

THE SAGA OF THE ROARING ROAD

also insure his life for \$5,000, or he would throw up the job.

As it was starting time, Becker called to his mechanic to hang on to the "employee" and, letting in his clutch, the car shot down the street on the beginning of that memorable ride through the mountains of Southern Quebec and Northern Maine.

Next year the regulations were changed and it became a team competition going from Cleveland to New York via Chicago, a distance of 1,570 miles. The Buffalo team, comprising two Pierce-Arrows, two Thomases, and a Packard won.

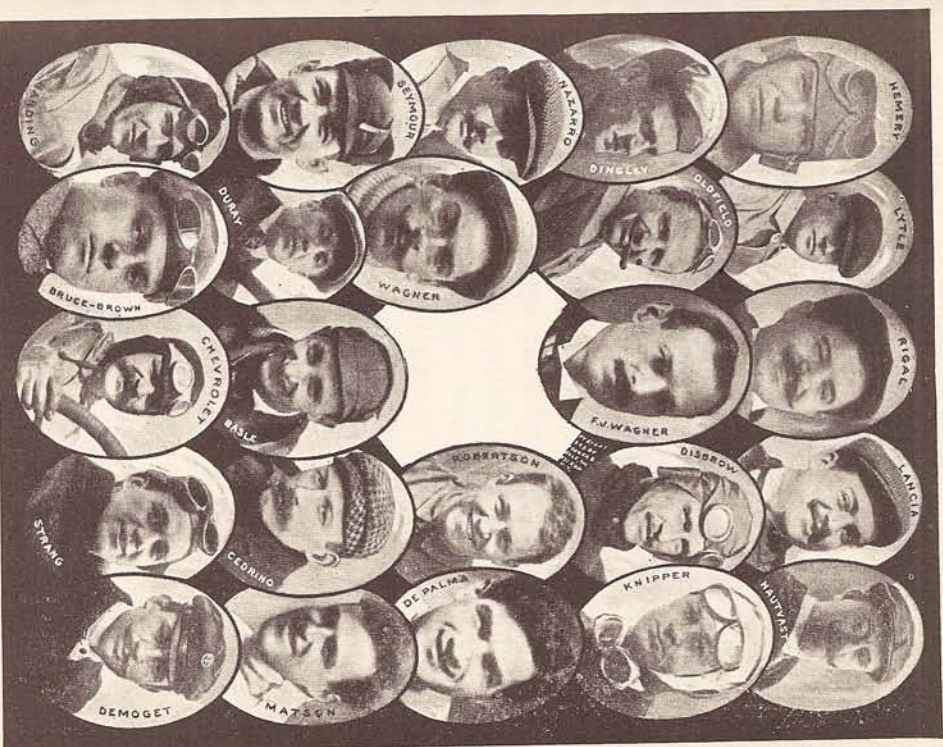
Buffalo to Saratoga Springs, N. Y., and return, a distance of 1,670 miles, was the route followed in 1908. Again it was a team match, the Automobile Club of Buffalo, Chicago Motor Club, and Columbus Automobile Club tying with perfect scores. In 1909 it became an individual competition, with manufacturers making the entries. The tour of 1910 marked the beginning of the end of the Glidden. The Premier, driven by Ray McNamara, was awarded the Glidden Trophy, but the point was raised that the Premier was not stock because it was equipped with an auxiliary device. The Chalmers Company protested, but the referee refused to sustain the protest. An appeal was the Contest Board of the A.A.A. was successful and the trophy was awarded to the Chalmers.

Then came a legal battle, and a New York State Supreme Court dissolved the temporary injunction secured by the Premier Company, holding that sporting governing organizations have a right to enforce their own rules.

So bitter was the feeling among manufacturers over this legal squabble that they lost interest in the annual

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reliability of the American automobile, it became a tour, with only a semblance of contest. National Headquarters of the American Automobile Association is the snug harbor for this famous trophy, and in the offices of the A.A.A. in Washington, D. C., the Glidden Trophy still is the beacon of the tourist, its battered tower of silver and enamel standing for the demonstrated prowess of the American car of other years.



Famous and outstanding racing drivers of the early days.