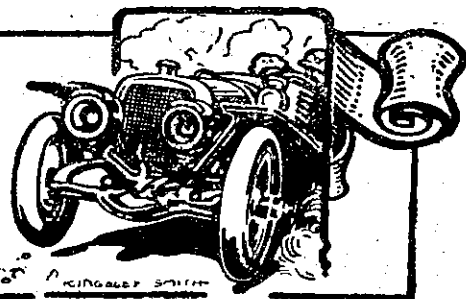


# MOTORING & CYCLING



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.

It was reported at a meeting of the Petone Borough Council that at the last sitting of the Magistrate's Court 50 charges against motorists were heard, and in over 40 convictions were entered and fines inflicted.

The world's motor cycling record for 500 miles was beaten at Brooklands last week by Holroyd, who covered the course in 9hr. 55min. 18 1-5 sec. This time is two hours better than the old record.

"I think we have more stands for private cars in Palmerston North than there are in Wellington," said the engineer to the Borough Council at last meeting, when a request was received for such a stand in King Street.

Sir Keith Smith accompanied Captain Dickson in a flight over Christchurch and Lyttelton one afternoon last week. An Avro machine was used, and when over Lyttelton a height of 4000 feet was reached. The visiting aviator took several photographs during the flight. Before descending at the Sockburn aerodrome Captain Dickson, who acted as pilot, treated Sir Keith to several stunts, including loops, a long spin, and side-slips.

Captain R. Russell, D.F.C., who is piloting Messrs. Walsh Bros.' aeroplane in Wanganui, has no great faith in the present possibilities of aviation as a profession. He admitted to a "Chronicle" reporter that aviation in New Zealand is not yet sufficiently developed to offer attractive possibilities in times of peace. He mentioned that although there are about 260 qualified aviators in New Zealand at present, only half a dozen, himself included, were regularly engaged; so that, for the present at least, the profession may easily be overcrowded.

There was a record attendance at the aviation ground at Westmere, Wanganui, when passenger trips were carried out by Messrs. Walsh Bros.' Avro aeroplane. The longest flight made was out to Bushy Park, Kai Iwi, the passengers being Messrs. G. F. Moore and C. H. Chavannes. With Mr. R. Going, who flew through from Wellington as a passenger, Captain Russell gave a spectacular exhibition of flying. The machine gracefully looped the loop twice in succession, and then followed a couple of rolls and a spin, the latter being a very pretty evolution, the plane resembling a falling leaf.

At a meeting of the Palmerston North Borough Council, Councillor Crabb suggested that a ruling should be given on the question of whether a resident of the town, who had his car registered outside the borough, had to possess a competency certificate. The clerk (Mr. J. R. Hardie) stated that a man who was a resident of the town had, according to the terms of the by-laws, to hold a certificate independent of what district his car was registered in. However, anyone who was not resident in the town could drive through the streets of the town without having a certificate. Councillor Crabb contended that if such was the case it should be made compulsory for every driver to have a certificate. The Mayor agreed that there should be uniform by-laws throughout the Dominion. It was decided to urge the Government to formulate uniform by-laws for the Dominion. Councillor Oram was of opinion that if the by-laws were tested numbers of them would be held to be invalid as unreasonable. The only way to have good and valid by-laws was to have them uniform throughout the Dominion. Auckland was the only municipality that conformed with the statute laws of New Zealand as far as motor traffic was concerned, and its by-laws were regarded as the only model ones in the Dominion.

Captain Russell informed a "Chronicle" reporter that the amount of petrol used in the Avro aeroplane in its flights over Wanganui, was about ten gallons per hour, the spirit being specially refined Shell benzine. In the same period the plane uses two gallons of lubricating oil.

