

The KISSELKAR

EVERY INCH A CAR

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FREE COPY

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We apologize for the long delay in bringing you this Newsletter of our deliberately informal one-car club. We want to go to press at least annually, which is the pattern followed by the majority of such clubs, except for the extremely ambitious ones. This fits in with the wishes of Mr. William L. Kissel, the respected former Secretary-Treasurer of the Kissel Motor Car Co., who at eighty-one still makes his permanent home in Hartford, Wisconsin, where the cars were built.

Would you like to know what cars Mr. Kissel has selected for himself since the company closed up in 1931? They had manufactured a few front-drive Ruxtons on contract for the promoters of that make towards the last, and he kept a Ruxton touring for himself for a number of years. It still exists. In 1940 he bought one of the early Lincoln Continental convertibles, and kept that until around 1956. He had a black Lincoln Capri, bought in 1953 or thereabouts, which he traded for his present black four-passenger Thunderbird. His excellent taste obviously continues undiminished!

113 Kissel-built Vehicles

Your Klub can account for 113 Kissel Kars (oldest 1908), Kissels (1920 and after), White Eagles (1929-1931), and National-Kissel funeral cars. Most are in the U. S., but five are in Canada, two in Australia, and one in New Zealand. There must be others, particularly in Argentina. Please report any you find to our headquarters. Of the 33 speedsters, three are excellent conversions from other models.

V-12 Find

What is believed to be the only Kissel Kar Double Six left, a 1917 "Gibraltar Touring," has been located in Rochester, N. Y., this year (see "For Sale"). Owner is John E. Searls, 43 Briarcliffe Rd. This rare car

with its overhead valve V-12 Wiedley engine, remained in good condition in high altitudes of Arizona but is without its "All-Year" winter top and upholstery. John is asking \$1,500.

BULLETIN

The Quaker State Oil Company's classic car ad series features Tom Lester's 1927 8-65 Kissel Speedster in Time Magazine for October 29 and the Saturday Evening Post for October 31. That's this week! Thur Schmidt formerly owned this car.

Fire Equipment

There are still three pieces of Kissel fire equipment in service: a 1920 Hook & Ladder Truck and a 1923 Pumper, used by the Hartford (Wis.) F. D., and a 1926 Hook & Ladder Truck having the regular curved radiator, operated by the Juneau, Wis., F. D. In 1957 the San Francisco F. D. finally retired its 1918 F. D. Tanker from active service and offered it for sale. It had 1,000 miles on it; however, pneumatic tires substituted for the front solids held down speed to a crawl. It's rumored to be in Las Vegas. Can anyone identify the owner?

New Kissel History

The Antique Automobile, official publication of the A. A. C. A., has tentatively scheduled an article on the Kissel Kar Klub for its March-April 1961 issue. Address Wm. E. Swigart, Jr., 409 Penn Street, Huntingdon, Pa., if you wish to join A. A. C. A. and receive that magazine. Other articles about Kissel have appeared, and some are still available: June 1953 Modern Man (perhaps the best but out of print) by P. S. DeBeaumont; October 1955 Bulb Horn (\$1.25 from V. M. C. C. A., 15 Newton St., Brookline 46, Mass.); June 1959 Road and Track, by J. L. Beardsley; December 1959

Sports Car World, published in Sydney, Australia. C. A. Gaines, R. R. 2, Box 182-E, Lake Worth, Florida, publishes a small pamphlet relating to Kissels of the twenties for \$3.00.

Prize Winners

These members have been in top money this year: Bob DeForest - 1914 4-40 Touring, Connecticut; C. R. Funk, at the big meet in Dearborn, Mich. - 1919 "Gold Bug"; Dick Braund, Wis. - 1925 "Gold Bug"; Bob Schneider, Tulsa, Okla. - 1927 8-65 Speedster; G. P. Hovey, 659 Douglas Ave., Dunedin, Fla. (original owner) - 1926 8-75 Speedster. Anyone else?

Do We Have Numbers of Your Car? (Yes) (No)

We badly need the Engine No. and the Serial No. of every Kissel Kar and Kissel, not only for the official records of the Klub but also for the new Register of Antique Automobiles which will not list your car otherwise. If you have sold, please send us

the name and address of the new owner. We can authenticate the model year of any car from 1916 on by means of the numbers, as we have the factory data in Branham's 1923 and 1930 Automobile Reference Books. Kissel model years usually started the previous July, causing some confusion.

Headquarters in Hartford, Wisconsin

Ralph Dunwoodie, owner of a '22 6-45 Touring, handles Klub mail from the ideal headquarters near the Kissel factory, now owned by the West Bend Aluminum Company which manufactures outboard motors, lawn mowers, etc. there.

Parts

Jackson Barnhart, 1720 N.W. 4th St., Miami 35, Fla., suffered a trailer mishap when his '24 6-45 speedster was being hauled to Florida from the Thompson Products Museum in Cleveland. He needs a transmission case, driveshaft, and steering wheel. Your editor needs two top windows with round bezels 5 inches in diameter. Write your needs to the Klub.

Cars Known to be for Sale (Information by Courtesy and Not Guaranteed)

- 1908 Touring Don Jackson, 157 N. Mirage, Lindsay, Cal. \$3,000.
- 1913 Touring Cecil L. Slick, Portland, Oregon. Need complete address.
- 1917 Double Six (V-12) Touring J. E. Searls, 43 Briarcliffe Rd., Rochester, N. Y., \$1,000.
- 1919 6-45 Speedster C. R. Funk, 4115 Walnut Lake Rd., Orchard Lake, Mich., \$3,250.
- 1922 6-45 Speedster *# Carl Pennrich, Greenwood Lake, N. Y., \$300.
- 1923 6-45 Speedster Fred Schreiter, So. Lancaster, Mass.
- 1923 6-55 Brougham # Eraldo Palumbo, Box 148, Milldale, Conn.
- 1923 6-55 Brougham P. Zimmer, 1000 9th St., Elwood, Ind.
- 1924 6-55 Coupe M. H. Martin, Jr., 809 16th St. N. E., Masillon, Ohio, \$300.
- 1927 8-75 Speedster Sidney Stein, 11 Meacham Ave., Elmont, N. Y., \$4,000. (This car was in the movie "The Eddie Duchin Story." May have been owned by Jack Dempsey. See Page 215, Floyd Clymer Scrapbook No. 8).
- 1927 8-65 All-Year Coupe#- Roadster Bill Gregory, 1 Macondry St., Valley Falls, R. I., \$150
- 1928 8-80 Speedster L. J. Murphy, 7527 Cromwell Drive, Clayton 5, Mo.
- 1928 8-80 Brougham (6 W. W.) W. R. Springer, 611 S. Barker, Evansville, Ind., \$1,200.

* no engine and dismantled

weathered, parts missing

Tom Kirkland, Union City, Tenn., sells top bows 4 for \$10.00 or \$3.00 each.

KEEP US POSTED! THANKS.