

FIRST AID TO THE INJURED

Physician Tells How to Care for Wounds to Autoists.

WHISKY IS QUITE USEFUL

When the Skin is Broken it is Essential that the Wound Should Be Very Thoroughly Cleaned.

"It seems strange, when you come to think of it, that people carry an elaborate kit of tools, as a precaution against accidents to their machines, but usually make no provision whatsoever against mishaps to themselves," writes Hugo Erichsen, M. D., for the Automobile. "And yet timely aid is of the greatest importance in many such emergencies and even death may occasionally be averted by a prompt stoppage of hemorrhage.

"In considering automobile accidents, there are practically only four forms of injuries with which we are here concerned, namely, bruises, wounds, fractures and dislocations.

For the proper treatment of these conditions, it is not necessary to carry an extensive outfit of medicaments and appliances, and the automobile medicine case may therefore be quite compact and take up but little space. I would suggest some mild antiseptic and disinfectant in a powdered form, such as formalin, a powerful hemostatic, such as adrenalin, the active principle of suprarenal glands; a small jar of moist sterilized gauze, some adhesive plaster and a small collection of bandages of various sizes. To these it might also be advisable to add some remedy that will quiet pain, but this should only be administered when the suffering of the patient is almost unbearable.

Whisky is Useful.

Whisky is useful when collapse is threatened and the patient evidently requires stimulation, that is to say, when the face is very pale and the extremities are cold. But the indiscriminate use of whisky, which is so common in all forms of accidents, cannot be too strongly condemned.

Contusions or bruises are often met with as a result of minor automobile accidents and are sometimes complicated by a hemorrhage under the skin. In the way of medication nothing can be done under such circumstances except to stop pain if it is excruciating. But the patient should be placed in a comfortable position until a physician arrives. At the same time all tight-fitting garments must be loosened, so that the circulation and respiration will not be interfered with. If the injured one looks pale or has fainted, it is also advisable to place him in such a position that his head will be lower than his heels. If the contusion is not of much consequence, the application of some analgesic ointment, or balm, which is now purchasable in the convenient form of tubes, will afford the sufferer considerable relief.

Wounds Important.

Wounds are of more importance than contusions because they may involve a severance of one of the large arteries of

the body and thus give rise to hemorrhage endangering life. If the wound is of small extent, the bleeding may be stopped effectively by the application of adrenalin or by exerting direct pressure upon it. In case one of the main arteries has been cut, however, which is apparent when the blood spurts from the wound, it is necessary to exert pressure at some point along the course of the artery between the site of the injury and the heart. This is best effected by what is called a tourniquet, a contrivance that can be easily improvised. If the wound is located just above the elbow, for instance, a handkerchief is tied around the upper third of the arm and a small block of wood, cork or smooth stone, inserted between it and the skin directly over the artery, which can be readily detected by its pulsation. An iron rod or wooden stick is then introduced between the skin and handkerchief, opposite to the block of stone and turned until the arm is constricted and the bleeding stops.

Use Plenty of Water.

Small wounds should be carefully cleaned by means of pure water and, after being dried with a clean cloth, dusted over with formalin or some other antiseptic powder. Everything that is brought into contact with them should be as clean as possible. They may then be covered with a layer of moist sterilized gauze and bandaged, remaining in this condition until the patient can receive proper medical attention. In the case of clean cuts, it may be advisable to bring the edges of the wound together with strips of adhesive plaster, which may be allowed to remain in place until the healing process is complete. Every particle of foreign matter must be removed, however, before a wound is treated in this manner, for if it is not, it will give trouble later on by causing inflammation and suppuration.

In transporting a wounded person to some locality in which he can receive medical aid he should be disturbed as little as possible and carefully protected against the sun, the dust of the road and the attacks of insects.

Prompt Action Required.

Sometimes it is impracticable to expose the site of a hemorrhage by partially undressing the patient, in which case no time should be lost in ripping the clothing and getting down to the site of the trouble without delay. In many such instances prompt action is required in order to prevent a fatal issue, since a person may bleed to death in a very short time, if one of the largest arteries is severed.