The price of petrol was mentioned in the House of Representatives by Mr. T. M. Wilford (Hutt), who quoted a published statement that the local price had just risen to 37s. 6d. or £2 a case. He said that he had bought twenty cases in the United States through a friend. He paid the current American price, without any trade discount, and then paid freight, duty and all other charges. Exchange was calculated at the current rate. The landed cost of the petrol had been 23s. a case. What was the Board of Trade doing to protect the public? The Hon. E. P. Lee replied that the Board of Trade did not import petrol. There was nothing to prevent other people doing what Mr. Wilford had done. The circumstances of the small transaction mentioned to the House might be exceptional. He would have the matter looked into.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the South Island Motor Union, a letter was received from the Minister of Internal Affairs stating that he would give consideration to the proposals made regarding a census of motor vehicles in New Zealand in view of the projected taxation and legislation. The secretary of the New Zealand Motor Union, writing in reply to a letter from the South Island Union, stated that the letter had been referred to the executive committee for consideration and action. The executive, having in mind the vital necessity for unity among motorists, could not but regret the formation of the South Island Union, but would always be ready to consider matters of interest to motorists. The letter was received, and it was decided to reply expressing the hope that the experience of the future would destroy the impression that any disunity existed.

The following by-law has been passed by the By-laws Committee of the Christchurch City Council:—(a) The beam of reflected light from the lamp or lamps shall not rise above 42 inches from the road-bed at 100 feet or more ahead of the vehicle. Any auxiliary light or projecting device (spot light) shall be subject to the like restriction in regard to the beam of light. "Beam of light," in this clause means the approximately parallel focalised rays gathered and projected by reflector, lens or other devices. Provided always that this clause shall not apply where efficient anti-glaring devices or efficient devices for diffusing or dispersing light shall be in use. (b) The owner of a car may at any time present his car to the Motor Inspector for the purpose of having the lamps thereof tested, and if the inspector shall be satisfied that the lamps comply with the foregoing provisions of this clause, he shall, on payment of such fee as may be fixed from time to time by resolution of the council, issue to such owner a certificate, under the hand of the inspector, of such compliance. In any proceedings or prosecution for failing to comply with the foregoing provisions the production of such certificate shall be prima facie evidence of such compliance, but in every other case it shall lie upon the defendant to prove such compliance. (c) The council may, by resolution from time to time, alter or revoke all or any of the foregoing regulations in lieu thereof or in addition thereto and may in like manner alter or revoke such alterations and new regulations.

## CHILDREN'S RESTLESSNESS.

A feverish and fretful child is a great bother in a household and disturbs the rest of others. Narcotics and soothing syrups should be avoided. Half-teaspoonful doses of Fluenzol (1/6 and 2/6) will rapidly allay feverishness without any injurious effects whatsoever. Health authorities commend Fluenzol. (13)

It was stated at a meeting of the Hawke's Bay County Council that the day of mechanical traction had arrived. Several members said that they were quite satisfied on the point. It was decided to purchase a new motor lorry before the next winter set in. It was also stated that the present motor lorries engaged on the council's work were giving every satisfaction.

That there is a distinct difference between the phrases "private stand for cars" and "stand for private cars" was pointed out to the Palmerston North Borough Council by Councillor Spooner. He stated that the present notice on boards on the stands was apt to lead strangers to an erroneous conclusion as to its purport. It was agreed to transpose the words and make the notice read "stand for private cars."

A London cable states that an engineer, J. Phillip, has patented a motor car thief alarm, which is likely to add to the terrors of honest pedestrians as well as of thieves. It consists of a striking horn adjusted by a key, which sounds automatically when the driver's seat is touched. The inventor claims that the removal of a rug from a car will start a noise disturbing the neighbourhood.

Reserved decision was given in Wellington by Mr. Mosley, S.M., in a prosecution under the borough by-law in force since 1906, limiting motor cars to 10 miles per hour within the borough. Mr. Mosley agreed with the defence, and on certain Supreme Court decisions declared the by-law invalid and unreasonable, as it fixed a uniform speed for all streets and at all hours of the day.

Mr. W. H. Tisdall, who recently returned to Christchurch after 15 months' absence abroad, said he found the roads in England from the motorist's point of view, in a very bad condition, as was to be expected from the frightfully heavy traffic they carried during the war period; they were, however, rapidly being improved. He was struck by the immense number of motor lorries on the roads and the great amount of goods traffic being carried. Another outstanding feature was the great number of char-a-bancs in commission. He saw the square at Bourne-mouth practically filled with these conveyances, which must have brought thousands of visitors. Weekly and fortnightly excursions were now run all over England, Wales, and Scotland, the rate being £2 per day, which included good hotel accommodation, and visits to all the scenic and historic attractions. "But they will have to classify the English roads," remarked Mr. Tisdall, "and keep the char-a-bancs off the narrow ones. If you meet them in an English lane you cannot pass them, and it becomes a question of someone backing and getting to a friendly gate."

