

CARS ARE QUALIFYING FOR SPEEDWAY RACE

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REHEARSAL TODAY OF START
OF GREAT SWEEPSTAKES.

STEARNS-KNIGHT MAY BE OUT

Two more cars qualified this morning, the Mercer No. 21, and the Henderson, No. 19. De Palma, in the former, negotiated the required lap in 1:57:95, being compelled to slow down materially on account of a passing shower. Knipper, out a little later, was more fortunate, the sun having started to shine again, and consequently managed to better Ralph's mark by about five seconds, hanging up 1:52:87 as his time. He did not extend himself, however, merely rambling along fast enough to get under the wire. The balance of the cars, including the remaining two Isottas, were scheduled to qualify this afternoon. Grant, with one of the Italian cars, had considerable trouble with his bearings but it was thought he would be in perfect trim before the close of the day.

A number of famous drivers, not incumbents of regular berths, have been nominated during the last few days as relief pilots for the five-hundred-mile race. The latest of these are Herb Lytle, the Apperson veteran, who has been signed by Billy Knipper, of the Henderson crew, and Lee Oldfield, who has agreed to handle one of the Massons. Other notables recently lined up for relief work are Earl Cooper, the California dirt track king, who will tool a Stutz. Cooper has a number of wins over both Barsey Oldfield and Bob Burman to his credit, hence is no novice at the game. Any time he takes hold of a car it has got to go some.

Burman's Narrow Escape

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The speed monarch, Burman, by the way, came within an ace of cashing in his checks yesterday afternoon, when a spindle on his steering gear cracked through—almost to the breaking point without his knowing it. If he had not had to stop for gasoline just when he did he might be taking a joyride through the heavens above at present instead of shooting around the speedway. While refilling his tank the defect was noticed. Barney Oldfield who happened to be chatting with Bab, calling the turn. A fresh part was soon substituted and Burman was soon on his way again. But for luck and Oldfield's keen eyes, however, things might have been otherwise.

The Stearns-Knight, entered in the five-hundred-mile race by Robert H. Pennebaker, of Memphis, Tenn., may be withdrawn at the last moment. If its owner does not succeed in remedying the mechanical trouble which has been bothering him ever since his advent on the track, according to a report circulated at the speedway this morning. As Pennebaker could not be found, either confirmation or denial of the rumor was impossible. The close of the elimination trials this afternoon, however, was expected to give a sure line on whether the car would be present at the starting line tomorrow, inasmuch as, if he had not shown up by that time he would be barred off automatically. In the event of his withdrawal the number of entries would shrink to twenty-seven.

Rehearse Race Start.

After the elimination trials today it was proposed to rehearse the start of tomorrow's contest in detail. Carl Fisher and Charley Sedwick, owner and general manager of the course, respectively, were scheduled to take the drivers around the track for a full lap in the order which they drew last night at the drivers' meeting in the Claypool hotel, and to send them away from underneath the barrier just as if everything were in dead earnest. If anything goes wrong then they will have an opportunity to correct it before the final attempt. At the same time any minor instructions which were overlooked last night were to be given so that there would not be a single detail on which any one would be in doubt.

Yesterday afternoon eight cars were qualified, as follows: No. 12, Case, 1:54.08; No. 26, Mercedes, 1:51.40; No. 4, Keaton, Burman, 1:51.00; No. 9, Sunbeam, Guyot, 1:51.00; No. 10, 1:51.00.

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Yesterday afternoon eight more cars qualified, as follows: No. 32, Case, Nikrent, 1:54.08; No. 26, Mercedes, Mulford, 1:51.40; No. 4, Keeton, Burman, 1:46.98; No. 5, Sunbeam, Guyot, 1:51.40; No. 29, Isotta, 1:49.62; No. 21, Case, 1:49.62.

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rent, 1:34.05; No. 26, Mercedes, Mulford,
1:31.40; No. 4, Keeton, Burman, 1:46.96; No.
3, Sunbeam, Gayot, 1:51.40; No. 29, Isotta,
Tracco, 1:49.83; No. 31, Cass, Dishrow,
1:48.75; No. 15, Peugeot, Goux, 1:44.62, and
No. 17, Anel, Llesaw, 1:35.25.

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