JULY, 1955

25¢

Ole

THE MAGAZINE OF AMERICAN MOTORING



FORD'S

"MEXICO"

SPORTS CAR



2 ROAD TESTS / PACKARD V-8
NASH V-8



Magnesium
Rocker Arms

Complete kit ready for installation for all OHV Cad - Olds - Ford - Merc - Chev & Studebaker \$39.50

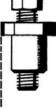
NEW Aluminum Push Rods

Tested—Proven. Can be used with stock or Magnesium Rocker Arms avaliable for all OHV engines. Only \$29.50

Complete Increase RPM & Power

Something New for Chrysler Products— Lincoln & Buick

Hydraulic lifter conversion kits. A big improvement over adjustable push rods eliminates trouble and the action of adjustment around rocker arms. May be used with stock or aluminum push rods. \$19.75



For most models.

Magnesium Rocker Arms and Hydraulic conversion kits eliminate once and for all the noise, clatter, pump up and valve float caused by hydraulic lifters—thousands in use.

Here Is the Cure Problems
Here Is the Cure Problems
All for Ignition Dual
Ball Bearing
Ball Plates
Point Cors
For All Cors
\$9.95

Buick, Cad, Olds, Pontiac, Studebaker—All Delco Equip; Also All Auto-Lite. Eliminates hard starting—bucking and hesitation often found in the OHV engine. Complete kit — hardware and instructions—easily installed.

Ford-Mercury-Lincoln \$10.95
All plates are equipped with new departure ball bearings-eliminates breaker plate wobble due to wear of soft bushing material.

Ray Brown Automotive Co. 5656-M6 Santa Monica Blvd.

5656-M6 Santa Monica Blvd. Los Angeles 38, Calif.

All items sold on money back guarantee dealers write on letterhead.

5656-M7 Santa Mon	ica Blvd.
5656-M7 Santa Mor Los Angeles 38, C Please Rush	alif.
Please Rush	
☐ Full payment e	nclosed 🗌 Ship C.O.D.
Car Make	YearModel
Name	
Address	
ZoneState_	

MOTOR Life

VOL. 4, No. 12

July, 1955

CONTENTS

TEST REPORTS													
PACKARD CLIPPER V-8						M	ОТО	OR	Lif	e	Test	Sto	ıff
NASH AMBASSADOR V-8			٠			M	ОТ	OR	Lif	e	Test	Sto	ıff
CAR PERFORMANCE WITH A TE	IIAS	ER			•	M	ОТО	OR	Lif	e	Test	Sto	ıff
FEATURES													
ROAD TEST YOUR OWN CAR .									Gr	iff	Bor	ges	on
DUESENBERG FOR THE MAHARA													
PACKAGING THE PASSENGERS .					*		•	R	oger	Н	unti	ngt	on
THE NEWEST IN CUSTOMS					*				. ,				
USED CARS-WHEN AND HOW	TO	В	JΥ										
FORD'S MEXICO FOR COMPETIT	101	Ι.				8 19		- 6	K	en	Fer	moy	le
DESIGN FOR CUSTOM STYLING						٠						85	*
WHEN IT BECAME A CUSTOM .				*	٠					0	Cee	Rit	ch
SPEED CONTROLS BY RADAR .		×		•		٠		•		ě		٠	
OFFY SPORTS CAR					•	•						•	
WHIPPING WHEEL WOBBLE .			٠	•	•	٠	•			9			•
MAKING THEM GO IN MEXICO			*		•	٠	•	٠				•	
FORD'S NEW Eeee CAR	٠	•	٠	•	•	٠	٠	٠		ñ		٠	٠
DEPARTMENTS													
CORRESPONDENCE					Ç								
DATELINE DETROIT													
TECHNICAL TIPS									Barn	ey	No	var	ro
THE CAR CRITIC								R	oder	н	unti	nate	on

COVER

Artist Jack Leynnwood again is responsible for the cover illustration of MOTOR Life. In order to set the road test theme for the major feature (which begins on page 16), he transferred the lines of a 1955 Chevrolet into a setting of swift and colorful action.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Ownership and management of MOTOR Life has been assumed by R. E. Petersen, the largest publisher of automotive consumer magazines in the world. Mr. Petersen has taken over ownership from William S. Quinn, the founder of this publication.

MOTOR Life will continue to afford its readers the same high degree of reporting the automotive scene that has characterized these pages in the past and will improve and expand its features in line with the policy of its new publisher.

R. E. Petersen	Publisher
Don Werner	Editor
Ray Rich	Art Director
Kenneth Fermoyle	
Barney Navarro	Technical Advisor
Roger Huntington	Associate Editor
	Advertising Manager

MOTOR Life Magazine is published monthly by Quinn Publications, Inc., 3061 West Seventh Street, Los Angeles 5, California. Phone DUnkirk 7-8137. Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Los Angeles, California, under the act of March 3, 1897. Copyright 1955 by Quinn Publications, Inc. Reprinting in whole or part forbidden except by permission of the publishers. SUBSCRIPTION price \$3.00 per year U.S.A. and Canada; Foreign \$4.00. Single copy 25c. Change of address must show both old and new addresses. MANUSCRIPTS: Must be accompanied by sufficient return postage. Not responsible for unsolicited submissions.

