National

PILTON NEWS

Produced for your interest and enjoyment by Pilton Bridge Garage, Pilton, Barnstaple (Telephone 2433).

You never know your Luck

LAST year a customer of ours told us the most depressing story of how his holiday was almost ruined when his car broke down on a pouring wet and misty day in the middle of Dartmoor.

'There wasn't a telephone anywhere and no garage for miles. Completely stuck, we were unable to do a thing until eventually a passing motorist towed us to a garage.'

Then came his final remark.

'If only I had brought my car in to you for a pre-holiday service.'

FORTUNATELY, incidents like this do not happen often. But car owners still fail to take advantage of the excellent facilities we offer.

The oils and greases in your car become dirty and lose some of their valuable properties. When this happens, the car fails to run as smoothly as it should and quite soon parts of the mechanism begin to wear.

Oil-changing is only one of the operations we make on a car when it comes in for servicing. The pre-holiday service for a car usually includes the routine check which should be made every 1,000 miles. In addition, we make sure that the parts of your car which will be experiencing more than normal strain during the holiday are properly cleaned and checked for safety.

During the past two or three years there has been a marked increase in the number of people going on touring holidays. The mileometer of a car quite often registers 1,000 miles in a week's touring—the sort of mileage it normally takes a month or more to do. A fortnight's touring could be serious indeed for any car which is not in sound running order.

The stresses and strains on the cooling system caused by long-distance driving are very marked: especially so with continental driving, when cars cover several thousand miles in countries with both fast, flat and difficult mountainous terrain. Such countries as Switzerland, the Pyrenees in France and Spain, and the Alps in France and Italy, take a car up some of the highest and steepest roads in Europe. In these conditions, the atmosphere changes considerably and affects a poorly maintained system.

Britain too

Touring in Britain can be as destructive to the cooling system as continental driving—engines quite often over-heat because of blocked pipes and bad circulation, or a poorly adjusted fan-belt. In some exceptional cases we can fit a larger fan if a really big mileage is anticipated in a short period.

The cooling system must be cleaned out thoroughly and all the hoses and connections checked for leaks. This we will do as part of your pre-holiday service.

Some of our roads aren't in the condition they should be. Uneven and broken surfaces don't lengthen the life of your shock absorbers or suspension. Shock absorbers are difficult things to get at and it is essential that their outsides should be spotlessly clean before checking and filling.

The leaves of spring assemblies sometimes crack and must be replaced. It is important that they should also be correctly lubricated.

Tyre Wear

Tyres may need moving round before the holiday begins. This will ensure even wear and longer life.

Such items as gearbox, clutch, brakes(including hand-brake) and lights will usually be checked under the normal routine service most cars undergo, but if you discover any mysterious squeaks let us know when the car comes in and these can also be traced.

Now we have sent you off to a good start, on a trouble-free holiday. But when you return why not come along and let us give your car a quick lookover. Continuous driving will show us things which should be checked and corrected before any further deterioration takes place.

Remember—we can tell how much a servicing will cost *before* we carry it out.

A friendly welcome and courteous service always.

PLEASE accept this copy of our newspaper. It is all about motoring and especially about summer holiday motoring. We hope you will keep us in mind whenever your car needs any attention.

May we remind you that, situated on A39 from Barnstaple to Lynton and Lynmouth, we are well placed to offer you the following services:

National Benzole fuels (8 a.m.–9 p.m.)
Shellubrication service
Hi-Fli
24-hour breakdown service
Repairs
Accessories shop
Car washing facilities
We are AA and RAC appointed.

Testing services
M.O.T. vehicle testing station
New/used car sales
Agents for Morris, Wolseley and B.M.C. cars and G.N.U. stockists
All types of tyres and batteries
Self-drive car hire

One of our particular services during this season is providing that pre-holiday check-up. This takes all the worry off your mind and sends you on the road confident of your car, knowing that the expert servicing we have given will make your holiday a success.

J. H. BATER, Proprietor.

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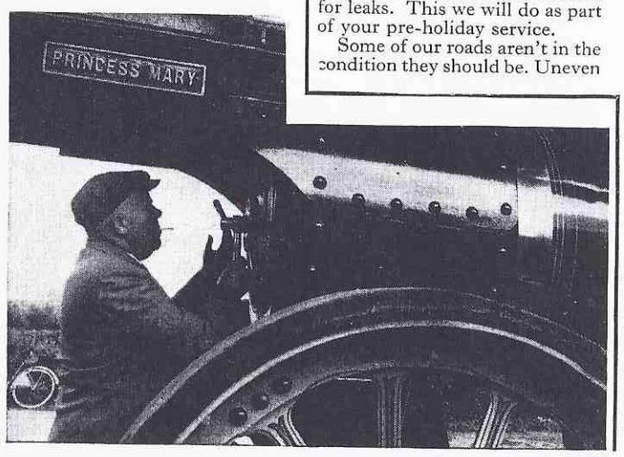
JUST A FLICK OF THE WRIST

EIGHTEEN tons of fairground traction engine on the move—and all she needs for accurate steering, according to her proud owner, is a mere flick of the wrist.

She is 'Princess Mary', biggest 'showman's locomotive' in the country, one of a collection owned by enthusiast Mr. H. Whipps, at Woodton, near, Bungay, Suffolk.

Mr. Whipps says the elementary chain steering gear has the featherweight touch you would normally find only in the most expensive modern car.

Gentle as a friendly elephant, he describes her. And she has an elephantine appetite—half a hundredweight of coal every twelve miles.



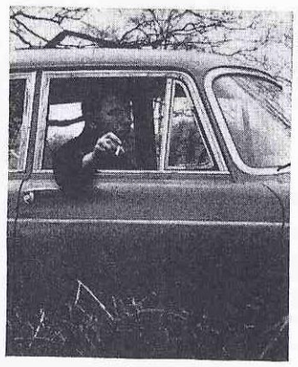
CIGARETTE END SETS WOODS ALIGHT

HOLIDAYMAKERS helped fire brigades of three counties in a 9-hour battle to save a famous beauty spot from fire which destroyed 7 acres of lovely woodland. A charred and blackened eyesore is all that remains of the golden beech-woods which have delighted thousands of picnickers.

Mrs. Molly Ryder, who with her family was enjoying lunch beside the highway, said 'I saw a man driving a large white car flick his cigarette out of the window into the bracken. My children went to look for it, but couldn't find it. Suddenly the leaves burst into flames and what with the dry weather and a strong breeze the fire was quickly out of hand. You'd think anyone who could own a car like that would use an ashtray, wouldn't you?'

In spite of warnings and requests from motoring organisations and local authorities, motorists still carelessly endanger property as well as human life. A person who would not dream of flinging a bottle from a railway-carriage window may think nothing of throwing a far more likely cause of destruction out of his car.

Sometimes it is due to pure thoughtlessness, occasionally to the car's ashtray being crammed to overflowing; in rare cases to there being no ashtray fitted. These are all causes that can be cured by a little forethought.



Perhaps more propaganda is still needed. Will *you* please help this summer by seeing that no one in *your* car throws lighted cigarette or cigar ends from the windows. If you have no ashtray it will be wiser to have one fitted.

Thought for Today

ONLY meet a shower of rain,
Only let it dry again,
And your windscreen's far from clear
So it's hard to see and steer.
With mud that spatters, things that stick—
Why not keep it span-and-spick?
Windscreen washers do the trick.

Anon.