



AUTOS ABROAD

Maserati to Market A DOHC V-8 Sedan

ITALY HAS LONG been known as the home of the Grand Touring car and, among the Italian manufacturers

of these machines, the name Maserati is revered for the quality and imaginative engineering of its products. In common with its main competitor, Ferrari, the company has a racing background which dates back many years, and the benefits of this experience are always evident.

The latest creation from Maserati is a race-bred 4-door sedan aimed primarily at the wealthy Italian family man who is in a hurry. The car, known as the "Vettura Berlina 4 Porte," is interesting because it combines all the conservative dignity of a coachbuilt sedan with formidable performance backed up by superlative road-holding and braking.

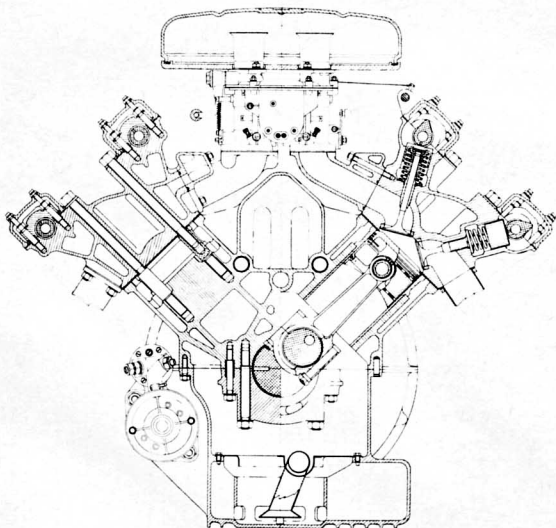
The power unit is a 252-cu. in. V-8 which features dual overhead cams,

four twin-throat Weber carburetors, and which puts out 290 bhp. The maximum speed is reported to be in excess of 140 mph. Disc brakes are used all around and are mounted inboard at the rear, since the rear axle is of the de Dion type to ensure good road holding and traction under all conditions.

The transmission is a 5-speed unit manufactured by the German ZF company. Well-proved, this unit is the choice of several of the European Grand Touring car manufacturers.

Complementing the chassis design is an elegant body by the Italian coachbuilding house of Frua, and the only fly in the ointment is the price. We understand that it will take at least \$10,000 to buy it. ■

FOUR-DOOR Maserati's V-8 has usual 90° vee between cylinder banks but each bank is topped by twin cams. Displacement is 252 cu. in.; bhp is 290 at 5200 rpm.



FOUR DUAL-THROAT Weber carburetors line top of engine, giving a total of eight barrels. Engine has 3.465 in. (88 mm) bore and 3.346 in. (85 mm) stroke. Overhead camshafts are chain-driven from single, central idler.

