

Jan 1962



MOHAWK-HUDSON REGION



Seated: L to R, Ann Lee, Gladys Gaul, Roly Heacox
Gene Birdsey and Bill Ackner
Standing: L to R, Irma & Mac McClumpha, Art Frederick



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JAN 1962

THE KNOCK OFF

This newsletter is the official SCCA publication for the Mohawk-Hudson Region. It is dedicated to news, announcements and results of sports car activities in and around this Region, published by and for sports car enthusiasts. The publication of this Newsletter is supported by Regional dues and advertising fees. The cooperation of all members is earnestly solicited in keeping mailing lists current and correct.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Associate Editors:

Midge & Gene Birdsey
One Terry Avenue
Schenectady 3, New York

ELgin 5-1456

MOHAWK-HUDSON REGION MEETINGS

Regular meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Circle Inn, south of Route #7 intersection on US #9, Latham, New York. Information regarding the Region and its activities can be obtained from any of the club officers.

SCCA MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the SCCA is open to all persons of good character who are sympathetic to the purposes of SCCA. The procedure for joining is as follows:

1. Obtain an official application form from any of the club officers.
2. Fill in the blanks and present it to the club officers with remittance for one year's National dues, \$10 + \$2.50 for Sports Car Magazine and one year's Regional dues, \$3.50 Total dues, \$16.00.

1962 OFFICERS

Regional Executive

Arther Frederick
R. R. #1, Box 14
Chatham Center, New York
Chatham 4-4288

Assistant Regional Executive

Henry Van Deusen
2 Mill Creek Lane
Cobleskill, New York
AF 4-2082

Secretary

Irma McClumpha
54 Adams Place
Delmar, New York
HEmlock 9-9656

Treasurer

Gladys Gaul
RD, Altamont Road
Voorheesville, New York
ROckwell 5-2180

Activities Director

Robert Wallace
29 McClellan Street
Schenectady, New York
FRanklin 4-1694

DIRECTORS

William Ackner
1817 Central Ave.
Albany, New York
Union 9-7711

Mac McClumpha
54 Adams Place
Delmar, New York
Hemlock 9-9656

o o o o o

Closing date for Knock Off material is the 15th of each month.

IDLE REVVIN'

A region or club's stature is usually a reflection of the quality, quantity and originality of its activities. The responsibility of administering the club activities is that of its Activities Director and even with the competent assistance of the officers and members, it is a big, big job. It takes a real enthusiast to assume this responsibility and it is a tribute to the type of members that we have in the fact that every year we have someone ready, willing and able to assume this responsibility.

In quotation we repeat, "even with the competent assistance of the officers and members, it is a big, big job" and without your assistance no one of sound mind could be expected to assume this responsibility.

Assist your club in any one or all of the following ways:

1. Set up an event
2. Work on an event
3. Enter an event
4. Write an article for the Knock-Off about an event

In addition to these suggestions, each of you can think of many more ways to participate. If you live in Malone, Plattsburgh, Lake Placid or some other distant point, participate by correspondence. We will be glad to hear from you.

The enthusiastic reception of the announcement of the February Ice Gymkhana on Central Park Lake in Schenectady is a good indication of the anticipation with which the membership is awaiting the announcement of the 1962 Calendar of Events.

Enthusiastic participation is contagious - EXPOSE YOURSELF!!!!!!!

The Editors

CORRECT!!

Last month's cover picture was Hank Van Deusen and his Elva Jr.

Hank is often seen in R & T and Sports Car Illustrated.

N E W M E M B E R S

E	Charles & Mary Schongar
W	3239 7th Avenue
	Troy, New York
M	Daimler
E	
M	Don B. Jugle
	6-1 Georgian Terrace
B	Troy, New York
E	Donald Kain
	Cobleskill, New York
R	
	Jane Leufkens
S	Cairo, New York

RATTLETRAP

MEMBERS! This column, "The Rattletrap" is reserved specifically for correspondence from you. If you have a suggestion, statement to make, or would just like to "sound off", you can "rattle your trap" in this column.

We request that all correspondence be signed. However, at your request we will withhold your name if you so desire and it will be completely confidential.

