

Testing Ford's "Big-Inch" V-8 **MOTOR LIFE**

MARCH 1961 35¢



Import Tests

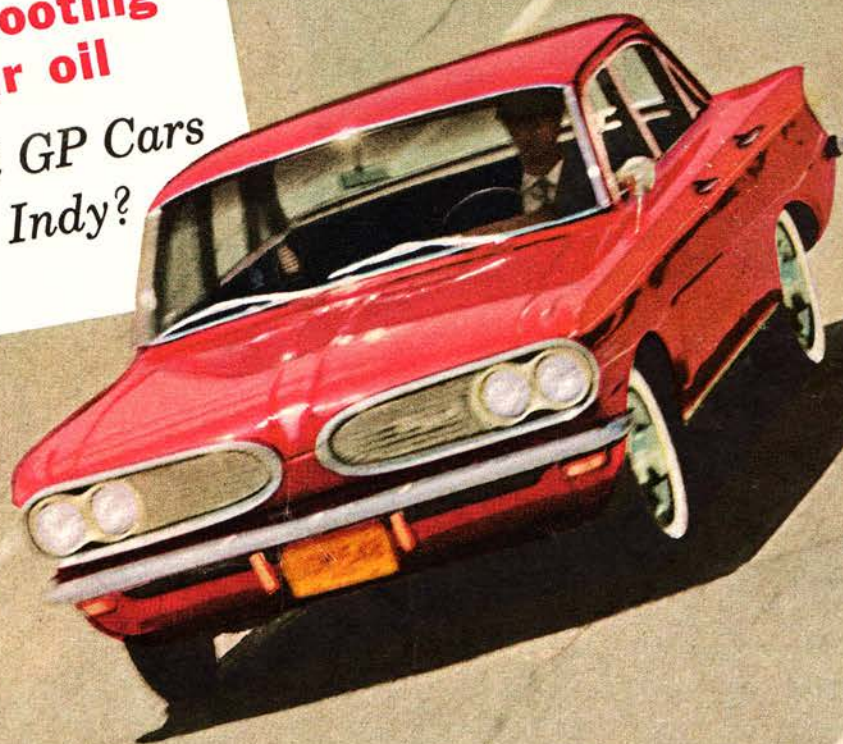
Sunbeam Alpine

Renault Caravelle

**Detroit's HOT Options
Debut at DAYTONA**

**Trouble-shooting
with your oil**

**Stockers and GP Cars
— next at Indy?**



3000-mile all-weather test • Tempest 4



This Tri-Power Pontiac packs one horse for every 10½ pounds

Figure it out for yourself: a Catalina Sports Coupe at 3680 lbs., powered by the 348 H.P.

Trophy V-8 = 1 H.P. per 10.57 lbs. Even most sports cars wish they could match it!

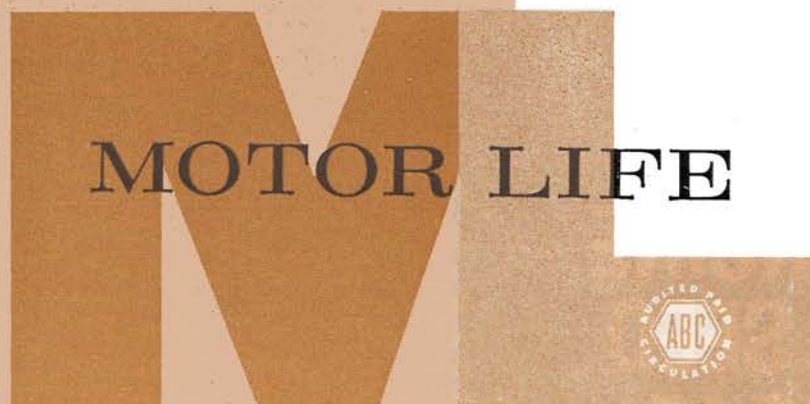
We trimmed off every bit of excess weight. There's less weight over-all and more of it is sprung between the wheels for a lot better balance.

