

New Discoveries Improve Quality of Auto Casings

Sprayed Rubber Process Makes Possible Utilization of New Material; Gives Great Strength.

Recent important discoveries and improvements in the rubber industry have been used to improve the quality of United States tires.

The sprayed rubber process is one of these. A method of extracting rubber from the latex, or milk, of the rubber tree. This makes a crude rubber of a hitherto unknown quality available.

The second series of patents, known as the new web cord, covers a process of treating fabrics and cords with latex, making it possible to manufacture tires with a degree of strength hitherto impossible to attain.

Flat Band Process. The third invention is the flat band process of building a tire. Instead of building up the casing on an iron core, the form of the tire, the casings are made flat on a collapsible steel drum and subsequently brought to shape by inflation.

The India Rubber World says: "By the combined use of this rubber and latex-treated fabric the United States Rubber company is in a position to make its products of a quality that cannot be surpassed by any product or process now known."

The new process has been perfected by the development department of the company whose chemists and research engineers have devoted years of experimentation to this new field.

Penetrates Fabric. It has been found that if a thread of the fabric immersed in rubber latex the rubber penetrates to the very center of the strand. In fact, a microscopic examination of individual cotton fibers so treated shows that the rubber is present in the hollow tubular structure of many of the individual cotton fibers.

Thus the object is attained of causing a real and strong union of the rubber and fabric to take place in the vulcanization process.

Overland Factory Trains Mechanics

Repairmen Taught Intricacies of Trade in Plants Where Cars Are Made.

Fifty training sections have been developed and are now in operation in the various departments of the Willys-Overland factory at Toledo, O.

One of the most successful of these is in the radiator department, where a large force of men are now engaged in learning the numerous branches of the radiator trade. Recently some 40 men graduated from this training division and took their places on the regular force.

Instruction includes soldering operations in detail; the various fluxes used in the application of solder and the proper proportions of lead and tin to use in solder for a wide variety of purposes.

The proper maintenance and use of soldering coppers are also thoroughly covered so the men are in a position to do the most difficult work in this branch of motor car manufacturing.

Training groups are now in operation for testing, assembling, core dipping, oil pan soldering, gas tank soldering, spot welding, acetylene welding, windshield assembling and glass grinding.

These classes were primarily formed to educate efficiently and quickly, men for the rapidly increasing force of Willys-Overland workers, necessary to keep pace with the keen demand for cars. The factory output for March was 29,234 cars; making it the biggest month in production in the history of the company.

South to Extend Welcome to Sons of Revolution

By Associated Press. Nashville, May 26.—More than 200 the country are expected here May 29, 21 and 22 when Tennessee will turn out to entertain the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution in its 34th annual congress.

The gathering will be held for the first time in the south. With large delegations virtually assured from New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio, Kentucky and the Pacific coast states, preparations are going forward to extend a genuine southern welcome to the visitors.

The congress will consider and discuss various patriotic questions and problems. W. K. Boardman, president of the Tennessee chapter, will hold the chair.

Mechanical Engineers Plan Meeting in Montreal

By Associated Press. New York, May 26.—Engineers of the United States and Canada will meet in Montreal May 28 to 31, at the spring convention of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

Engineers, educators, economists and technologists, representing industrial enterprises, universities and governmental activities of both countries, will participate in the sessions.

Former Russian Royalty in Paris Dress Trade

Paris, May 26.—In one of Paris' finest apartment houses now converted into American offices the servants' floor is a busy, bustling place. On one door one reads "Baroness de Grothens, Models." Here is where former Princess Nelidoff ekes out an existence, aided by Mademoiselle Nashidine, daughter of the Russian ambassador. Another door is marked "Lingerie," and the business is managed by Grand Duchess Marie. The old order changeth. "Dressed like a princess" today reads "Dressed by a princess."

New 'Black Maria' Replaces Old



Above are shown two GMC patrol wagons. The one at the left has been in the service of the Omaha police department for 10 years, and has recently been replaced by the new GMC shown on the right. This equipment was furnished by the Nebraska Buick company.

Ford Sales Pass Half Million Mark Since January 1

Factory, Producing 6,500 Cars and Trucks a Day, Unable to Keep Up With Demand.

More than 500,000 Ford cars and trucks sold in 120 days.