Hope to hear from you soon!

The Editors

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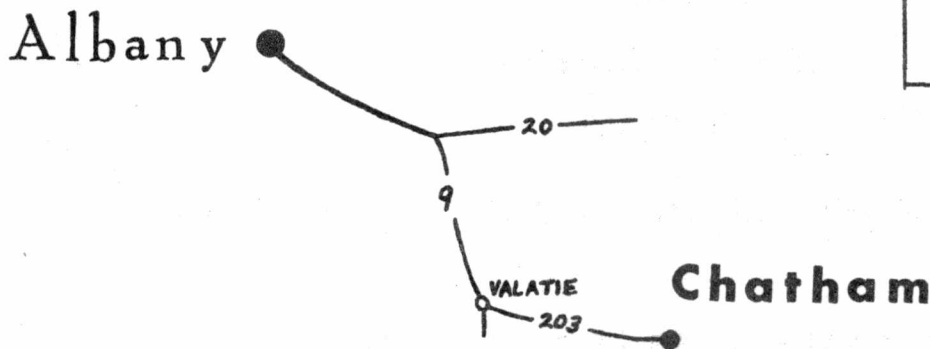
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THE RAVEL GAPS - or some other equally appropriate thing.

Since this issue is the first official one of the new year, it seems appropriate that some of the programs and goals for 1962 be outlined at this time.

The standard opening remark is one of thanks for the cooperation and support given me in the recent election. This item is not to be forgotten, of course, but I would like to add to it somewhat. The election is not an end but merely a beginning. The enthusiasm exhibited in December should not now drain away and be forgotten like yesterday's dishwater. Rather, we must do all that we can to cultivate it and channel it in the right directions for the benefit of the Region. No program, no schedule of events, no amount of work by a few members can replace the activity of a club working together for the benefit of all concerned.

Toward this end, let me state that there will be plenty of work for anyone willing to see it done. In the past, many of the necessary tasks have been done by a small group of persons; the Executive Board was often saddled with both planning and execution. This year, however, we plan to distribute the responsibility on a wider scale. More people will be asked to do more, thus giving each worker a little less to do. We ask that you do not refuse us. Older members are needed to provide experience and newer members are especially needed to gain enthusiasm and provide a change in our possibly hidebound methods.

The tentative events schedule for the year includes two driving gymkhanas, a gimmick gymkhana, and a gimmick rallye. These will be held in addition to the April Drivers' School and races in August at the Schenectady County Airport. Even

though the N. Y. Region is running these events, there will be plenty of work for us to do. And, of course, we do need helpers for the February 11 Ice Gymkhana. Please say yes when the gymkhanamaster calls upon you.

This publication falls into the same category. Only through the support of the whole Region can we expect a good newsletter. The contest now running may provide the stimulus that you need to submit an article. Don't be afraid, it can't hurt you.

At our regular meetings we hope to provide the kind of entertainment that will keep most people happy most of the time. The talk by Fred Carpenter in January was a sample of what you can find if you come to meetings. Why not drop in? Other meetings will feature films, discussions, and anything that you may suggest that we don't think of.

Art Frederick

A WORD TO THE WISE:

You're enjoying good health -
that's fine.

You want to remain well -
that's natural.

You may be careless -
that's possible.

You may have an accident -
that's probable.

You sincerely hope not -
that's obvious.

Then practice safety first -
that's wisdom.

BMSC ICE TRIALS
ONOTA LAKE
PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

The East Greenbush Howard Johnsons played host at the breakfast table and it soon looked like the Circle Inn on the 1st Wednesday, plus the kids. The early birds were Hanns & Ursula Flebbe, plus Cheryl Birdsey, who had booked passage for the day in the black Corvair. They were followed by Midge and Gene Birdsey in the grey MGA. Helen and John Olmstead arrived in the SAAB and this looked like the machine to beat. Then Chuck and Mary Schongar and son, Frank, arrived in the Daimler which is currently being prepared for the International Rallye out of Toronto. Then Marge, Phil, Stan, Sue and lil' Flip Groggins arrived (in two cars, natcherly); the station wagon and the Elva Courier. George and Vera Iliff, accompanied by their daughter, Donna, arrived in a new, bright red Volvo. Roly and Betty came wheeling in in a very, very hot Fairthorpe Electron Minor. The ole red Mark II MGA contained Gordon Nichols and Bill O'Brien. Last, but by no means least, came Dolores and Lonnie Granito and family in competition style, towing the stripped-down Sprite - impressive, huh?

