



Rear quarter panels borrowed from a Lincoln had high-flying fins added before grafting onto '54 Buick Roadmaster. Purpose of extended fenders is to enclose continental tire mount for integral look, rather than something extra added to car.



Photos by Dick DeLong



Photos by Joe Farkas

Thunderbird has wheel cutouts enlarged and reshaped to give lower, racier appearance. Next step planned by owner is a Ferrari-type grille and fiberglass bucket seats.



Exhaust pipes have been brought out through panels below rear edge of doors.

*Thunderbird and Montclair are restyled, along with a radical '54 Buick*

# THE NEWEST IN

# Customs

NO SOONER does a new model of a car appear than the restylers go to work. Two of the customs shown here are of 1955 vintage, while the third is from 1954. It's pretty evident that initial efforts are modest in scope, but by the time a full 12 months roll around things can reach the extreme.

The Thunderbird was customized by Ken Dunn, a Ford Motor Company employee, who is one of the founders and a past president of the Ford Motorsports club. Also from Detroit is the 1954 Buick Roadmaster, in which Andy Didia combined components of seven different cars. Lastly, the moderately restyled Mercury Montclair came out of the Barris shop in Los Angeles. More work on these models is yet to come, but some of these ideas undoubtedly point the way. •

Restyling of the front end includes air scoops in the hood which are functional. Builder calls his car a "natural,"

since parts from seven different cars went into the treatment. Exterior colors are a light beige and a dark blue.

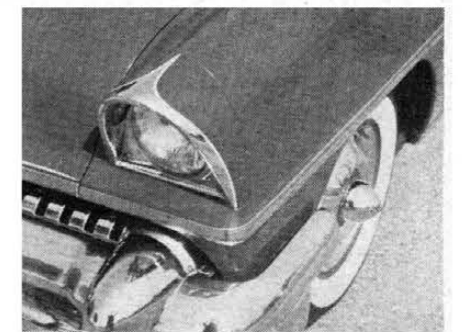


Montclair carries special continental mount, is fitted with extended bumper, pans and exhaust. Fender has silver color stripe to divide red and white two-tone paint.

Photos by George Barris



Headlight rims have tapered peak. Note hub caps spun from metal and chromed.



Lowering was three inches at rear, 1 1/2 inches in front. Flared fender skirts and nosed hood enhance the reduced height.