A layman can distinguish between a fracture and a dislocation of a bone by the excessive mobility of the injured part in the one case and its immobility in the other. Sometimes the altered shape of the limb will reveal the nature of the injury, but in other instances it may be necessary to remove the shoes and garments. In such cases no attempt should be made to pull them off. Instead they should be cut away by means of some sharp instrument, such as a knife or shears.

When a limb is dislocated or sprained, but little can be done except to keep it as quiet as possible until it can be restored to its normal condition or subjected to proper treatment by a physician.

In a case of fracture, however, much may be done to render the patient's condition more bearable by means of improvised splints that keep the injured extremity at

DON'TS FOR TYRO AND EXPERT

Some of These Words of Wisdom May Save a Heap of Trouble and Perhaps Money.

Some good advice is given by the Automobiles under the topic of "Don'ts." Here it is:

Don't imagine that color is so fast that it will not fade out if the automobile is stored in a dark room. To preserve the nice appearance of a car it is necessary to store it in a room that is well lighted.

Don't suppose that the varnish will not crack when it gets old; everything does, even the complexion.

Don't suppose that old age is at the bottom of all the cracking that is to be observed; some cars are so abused that the varnish is not all that cracks.

Don't wound a sensitive nature by coarse treatment; highly finished surfaces of bodies are most sensitive; like human characters of the sensitive class, they are easily wounded.

Don't allow soap and dirt to accumulate over the surfaces of bodies unless it is desired to change them to a mottled appearance.

Don't preach fresh air for human beings to the exclusion of the fresh air that will preserve the general good appearance of automobiles; it may appear funny, but while paint and varnish are devoid of the same character of lungs that supports man, they seem to breathe and are poisoned by impure air.

Don't fail to keep coal gas, carbonic acid and sewer products out of the garage; the varnish will mottle up on such feed.

Don't throw away your common sense when you take up with the automobile; there is occasional room to apply it.

Don't fail to add a little horse sense if the supply of the other kind runs out.

Don't imagine that all the "bronco busters" are dead; the way some automobiles are managed would suggest that the supply is inexhaustible.

Don't take two drinks on the ground that your system needs the stimulant, and then spill all your private affairs into the willing ear of the chauffeur—he may leak.