Make no mistake: This is a big car—nearly 4000 pounds worth of solid road machinery, give or take a few depending on model and equipment. But the pay-off is how Pontiac moves its weight.

The 348 H.P. Trophy V-8 puts out one horse for every 10½ pounds. And other Pontiac V-8's (11 in all to choose from) have power-to-weight advantages that come close to matching it.

Stack Wide-Track up against all the others and you'll see no other car packs or pulls its weight so well. Test for yourself at your Pontiac dealer's.

PONTIAC MOTOR DIVISION OF GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION



EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR Erwin M. Rosen
MANAGING EDITOR Michael Lamm
TECHNICAL EDITOR Charles Nerpel
RACING EDITOR Bob Russo
ART EDITOR George Wallace
PRODUCTION D. Scharfenberg

PUBLISHING STAFF

PUBLISHER R. E. Petersen
GENERAL MANAGER Lee Ryan
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR Wally Parks
ART DIRECTOR Albert H. Isaacs
CIRCULATION MANAGER Herb Metcalf

ADVERTISING STAFF

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR A. M. Benedict
ADVERTISING MANAGER Tom Medley
AD PRODUCTION MANAGER Dick Jones
AD PRODUCTION Harry Foster

ROAD TEST REPORTS

Tempest 4 — 3000-mile all-weather run	14
Ford V-8 — Big new 390-cubic-incher	22
Sunbeam Alpine — Tight little soft-top	46
Renault Caravelle — French fun coupe	52

RACING FEATURES

Stirling Moss: "My Goals in Racing"	35
Bahamas Speed Weeks — Nip-ups at Nassau	40
When the Stockers Ran at Indy	58
Cooper at Indy — New rear-engine trend?	59
Racing Roundup	70

TECHNICAL AND GENERAL

Trouble-Shooting with Your Oil	28
So What Else Is New?	30
Hot 1961 Options Debut at Daytona	38
Mexican "Hey" Ride	64
Overseas News — Japanese miniatures	68
"1320 Skiddoo" — Antiques on the strip	76

DEPARTMENTS

Facts & Forecasts	6
Letters	8
Editor's Basket	10
Technical Tips	12
Pick of the New Products	80

COVER STORY

Our two featured cars represent Detroit's wide range of engine layouts — from a big V-8 to an in-line four. The Ford was tested in Southern California's varied topography, but the Tempest went looking for its route across the country — from mountain top to desert valley. Tech Editor Chuck Nerpel brings you his revealing report on pages 14-21.

