

At the new factory chemists tore down the formula. John Levi had been right: the cubes were made from the residue of gasoline. The contents of the mystery vial proved to be pure gasoline, which had given the brew sufficient strength to send a car around the track at a low rate of speed.

The break of the Zolene bubble was a great disappointment to Carl. For years, whenever his business associates wanted to cool his enthusiasm they had only to say, "Skip, remember Zolene?" (The nickname "Skip," short for Skipper, a name due to Carl's passion for boats, had supplanted the childhood nickname, "Crip.")

The Zolene excitement obscured a real discovery for Carl. His attention was distracted only temporarily from Zolene by a new invention that he called the "iceless icebox." He did find time to have one brought home to Blossom Heath, and he was very excited about it. "This is going to revolutionize house-keeping, honey," he told me. "Keeps the food fresh for days without bothering with ice. Think what it will mean to restaurants and hotels!"

The big wooden box with its ice-making motor made an outrageous amount of noise, but it did keep food wonderfully good and fresh. Only Carl's absorption at the time with Zolene prevented his becoming the first manufacturer of iceless refrigerators.

He was handling many other projects at this time, and Miami Beach was beginning to be a reality. He simply could not find the time to investigate and sponsor all the schemes that were offered. Among those he passed up, I remember, was the red reflector button later used as warning signals on highways. Many of his interests I learned about from him after they were well started, or casually through his associates. Sometimes planning, he would tell me, "I have a new hen coming off," or, "There's an idea crowding me." But oftener I would not know until the actual work began.

It was on one of the rare evenings when we were alone together at Blossom Heath that Carl told me first of Speedway City. We were before the fire, Carl in the immense leather arm-