After many hail and hearty greetings, the Calvacade moved out en masse, but shortly assembled in orderly single file for the tour out to Pittsfield. It was a nice ride and everything went well until we arrived in Pittsfield and half of us got lost, but in due time we all arrived at Onota Lake. We were greeted by our friend, Bill Turner, who lives out that way, who was there with (to steal a word from Ned McGurn) his camouflaged Sprite. The Officials promptly closed registration after the last car of our calvacade arrived. This made a total of 55 entrants. Many thanks to the Officials for waiting for the "lost travellers from the west".

The driver had the option of taking a passenger and most did. At least one of our group (in a sedan) was seen with his wife in the back seat. He said "I like to have the weight in the rear".

The course consisted of a long straight, into a hairpin turn, 2 sets of esses and another hairpin and back into the straight. There was sand placed in spots - mostly for the purpose of building up false confidence. Each contestant was given one practice lap which ended when they started their flying start and the finish was the same way.

It was very slippery into the first turn and stayed about the same thru the first set of esses. A little more traction was to be had in the 2nd set of esses and the big bend into the straight could be maneuvered at a reasonable rate of speed. This made it possible to get off to a decent flying start, but that first turn had to be respected, or else!!!! We would have all loved to have had just one more try.

The event was very well run and the control was excellent. The host club served coffee and doughnuts to all entrants and their passengers and tho' no one needed any help taking home trophies, it was fun and everyone had a terrific time including the kids. Come along next time and bring yours!

"FROM ACROSS THE BORDER"

The new Production Car Category for "62" looks interesting, especially Class A and F Production. I wouldn't be surprised if the Sabra Sport turned out to be the dark horse in F Production this year. (I'm partial to fiberglass)

Well, this is the time of year when all the backyard Momo's are awaiting the final changes forthcoming in the newly revised Production Car Category Rules which are supposed to be sent out this month. The hopes for wilder cams, higher compression ratios, bigger valves, etc., may be shattered. However, who knows? Instead of "The Car of the Month Club" it may be "The Parts Book Club of the Month". Anyway, I

don't think Sprites are going to use "Offys" as optional equipment. No matter how it turns out, it's still a lot of fun to take off for the weekend in your XKE or Sprite and play "Stirling" for a little while.

A friend of mine, Jerry Loyd, has finally reassembled his G Production D.B. and is very anxious to try again this year. He flipped on the uphill at Lime Rock last year and at the same time learned just about how far out you can get with a D.B. He didn't allow for the gravel at the foot of the hill.

I am in hopes that Bill Turner will have his camouflaged Sprite painted one color this year. Somebody may not see him crossways in the corner and.....

Will somebody please tell me how grid positions are chosen? They say that they put the fastest cars in front and so on. Last year at Lime Rock I had very slow times during practice and just couldn't get the car to go. Consequently, I wound up with the pole position. I'm not complaining, mind you, but it is embarrassing when the other drivers shake their fists at you when they pass by. (And now I will refer to that old, well-used phrase) - "WAIT TILL THIS YEAR".....