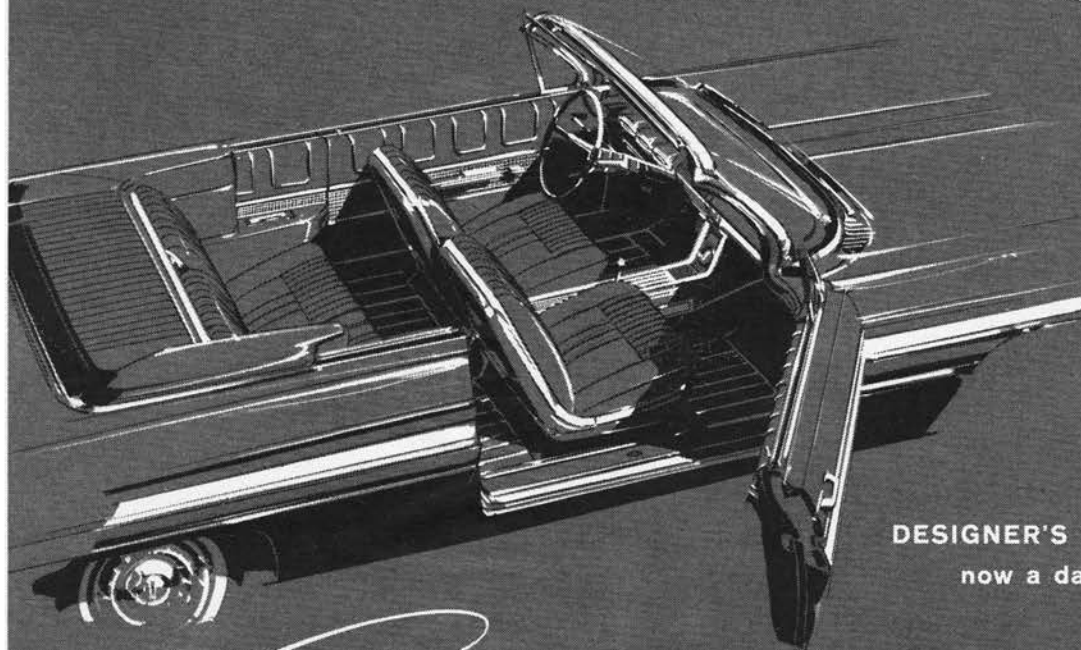
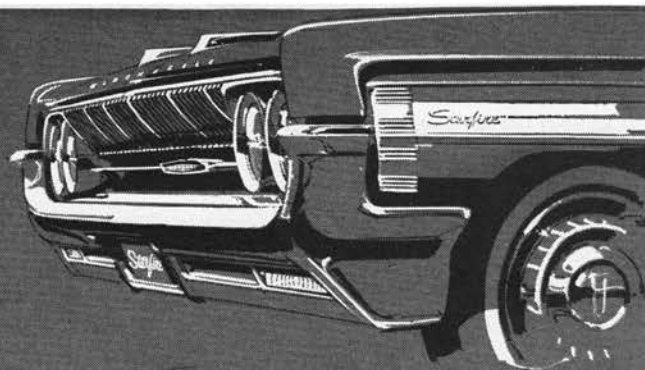
ADVERTISING OFFICES: 5959 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles 28, Calif.
Detroit Office, 3337 Book Bldg., Detroit 26, Mich. Phone WOODward 3-8245. **New York Office,** 17 East 48th St., New York 17, N.Y. Phone PLaza 1-6690. **Chicago Office,** 360 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago 1, Illinois. Phone FRanklin 2-6067. **Cleveland Office,** 1405 East 6th St., Cleveland 14, Ohio. Phone MAin 1-2006. **St. Louis Office,** 915 Olive St., St. Louis 1, Missouri. Phone GARfield 1-5153. **San Francisco Office,** 155 Montgomery St., San Francisco 4, Calif. Phone EXbrook 7-5367.

Editorial, Advertising and Business Offices
 5959 Hollywood Boulevard
 Los Angeles 28, California
 Telephone: HOLlywood 6-2111

MOTOR LIFE Magazine is published Monthly by Quinn Publications, 5959 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles 28, California. Second-class postage paid at Los Angeles, California, and at additional mailing offices. Copyright 1961 by Quinn Publications, Inc. Contributions: Payment for contributions covers all author's and/or contributor's right, title and interest in and to the material including but not limited to photos, drawings, charts and designs, which shall be considered as text. The act of submitting a manuscript and/or material shall constitute an express warranty by the contributor that the material is original and in no way an infringement on the rights of others. Subscription price \$3.50 per year U.S.A. and Canada; Foreign \$4.50. Single copy 35c. Change of address must show both old and new addresses. Please give six weeks' advance notice.



Adventure
in Motoring
Excitement!



DESIGNER'S DREAM . . .
now a dazzling reality!

Starfire by **OLDS**

ANNOUNCING . . . A new limited-edition, high-performance sports convertible!

Standard Equipment:

Sports-type control console •
Tachometer • Hydra-Matic
with stick control • Power
windows, steering, brakes,
seat • Starfire Engine with
10.25-to-1 compression ratio
• 440 lb.-ft. torque at 2800
r.p.m. • 330 horsepower at
4600 r.p.m. • Dual exhaust
system • Fiber-packed
mufflers • 3.42-to-1 rear
axle ratio • Top-grain leather
interiors • Bucket seats.



Put your toe to Oldsmobile's exhilarating Starfire Engine! In an
instant you know . . . *this car is unique!* Precision-engineered—with ultra-high
compression, high-speed camshaft, high-torque rear axle—for the man who thrills
to true sports-car performance! See your Oldsmobile Quality Dealer for complete details.