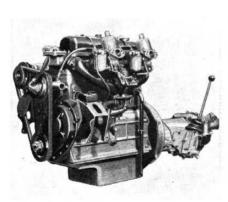
ADVERTISING: Advertising Manager, Marvin Patchen, 3061 West Seventh Street, Los Angeles 5, California. EASTERN REPRESENTATIVE: David Riker, 489 Fifth Ave., N.Y.C. MUrrayhill 7-6536. MICHIGAN REPRESENTATIVE: Pickrell & Assoc., 318 Stephenson Bidg., Detroit 2, Mich. TRinity 1-0790.



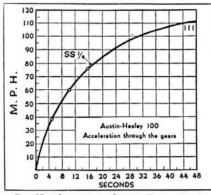
IN 10.5 SECONDS

The Austin-Healey '100' offers you today's outstanding combination of performance and value. For less than \$3,000 you get light, precise steering, pool-table flat cornering and stable four-footed roadability. These advantages plus an excellent weight-to-power ratio enable the Austin-Healey '100' to dominate Class D cars and many larger.

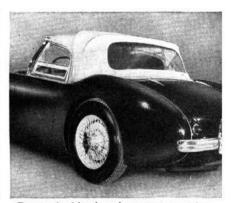
ONLY 2985 FULLY EQUIPPED



The Austin-Healey's competition-tested engine develops its maximum torque at a modest 2,000 rpm for top acceleration through the gears. And not only is the engine reliable but it's easy to maintain too, with parts (including a modification kit) quickly available from 14 Austin distributors and 350 dealers.



Specifications at a glance: Four cylinder, overhead valve engine; displacement—2660 cc; 90 bhp at 4000 rpm; wheel base—90 inches; curb weight 2150 lbs.; distribution 49%/51%; three forward speeds plus overdrive (synchromesh); steering 2½ turns lock to lock; brake area 145 square inches; average fuel consumption, 25 mpg.



Because braking is as important as acceleration, the Austin-Healey '100' is muscled with 11-inch, hydraulic brakes that provide postitive, no-fade deceleration. On top of all this the car comes equipped with custom features like overdrive, heater, tachometer, twin carburetors and knock-on wire wheels at no extra cost. For more details, use coupon below.

Antin-Healey =

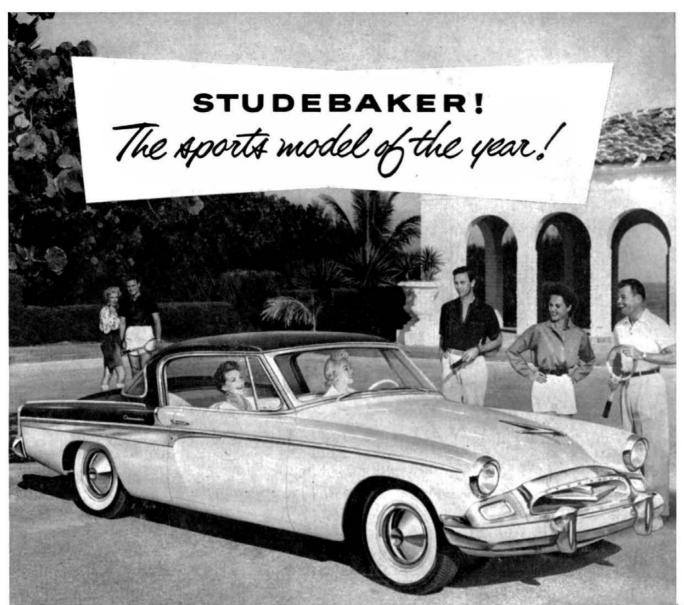
AUSTIN of England. Dept. ML-7

27-29 West 57th Street, New York, N. Y.

GENTLEMEN:

Please send me a copy of your new 12 page, full color brochure on the Austin-Healey '100'.

PRINT NAME AND ADDRESS HERE



Commander Regal V-8-one of a thrilling trio of Studebaker hard-tops that include style-setting President V-8 and Champion team-mates

Outstanding in spine-tingling getaway! Unsurpassed in take-command go!

Styled by Studebaker for Americans with a liking for distinction! This is the roomiest sports model of its type—superbly suitable for all your driving—a low-swung Studebaker hard-top or coupe.

Here is more than exciting raciness of line. Here is a superbly speedlined exterior that opens up to provide you with a fullbodied, fully weather-protected 5-passenger automobile.

But your most delightful surprise comes when you drive one of these new Studebaker sports models. They ride and handle superbly. That's because they have real road design and balance. You feel utterly safe and secure.

And what thrill-packed performers! How they sparkle with breath-taking getaway!

Two great V-8s and a spirited 6 to suit your preference! Studebaker's low-level competitive prices to make your investment surprisingly small!

Go and see the new Speedster special—and all the other exciting Studebaker sports models —at your nearby Studebaker dealer's now.

See Studebaker-Packard's TV Reader's Digest-a nationwide weekly feature on the ABC television network