That is the astonishing record just established by the Ford Motor company, eclipsing all previous sales figures and emphasizing more strongly than ever the right of the Ford to the title, "The Universal Car."

From January 1 to May 1 sales of Ford cars and trucks in the United States reached the enormous total of 551,544, nearly twice the number sold at retail during the same period a year ago when the total was 283,782.

Even with its huge production facilities, now operating on a schedule in excess of 6,500 cars and trucks a day, the company is unable to keep up with the unprecedented demand.

April set a new sales record for the month, just as has every other month this year, and was the 30th consecutive month in which sales have run over the 100,000 mark.

Sales during April totaled 165,582 Ford cars and trucks, 50,000 more than were delivered in the same month last year when 115,282 retail deliveries were made.

Packard Racer Pride of 6,500 Factory Employees

The Packard Motor Car company's three little racing cars which will compete in the 500-mile international sweepstakes race at Indianapolis Memorial day have been completed at the factory in Detroit and shipped to the Hoosier speedway.

When the first car was pronounced finished by Col. J. G. Vincent, vice president of engineering, it was run out into the factory and placed on exhibition before the 6,500 employees.

Ralph De Palma and Joe Boyer, two of the Packard pilots, appeared with the car and a demonstration was given as a send-off for the racing team.

Clare Briggs, Cartoonist, Drives New Kissel Car

Clare Briggs, known the world over where newspapers are printed for his humorous cartoons, recently purchased a Kissel custom-built speedster, and is now giving a practical demonstration of one of his famous characters who experiences every day that "grand and glorious feeling."

Cadillac Head Is Satisfied With Midwest Results

J. H. Hansen and Two Managers Attend Meeting Called by President Rice at Des Moines.

J. H. Hansen of the Omaha Cadillac concern, with his two branch managers, H. L. Williams, Lincoln, and A. R. Williams, Sioux City; his two wholesale men, Fred O. Clough and J. H. Patton, and James Muldoon, Jr., general manager, visited President Rice of the Cadillac company at Des Moines last week.

Mr. Rice gathered the distributors from the midwest at Des Moines for a meeting, which ended in a golf game at the Wacanda club, after which a dinner was given by the Kruidenier Cadillac company at the Des Moines club.

"Mr. Rice is over-enthusiastic," to quote Mr. Hansen, "over business in the midwest, which is now on a continual upgrade. Mr. Rice asserted that out here we were a little slow in the come-back, but we are now certainly going at a terrific rate. He advised the gathering of the fact that he and his engineers had made a thorough investigation, touring foreign countries, studying motor cars and new devices, but found nothing that might make the Cadillac 90-degree, V-type, 8-cylinder motor more satisfactory to the purchasers of high grade motor cars in America."

"He made the statement that while new cars are springing up around us every now and then, the established Cadillac business is gaining by leaps and bounds among serious buyers. The April business of the Cadillac factory was 30 per cent higher than in any former month in the history of Cadillac," said Mr. Hansen.

The Omaha organization came in for a great deal of praise, inasmuch as the Omaha, Lincoln and Sioux City Cadillac business increased in 1923 to date 38 per cent over the same period in 1922.

Tourist Travel Averages 3.45 Persons Per Auto

Registration of motorists visiting the National parks in 1923 shows that there is an average of 3.45 persons per car. As some of the vehicles are roadsters which permit of only two passengers, it appears that the average automobile on tour carries close to a capacity load.

Oakland Breaks All Sales Marks During April

Disposal of Cars 253 Per Cent Over Figures for Same Month in Year of 1922.

With a sale of motor cars 253 per cent over the same month last year, the Oakland Motor Car company, Pontiac, Mich., broke all sales records for the month of April.

So far in May the company's sales are running considerably ahead of April, and very much greater than May of last year, which was the largest production month of 1922.

During the four first months of 1923 the company has produced 227 per cent more cars than during the same period of the previous year.

Both the New York and Pittsburgh branches of the company in addition to a large number of dealers broke their records for April, going considerably ahead of even the banner months in the boom period of 1919.

A trainload of 30 freight cars filled with Oakland cars was shipped to New York this last week, while the same sized trainload of motor cars was also shipped to the Boston distributor.

It is considerably easier to obtain railroad equipment for the east, according to W. R. Tracy, assistant sales manager, thereby facilitating shipments.