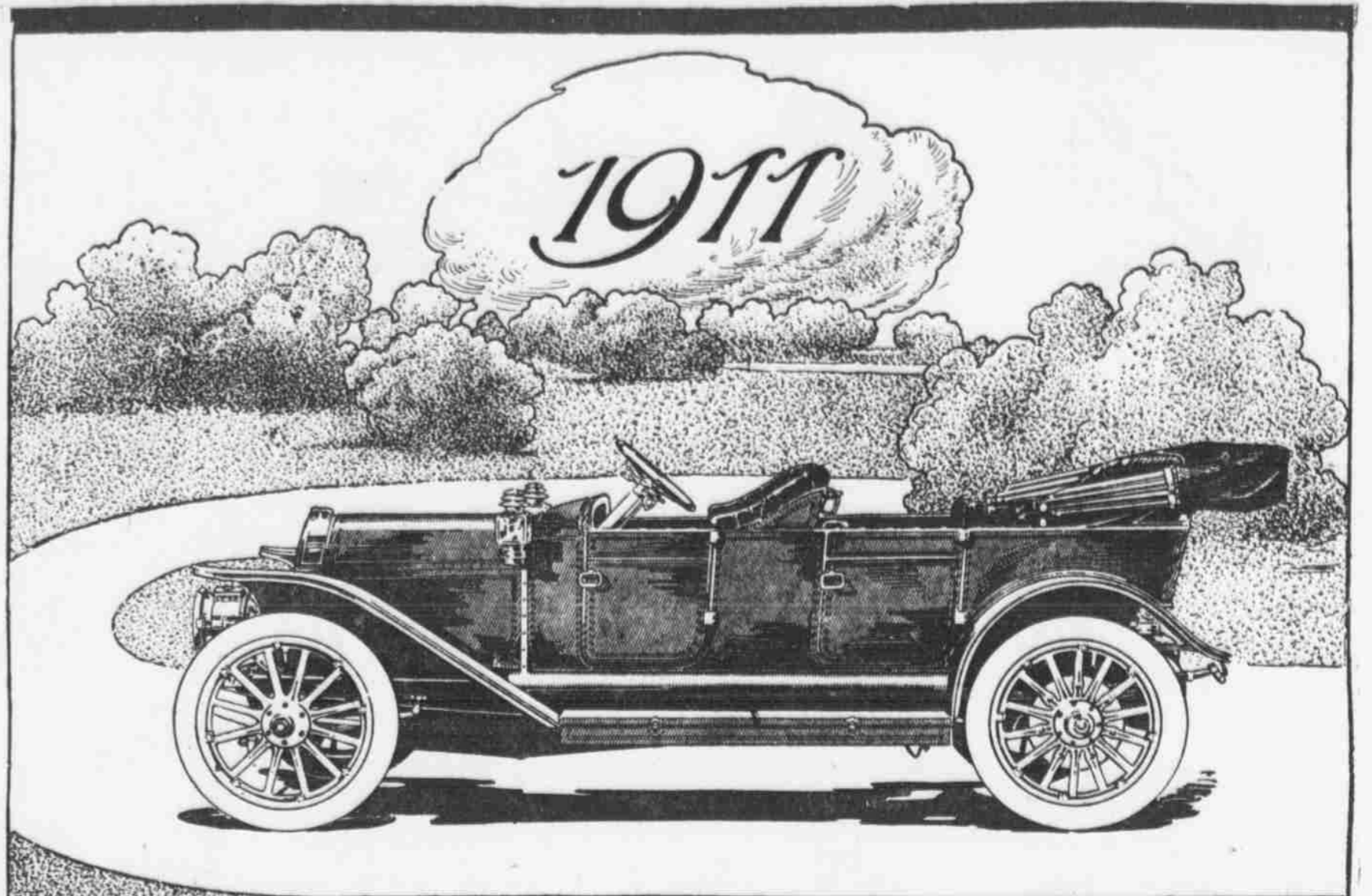
Don't believe all you hear about homes being mortgaged to buy automobiles; the fable tellers of that vintage are crying "sour grapes."

Don't tolerate short measure; you are entitled to every gallon of gasoline that you have to pay for; show the rascal up.

Don't let the repairman put a boy on a man's job; he may do more damage than he is worth; it would be better to pension him off and have done with it.

Don't purchase 10 cents' worth of supplies from a road-side repair shop and then tip the man a quarter; it makes it bad for people who know better than to breed such vermin.

Don't have your tools so handily placed that the light-fingered gentry that infest road houses will be able to relieve you of them.



