

SPEED TESTS TO BE BARRED SHOW WEEK

Offer of Silver Cup by Local Concern for Half-Mile Race Turned Down by Committees.

STATE DEALERS PLEASED

Postponing of Annual Display to Their Liking—150 Cars Expected to Be on Exhibition.

At the meeting of the automobile show week committees held on Tuesday evening last Arthur Downing, the sales manager of the Pope Motor Car Company, made an offer of a silver cup for a half-mile race from a standing start.

Downing was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks, but it has been determined by the automobilists that speed tests will be barred, and in the face of this Downing's offer came as rather a surprise.

It has since transpired, however, that Downing was anxious to prove some assertions which he made some little time ago when the bids were entered for the fire chief's car. Downing asserted that the electric machine could get away much quicker than a gasoline automobile, and, except for very long distances, the fire chief would be enabled to reach the scene of the outbreak quicker than if he had to wait for the process of cranking.

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As a compromise it was finally decided that the obstacle race, to be held during show week, should be from a standing start and the Pope people are confident they will be successful in securing the trophy.

Among the stunts which the contestants in this novel race will be required to do is that of driving for quite a little distance backward, avoiding the obstacles in their path.

Fair Sex Will Predominate.

The fair sex will predominate in the automobile parade, as every entrant has been requested to fill his car to its full seating capacity with ladies. This will add a touch of color, and, of course, of interest to the parade.

The automobile dealers in the state have expressed their pleasure in no unmeasured terms that the show has been postponed for a week, as in March every day sees some improvement in the state of the roads, and it is believed that the action decided upon by the committees of last Tuesday will mean a larger influx of automobilists into the city.

It is estimated that upward of 150 automobiles will take part in the show.

Five Events Scheduled.

The hill climb is to be held on Michigan Hill, and there will be five events, the entries being determined by the list price of the cars. Each car will carry at least one passenger besides the driver and will be fully equipped in every way. A silver loving cup will be the first and only prize in each event.

It is estimated that there will be upward of 2,000 Scottish Rite Masons in the city during the show week, and that it has been possible to make these two events coincide is a matter for considerable congratulation.

AUTO CLUB OF FRANCE TO USE LAST YEAR'S COURSE

Grand Prix Will Be Run Over the So-Called Dieppe Route—Some Changes Certain.

PARIS, Feb. 22.—The Automobile Club of France has decided to use again this year the so-called Dieppe course for the annual renewal of the Grand Prix race, but the alleged extortionate demands of the owner of the land on which the grand stand stood last year will make necessary certain very important changes in the running of the contest.

The organizers experienced opposition to the race being held on the old course from only one village, a little place called

POLITICIANS DEPEND

Motor Vehicles Appeal

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—Utility Often Pro

Among some of the notable which the automobile has in the past year is that of providing speedy and convenient communication for public speakers and political people frequently have three engagements at different points in the evening, and where there is congestion, as is usually found in portions of the metropolitan area where the distances from one point to other are too great to rely upon convenient and inadequate service by the horse-drawn vehicles, the railways or subways, the automobile appeals with peculiar force to the public upon such strenuous occasions. Minutes gained or lost often make the making or marring of some event. The saving of time thus becomes a paramount consideration, and the automobile being the most reliable and serviceable mode of communication created by the constructive genius of man it is but natural that all publicists should be quick to avail themselves of the superior advantages which the automobile thus affords.

Scores of instances might be cited where public men rely wholly upon the automobile for prompt, safe and comfortable transportation, and where its employment is essential to the success of that ease and poise of manner which is the root and basis of a successful publicist. President Roosevelt, though long known for his old-time affection for the horse, has for some time been availing himself of the advantages which the automobile affords, a notable instance being his use of a Red Cross car for the three miles from Lansing to the celebration of its semi-centennial anniversary, May 31, 1907.

Bryan Uses "Benzine Buggy"

No less frequently does William Jennings Bryan invoke the "benzine buggy."—On one of the days in New York recently he had to meet an appointment in a town about fifteen miles out of town and sleet pelted down in such a way that the town could not be reached by