Mr. Tracy likewise reports desire of new purchasers to obtain their motor cars at the earliest opportunity. This tendency has been expressed by the large number of persons coming to the factory for their cars and driving them to their homes, often to far distant points in Iowa, Indiana and Illinois.

Star Car Hit by Train Retains Frame Intact

C. O. Glestead, Modesto, Cal., a telephone employe, had a narrow escape from death when a fast passenger train hit the Star coupe he was driving.

Abside from loss of the two rear wheels, the Star coupe was not even scratched. The tubular backbone prevented the frame from buckling and consequently made damage to the body negligible. The car was brought to Modesto, where two new wheels were installed, after which the Star car ran merrily on its way again.

Auto Leading Customer of Country's Railroads

More than 522,000 freight car loads of automobiles, motor trucks and parts (except tires and chains) were shipped last year. This volume of rail business is the third largest among all manufacturers. The commodity which headed the list was refined petroleum and its products, calling for 1,110,107 carloads. As the greater part of this fuel is consumed by motor vehicles, it appears that the automobile is the leading industrial customer of the railroads.

Olds Motors Appoint New Kansas City Distributor

Ramsay Motors of Kansas City, Mo., has been named distributor for the Olds Motor Works of Lansing, Mich., in that territory. S. W. Ramsay, formerly president of the Midwest Oldsmobile company, distributor in that section, heads the new company.

Speed Wagon Serves as "House Boat on Wheels"

"A veritable land ship is this 'house on wheels,'" says J. M. Oppen of the Jones-Oppen company.

"Folks who live inland can have the ocean brought right up to their door in the modern traveling home or auto bungalow," he says.

"With all the conveniences of a home and the advantages of not dwelling in either a house boat or a floating shady spot on a hot day—this vehicle represents the last word in comfort. The equipment or furnishings include two double spring beds, washing sink, gas stove, table, storage cupboard, cooling cupboard. It is electrically lighted from the generator operated from a motor and—with all this equipment, the 'house boat' weighs but little more than the average body.

"When a stopping place is reached the owner goes to the rear, opens a door and lowers the steps and by turning a crank lets down each side of his house as smoothly as opening a door. Nearly half the body is screened off and this screen can be quickly covered with canvas to protect the occupants from the elements.

"The chief advantage claimed by the owner of this speed wagon 'house boat' is that its original cost is infinitely less than the cost of many summer cottages with the same conveniences. Further, the owner is not restricted to location and since some of the most beautiful and desirable spots are in the state and national tourist parks, a camping site can be selected from the most beautiful locations in the country, rent free.

"From the increasing number of motor car homes seen on the highways each year, it is safe to predict that here is a form of recreation that is making a strong appeal to people who love outdoor life."

1915 Hup Opens Tourist Season

Car Driven 66,000 Miles Coast-to-Coast Trip.

Of the 50,000 motor cars expected to be driven across the continent this year in the annual pilgrimage of pleasure-seeking motorists, one of the first to start is a 1915 model.

The long trip from the southern Pacific coast to the northern Atlantic and return in a venerable Hupmobile and over good, indifferent and bad roads, holds no terrors for L. S. Howe, of Blythe, Cal., and his wife, who are now on their way from their home to Augusta, Me., to visit relatives they have not seen for years. It is the first long vacation for Mr. Howe in 15 summers.

Before the Hupmobile started from California it had traveled 65,000 miles. Eastbound, the old Hupmobile is being driven over the "Sunkist Trail," through Phoenix, Ariz., and El Paso, Tex., then gradually northward as the car continues toward the Atlantic.

Mr. Howe is a strong booster for good roads and for his 1915 Hupmobile, which is being used as the official car of the Palo Verde Valley Chamber of Commerce in advertising the opportunities in that valley, and the value and convenience of the "Sunkist Trail" from El Paso to Los Angeles.

8-Cylinder Cars Race Favorites

Designer of Motors Declares This Type Reduces Vibration to a Minimum.

"What car and driver will win the Indianapolis race is a question now occupying first place in the minds of thousands of employes at the automobile factories of the country.

For the last two years the gruelling 500-mile grind has gone to eight cylinder cars, and, according to R. K. Jack, chief engineer of the Olds Motor Works, Lansing, Mich., who is one of the country's recognized authorities on eight-cylinder engines, May 30 will probably see another triumph for this type of engineering.

