

LETTER FROM THE CONTINENT



by Bernard Cahier

WITH VANWALL out of the 1959 Grand Prix picture (page 13), British colors will have to be defended by the yet unpredictable BRM and Lotus and, of course, by the Cooper. Vanwall's withdrawal is certainly a hard blow for Stirling Moss, who was planning to race again this year under the Vandervell flag. As things stand now, Moss will most probably drive for BRM but will do some races as well with the famous little Cooper of Rob Walker. Walker has already signed Maurice Trintignant as his first driver and will have a special car for Moss, who will start his European racing on Walker's team at Monaco. Moss's Cooper-Walker will use a 265-horsepower, 4-cylinder BRM engine. Since the car weighs less than 1000 pounds, it will have a tremendous power/weight ratio. For Formula I, Walker will also use the new 2.5-liter Coventry-Climax engine which is said to give a genuine 240 hp against 205 hp for the 2.2 used last season. For Formula II, he will install the fuel injection Borgward 1500 engine (Road & Track, February and March 1959) to which he has fortunately been given exclusive rights by the Borgward people. The engine should bring him many wins. Incidentally, Moss was driving Walker's Cooper when he won the GP of Australia and, later, the New Zealand GP (page 56).

Exciting news has been filtering from BMW, the noted Munich firm which has been in the throes of some financial problems for the past few months. Plans call for the introduction of two entirely new cars soon. One will be a pretty 750-cubic centimeter coupe designed by Vignale; it will be presented in Geneva in March. The BMW 700 will use an enlarged version of the well proven flat-twin motorcycle engine. The car will be large enough to accommodate two adults and two children. The other *nouveauté* will be the eagerly awaited 1600, expected to be shown to the public in September at the Frankfurt Show. The sports-minded BMW 1600 coupe, also designed in Italy, will use a 4-cylinder, overhead-camshaft engine. Its standard version will put out 75 hp and a modified one will give 110 hp, a very favorable comparison to the Porsche Carrera.

The big BMW four-door sedan will soon be dropped. The impressive-looking 507 will be continued, and an improved version with disc brakes and a 220-hp engine is rumored to be coming out later this year. (The famous ex-Auto Union driver, Hans Stuck, is now working at BMW in the research and competition department. He is planning many hill climbs this year with a specially prepared 507; the great old timer will be seen in the States at Pikes Peak.) Not satisfied with only two new models, BMW is also working on a 1500-cc, twin-ohc sports car engine. Test engines have been running satisfactorily and are said to give around 150 rousing hp.

ROAD & TRACK, APRIL, 1959

LEAD WITH YOUR ACE



THIS IS THE SAFEST FAST CAR IN THE WORLD. TRY AN ACE OR ACECA (A-SEEKA) YOURSELF, TODAY. TOPS FOR TOWN & TRACK.

AMERICAN AND CANADIAN DISTRIBUTORS

AC Imports, Inc.
3169 N. Pollard St.
Arlington, Virginia

AC Imports, Inc.
8 Alden Ave.
Valley Stream, New York
Jarrard Motors
913-1013 West Garden St.
Pensacola, Florida

Hulsey & Procter Foreign Cars
1710 N. Akard St.
Dallas 8, Texas

Imperial Motors
721 Green Bay Road
Wilmette, Illinois

Motor Imports
King Kapiolani-South
P.O. Box 3947
Honolulu, T.H.

PanWorld Dist., Inc.
7833 Lomas Blvd. N.E.
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Competition Motors
960 El Camino Real
San Carlos, California

Imported Motor Cars, Inc.
7030 South Tacoma Way
Tacoma 9, Washington

Scarboro Beach Garage, Ltd.
2301 Queen Street East
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Budd & Dyer Ltd.
4269 St. Catherine St., W.
Montreal, Quebec, Canada

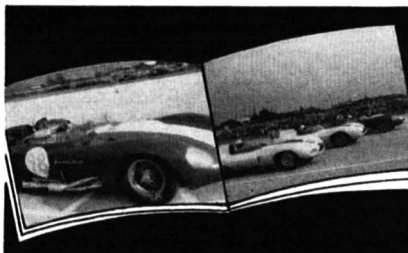
B.C. Sports Car Center, Ltd.
1424 West Broadway
Vancouver 9, B.C., Canada

Distribuidora Mecanica c.a.
Rio a San Felipe 21
San Bernardino, Caracas
Venezuela, S. America

Worldwide Import, Inc.
1968 S. Sepulveda Blvd.
Los Angeles 25, California



Sports - Folio Presents -



Four of the finest sports car racing photo albums ever offered, each containing 14 beautiful 5x7 photos of international driving stars, driving techniques, latest and fastest sports and Grand Prix cars. They will help you relive these suspense filled meets.

Album #1—BAHAMAS SPEED WEEK
—NASSAU 1958

Album #2—DAYTONA BEACH
SPEED WEEK 1959
(Available March 23, 1959)

Album #3—SEBRING
12-HOUR CLASSIC

Album #4—FIRST SEBRING
GRAND PRIX

Order Albums by Numbers

For early delivery, send check or money order today — each only \$10 p.p.
(Dealer Inquiries Invited)

SPORTS-FOLIO P. O. Box 1680, FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA