

COMEBACK CAR

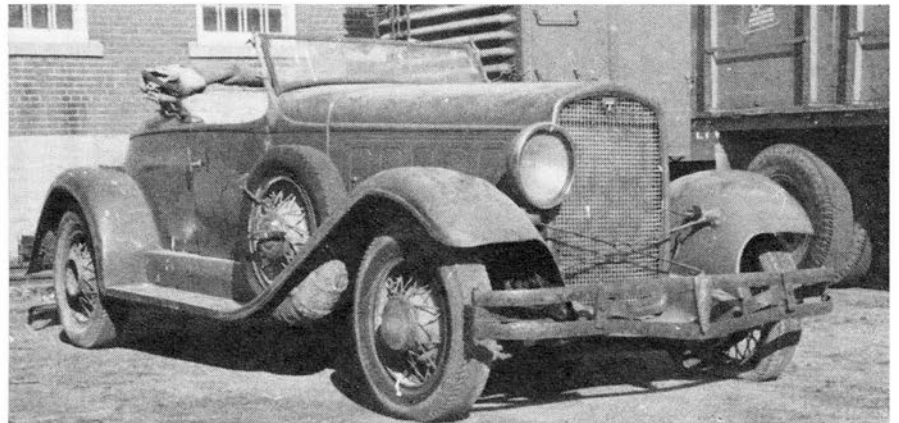
*From Junk to Jewel
Amid the Maple Leaves*

There weren't many built by the Murphy coachworks in Los Angeles. Fewer are in existence today. Those in a state of factory-new restoration are rare. The number of 1931 Hudson boattailed roadsters in mint condition in Ontario, Canada? There's only one.

When John Gray of Port Credit, Ontario, discovered the Hudson in 1959 it was in an auto wrecker's shed, in a state of rusty ruin. Upholstery, top material, tires and wood body framing members were decayed beyond any hope of repair. The body collapsed under its own weight when it was removed from the chassis.

The Hudson's grievously run-out engine required 0.04 in. overbore, specially machined 1950 Morris Oxford pistons and milling of the warped cylinder head to complete the rebuild.

Three years were required to bring the roadster to a drivable state and three more years passed before the car could be entered in concours d'elegance competition—in which it scored a second place on the first outing. ■



RUIN TO restoration is the story of this boattailed Hudson roadster, a product of the famed Murphy coachworks, now preserved in Ontario, Canada.