This year the officials of the race have cut the displacement of all cars to 122 cubic inches. This means, Mr. Jack says, that the motor will be smaller than any now used by automobile manufacturers. To hope to win, the driver will have to be able to make a maximum speed of at least 125 miles an hour and the cars will have to be built so that they will stand up to this speed.

Mr. Jack, himself the designer of a light eight engine, believes that the eight-cylinder principle will again win this year because there is no doubt this type of engine will stand the most gruelling grind a car can be put through. In the sixes and four-cylinder models, Mr. Jack says, any unbalance because of the larger cylinder bores tends to create a heavier period of vibration than in the smaller bore eights. Mr. Jack's contention seems to have been borne out in last year's race where nine out of the first 10 cars to finish were eight-cylinder cars.

Are you reading the Brisbane column daily appearing in this paper?

136,000 cars have been built and sold by the Durant Motors Co. in the past 17 months.

Have you seen the new

Durant Sport Models

40,930,852 Casings Made in United States in 1922

Tire manufacturers in the United States produced 40,930,852 casings during 1922, according to a recent compilation of statistics.

For each of these casings a tube was made, as well as nearly 10,000,000 additional tubes. This would seem to indicate that tubes are getting better, say Miller tire men, inasmuch as some factories have produced 150 per cent tubes to casings for some years. The Rubber Association of America figures that tube production in general is about 35 per cent above tires.

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In the past 26 days a stock Gray touring car has traveled 4819 miles, as far as the average motorist drives in a year.

On this trip from San Francisco to New York, the Gray encountered mountainous grades and desert trails that the average driver doesn't meet in a lifetime.

In spite of these gasoline-devouring difficulties, the Gray car achieved a new world's record—an average of 33.8 miles per gallon for the trip. This record was made under the watchful eye of the observer of the American Automobile Association, who accompanied the car and made careful check on gasoline and oil consumption and mileage.

Remember, a stock Gray touring car was used. With the Gray car you can equal this record—in ordinary driving over good roads you can probably better it.

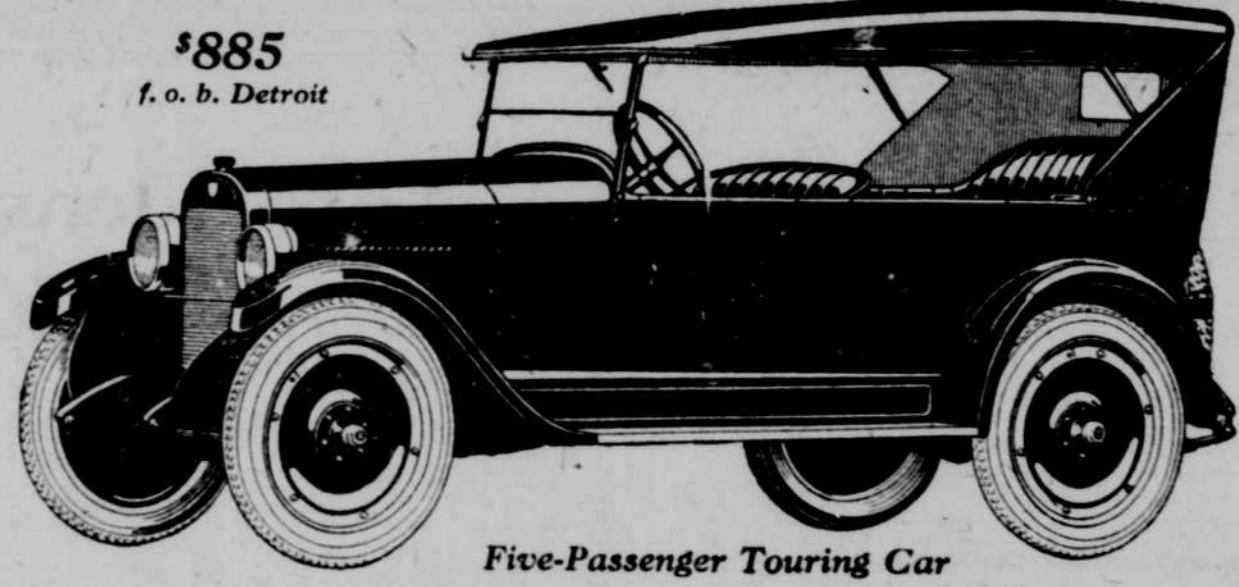
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