When in Vancouver, Mr. Tisdall, interviewed by a "Christchurch Press" reporter, said he made some enquiries regarding the price of petrol, and discussed the subject with a representative of the Standard Oil Company. He stated that they were retailing petrol at 42 cents per imperial gallon, and he asked Mr. Tisdall why New Zealand did not import petrol in steel barrels, containing 40 imperial gallons. The barrels themselves cost £5, but the full price was given when the barrels were returned. Each petrol case cost 28 cents and each tin 35 cents—a total of about one dollar. Assuming that a more or less nominal return freight was charged on the empty barrels, it seemed likely that a considerable saving would be effected by importing petrol in barrels. Approximately, it would mean a reduction of close upon one-half. Mr. Tisdall was impressed with the large number of cars he saw in the American and Canadian cities, and the almost total absence of the motor cycle and the ordinary push bicycles; but he was not impressed with the condition of the streets in some of the cities he visited—their condition would not be tolerated either in England or New Zealand.

The matter of doctors' cars being left unattended in the streets has received careful consideration by the By-laws Committee of the Christchurch City Council. The committee found that the recent proceedings taken against Dr. Nedwill were instituted by the police. Dr. Nedwill has consulting rooms at the corner of Cashel and High Streets, and was in the habit of leaving his car in front of the Bank of Australasia, in Cashel Street, for lengthy periods. As a by-law could not be made unless it was general in its application, the committee informed the City Council that it had no recommendation to make.

Mr. Hollings, S.M., during the hearing at Nelson of charges against motorists of driving at a dangerous speed, said that motorists should always be on the look-out for children when in the vicinity of schools. "I think there must be a special Providence guarding the lives of the children in this country. I think it is wonderful that more children do not get killed," he commented. Mr. Hayes suggested that motorists in Nelson were perhaps more careful than in other places.

Mr. L. Taylor, of Christchurch, returned home recently by the Corinthic, after having spent nearly 14 years abroad. Since leaving New Zealand Mr. Taylor was engaged for six years in England as a motor mechanic, and then served about seven years in the Crimea, going out first under engagement to an Italian firm, and he subsequently ventured on his own account in the shipping line, but with the closing of the Dardanelles that enterprise came to an end. Mr. Taylor since then worked as a motor mechanic under the Russian Government, until he was evacuated by the British Military Mission last February. After spending two months in Turkey, and three months in England, he proceeded on his return to his old home in Christchurch.

An interesting statement with regard to the progress of California was made by Sir John Burns, of Messrs. Burns, Philp and Co., in the course of an interview with a "Times" representative. "My daughter and I stayed about six weeks in California," stated Sir John Burns, "and we were much impressed with the marvellous progress being made there. There is no doubt that irrigation in Southern California has done a great deal for that State; and the export of tinned fruits and other products from California now is something enormous. According to statistics they have considerably over a million motor cars now registered in the State, which comes to about a car for every six of the population—men, women, and children. This is something remarkable; but the beautiful roads they have there largely account for it. They have something like 6000 miles of what is known as 'highway,' cement concreted roads, and this is a great inducement to the whole of the people to own motor cars, as they have so many facilities afforded them. All over the State there are stations where oil is stored and can be pumped into the motor cars in a few seconds; and these highways are taking a great deal of goods and passenger traffic from the railways. Of course, the railways are still used to a very large extent, but the transportation throughout the whole of California is exceptional owing to these marvellous roads, which have been made and which have cost the State something like 100 million dollars (£20,000,000) to construct. My daughter and I travelled over a thousand miles on these highways, and were surprised and interested at the wonderful improvement these great roads have made."

**Q-TOL** MAKES  
ROUGH  
HANDS  
SMOOTH