies of petrol were likely to become shorter. It was possible that the United States would absolutely stop the export from that country. In that case New Zealand would be in a very peculiar position as far as petrol was concerned.

At a meeting of the Taradale Town Board, Mr. W. Howard drew attention to the reckless manner in which cyclists rode on the footpaths, he himself being in collision with an offender in this respect. The chairman remarked that the board had some time ago decided to draw the attention of the police in regard not only to the dangerous practice referred to, but also in regard to lightless vehicles, and the speed of motorists, but so far he had been unable to find any record of the police having been notified.