Respectfully submitted
for use in taking up space,

Ned McGurn

REAR VIEW MIRROR GLIMPSES
by Heada Hopup

Being a Broad has kept ole Heada from taking pen in hand....Annual Meeting - YIKES!! Like wild!!!Like Fun!!!.....
Congrats' to 1962 Officers...Mr. M-H-R, Mr. Bob Fertig, absent from Annuel meeting - wha?....Phil Fisher's flashing camera....Art and Jane having a ball.....Mary & Chuck Schongar joining club after winning Gene B.'s Hare & Hound Rallye.....Smilin' Dick Barton present - "its been a long, long time".....Bill & Jeanette celebrating the end of busy year of act-

ivities.....Gordon Nichols at mtg. doin' the twist....Midge Birdsey twistin'.....Word received Frank Williamson in Colorado.....new members, Bob Peterson, Phil Groggins and Courtney Makela - there twistin' too.....Carl Metzger, Al Jacobson, Roly Heacox - all awaiting arrival of Flying Red Pig.....(Wha' is a Flying Red Pig?)....Mac directing again....Hanns F. and wife taking part in all activities - and festivities.....new Sprite taking all Granitos to all events.....Help Wanted! Bob Wallace, Activities Director.....Vince P. and John Scanlan, ole Heada misses you, come back!.....Wanda attending meeting decked out in fancy party hat..... Gerry Oathout constructing special race monster.....Ned McGurn won't part with Fairthorpe and Gene Birdsey's Fairthorpe all in parts (are these Flying Red Pigs?)..... Bill Kane, welcome sight receiving trophy at the January meeting..... Get out your red flannels for the February Gymkhana.....who is more enthusiastic than Courtney Wright and wife?.....Al Bottieri and XKE absent.....Angus and XKE ever present.....Betty and Roly in new red kiddy kar.....Phil Raeder, Courtney M., Bob Peterson - there is a Flying Red Pig in your future.. ... (Wha' is a Flying Red Pig?..... OOPS! Flying Red Pig for Barney Galinsky, too.....Fred Carpenter's dissertation on oval racing and driving enjoyed by all..... Knock Off Cover - Hank without Life Preserver??.....Well, ole Heada had better put this on ICE..... Speaking of ICE, remember the Ice Gymkhana on February 11, Central Park Lake, Schenectady..... See you all there!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Love,

Heada

P A T R O N I Z E

O U R

A D V E R T I S E R S

CANADIAN WINTER RALLYE ENTRANTS

Roly Heacox and Chuck Schongar will co-drive in the "International Canadian Winter Rallye", starting in Toronto, Canada on February 9 and ending February 11. This is one of the toughest rallies on the F. I. A. Calendar. The course is over 1000 miles of Canadian roads, held at a time when you can expect the most adverse driving conditions. The entrants have equipped the Daimler especially for this event. We have been promised a full report on this event from Roly and Chuck for next month's issue.

Good Luck, Roly and Chuck!!!!!!!!!!
Have Fun!!!!and may you be VICTORIOUS!

eb & mb

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 27th - Central New York Region, SCCA is holding "The Abominable Snow Rallye". Starting 8:01 p.m. Sat., from J. C. Georg Corp., 4438 James Street, Rte. 290, East Syracuse, N.Y. A tough all-nite winter rallye - 300 miles, 10 hours on the road, 2 hours for rest stops. Entry fee \$5.00 - send to:
Morgan Cooper, Secretary
Central NY Region, SCCA
P. O. Box 591
Syracuse 1, N.Y.

February 7th - SCCA-MHR Meeting
8:30 p.m., Circle Inn, Latham, N.Y.

February 11th - SCCA Gymkhana on the Ice, Central Park Lake, Schenectady, N.Y. Gymkhanamaster, Gene Birdsey. Reg. 12 noon, 1st car off promptly at 1 p.m. Entry fee \$2.00 + 50¢ additional for each team car. See page 10 for additional information.

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
CIRCLE INN
December 9, 1961

The new officers announced are:
Art Frederick - R.E.
Hank Van Deusen - A.R.E.
Irma McClumpha - Secretary
Gladys Gaul - Treasurer
Bob Wallace - Activities Director
Mac McClumpha - Director
Bill Ackner - Director

Trophies were presented to Bill Kane Best Competition Driver.

Championship points for Region -
Roly Heacox, 1st
Gene Birdsey] 2nd
Ray Gaul]
Bill Ackner, 3rd

Trophies were also presented for the November 26th Rallye. Pettit, 1st, Olmsteads, 2nd and Shongars, 3rd.

Board of Directors meeting to be held on December 13th at the Circle Inn.

Trophies to outgoing officers to be presented at the January meeting.

Respectfully submitted

Ann Lee, Secretary

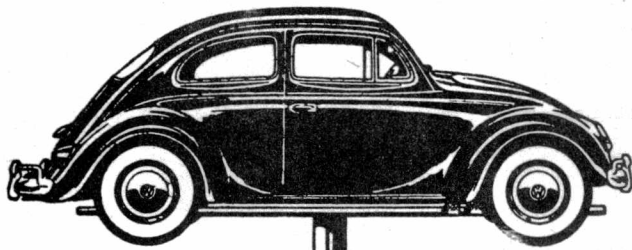
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
CIRCLE INN
December 13, 1961

Treasurer's report read and accepted. Balance is \$398.05. It was agreed to pay \$5.80 for engraving of Bill Kane's trophy.

It was agreed to have executive meetings at the Circle Inn on the second Wednesday of the month.

Appointments:

Midge Birdsey - Knock Off Editor
Gene Birdsey - Asst. KO Editor
Ray Gaul, Contest Board Representative



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The two Directors will assist Bob Wallace with activities until a committee is formed.

Ray and Gladys Gaul are to check with Fred Carpenter to be speaker at the January meeting. Bob Wallace is to check the Central Park in Schenectady for an Ice Gymkhana on Sunday, Feb. 11th. Gymkhanamaster to be appointed at the January meeting.

The membership will be asked if they want the minutes of meetings in the Knock Off.

There will be a contest for best writing submitted to the Knock Off. Award to be given at the Annual Meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Irma McClumpha

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
CIRCLE INN
January 3, 1962

Secretary's report read and accepted.

Treasurer's report read and accepted.
Balance is \$401.45.

Activities Director reported on tentative plans to have an ice gymkhana in Central Park, Schenectady on Sun., February 11.

Contest Board Chairman reported that the New York Region will have a Drivers School at the Schenectady County Airport in April. If successful, the N.Y. Region will hold a Regional race at the Airport in August. The M-H Region will be asked to help at both events.

Assistant Knock-Off Editor announced that the deadline for material will be the 15th of each month. The issues will be at the printers by the 22nd of each month and in the mail by the 26th.

Regional Executive reported that the trophies for out-going officers will

be presented at February meeting.

The R.E. reported that the Board of Directors has decided on a contest for articles submitted to the K-O. Contest to run from January through November with 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes. Awards will be made at the annual meeting.

The membership voted that both the regular and executive minutes of meetings be published in the K-O.

A motion was made by Gene Birdsey, seconded by Roly Heacox, that the executive board review the point system in order to make competition on a fairer level, if possible.

An amendment to the motion was made by Phil Raeder, seconded by Bob Peterson, that the point system be reviewed by the executive board and a recommendation be made to the membership for their vote. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Irma McClumpha

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
CIRCLE INN
January 10, 1962

Secretary's report read and accepted.

Treasurer's report read and accepted. Balance is \$419.20. A committee formed to submit a budget for the coming year consists of Art Frederick, Gladys Gaul, John Granito, Courtney Wright, Alternates - Phil Groggins and Hanns Flebbe.

The February Ice gymkhana was discussed. A formal request for use of Central Park will be written by the Activities Director. The Activities Director will also take care of insurance certificates. He will also appoint the gymkhana-master for the event.

Trophies were discussed. It was decided that the gymkhana master get

trophies and he will decide if he'd like trophies or merchandise for prizes. A tentative schedule for 1962 was planned:

- February - Ice Gymkhana
- April - Driver's School, NY Region
- June 17 - Gymkhana at Empire Raceway
- August - Regional race-NY Region
- November 18 - Gimmick Rallye

Program at the February meeting will be movies. It was decided to send a thank you letter to Fred Carpenter.

The R.E. announced again that the deadline for material to the Knock Off is the 15th of each month. Complete results of events should be sent to the K-0.

Press passes for 1962 will be given to Bernard Burns and David McClumpha.

Publicity Chairman will be Cliff Thorne.

The point system was discussed. The Board of Directors recommended that Bob Wallace write up a proposal for changes in points.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Irma McClumpha

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Trailer, 5' X 8' - \$125.00.....
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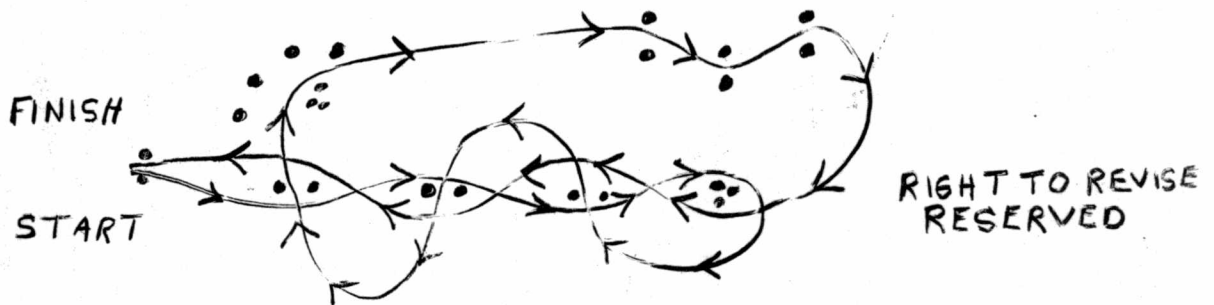
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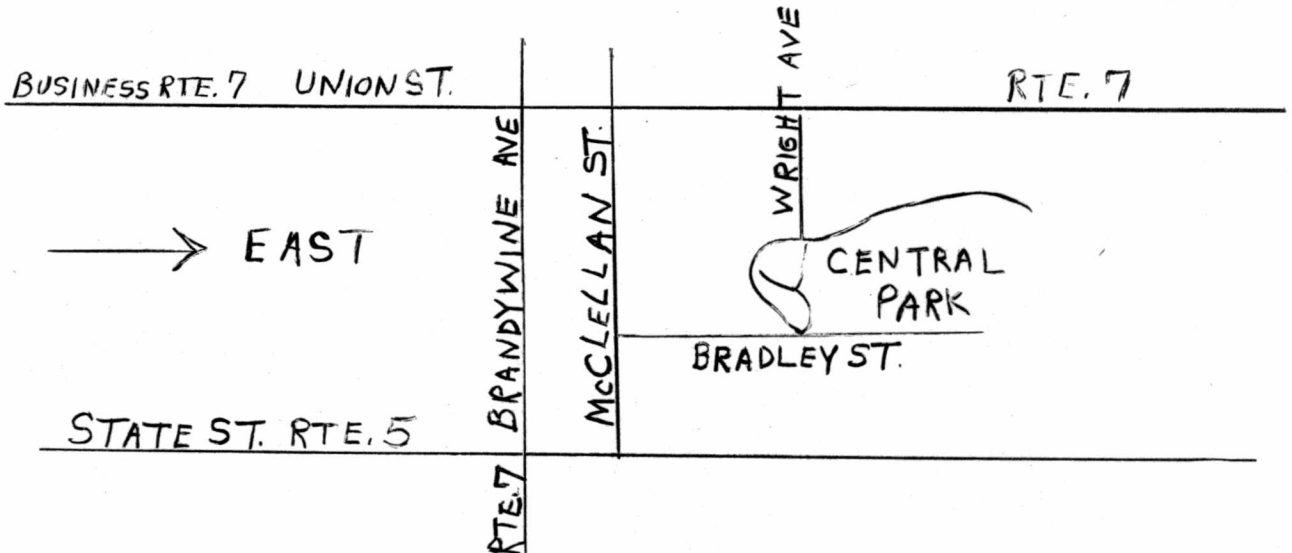
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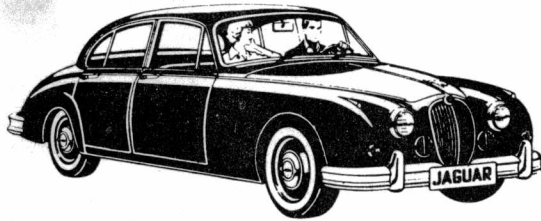
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