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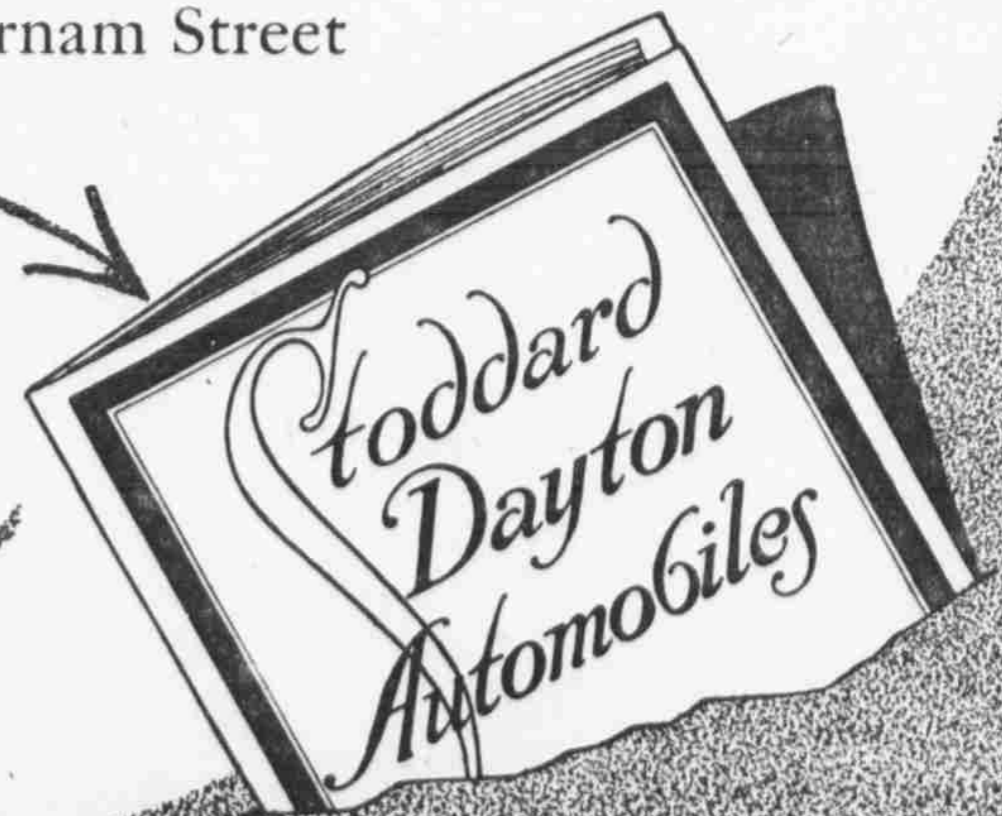
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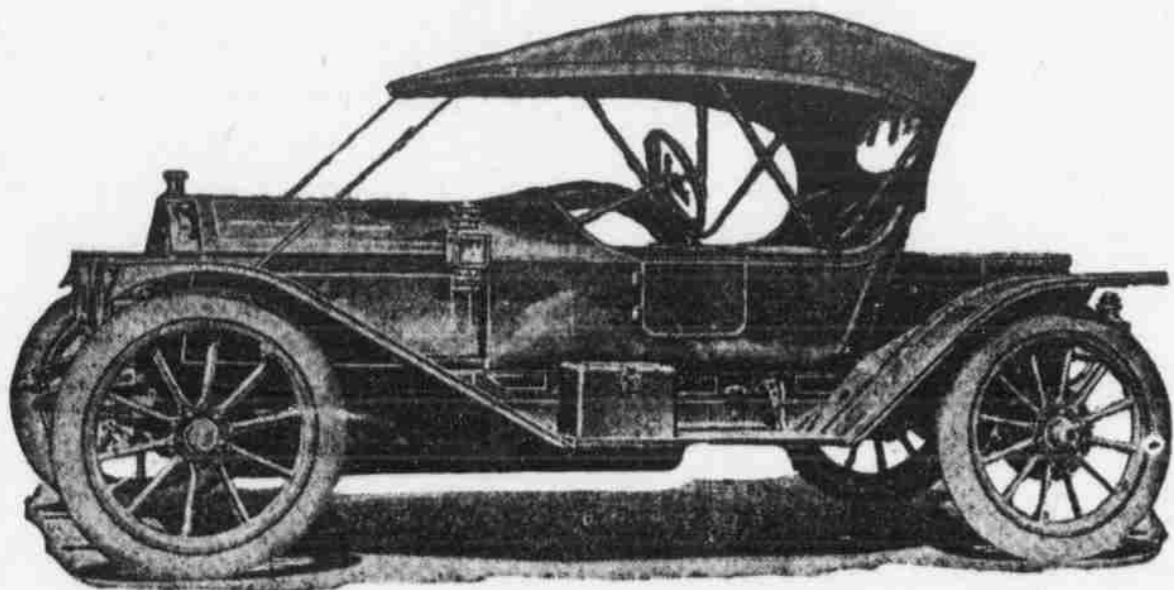
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