

BY SHERRY WINK

The Perfect "A"

Mr. Jones, the school principal, owned a Model A Coupe. It was a beautiful Andalusite blue, with a French Grey pinstripe. He spent every weekend polishing and waxing it to perfection. Then each day during the week, he carefully drove it three blocks to school.

Then he painstakingly covered it with its own canvas cover to keep the dust of it during the school day. At the end of the day, it was then driven home and again parked in its garage. The routine never varied.

Larry, oldest of the Sitzman boys, was in love with that beautiful blue coupe. He thought it was the most wonderful car he had ever seen. It was so perfect, and the chrome just sparked like diamonds. Every day he could, he arrived at school early so he could watch Mr. Jones drive up and he always volunteered to help put the car cover on. But Mr. Jones didn't let anyone assist him, he always insisted only he could put it on just right.

If you had asked Larry what car he would own if he could have any vehicle in the world, this would have been the one. It was just perfect, and Larry couldn't help compare it to his Model A pickup. Not that there was any

comparison! It was hard to even determine what color the Pickup was, and forget about the chrome sparkling, it

was always too covered with dust to even tell it was chrome. While the coupe was perfect, the pickup had so many dents and scrapes, it was starting to sag in places. Why oh why couldn't he have a perfect vehicle like Mr. Jones, Larry wondered.

This weekend, Larry didn't have time to go to town to watch his dream car being waxed. His cousin Steve was visiting, and they had plans. Early Saturday morning, once the chores were done, they were out the door, with a lunch pail full of extra biscuits and sausage left over from breakfast, courtesy of Mom Sitzman. She knew she probably wouldn't see them again until supper time!

Larry and Steve took the "A", loaded up the dogs in the back, and headed down the back road to their favorite fishing lake. It had rained recently but the Model A had no trouble digging right through those deep muddy ruts. The dogs in the back didn't mind the mud splattering up all around them!

Once arriving at the lake, Larry and Steve proceeded to wade right in with their fishing gear. Larry's pole was

(Continued on page 2)

PAGE	TITLE	PAGE	TITLE	PAGE	TITLE
1	THE PERFECT "A"	6	SIX DIFFERENT THINGS	9	Vintage Advertising
3	MODEL A ACESSORIES	7	GRANDPA'S GAMES	10	COLORING PAGE
3	MODEL A SAFETY	8	DRIVING GRANDPA'S A	11	RUMBLE SEAT
4	MODEL A CAMPING	8	ANSWER TO SIX DIFFERENT THINGS	11	Quiz

actually just a nice long willow branch, but Steve had one of those fancy store bought bamboo beauties.



He generously let Larry borrow it half the time. He hated to admit it, but Larry's willow branch caught fish just as well.

Soon the boys were up to their knees in water and mud, happily fishing away. The dogs spent their day chasing frogs and digging at turtles in the mud. Soon they resembled mud monsters. They completed their transformation by rolling in a dirt hole to dry off.

After catching enough fish to have a good fish fry that night, the boys stashed the fish on a stringer in the lake. Then they decided to try their hand in catching crawdads further up the creek. Jumping in the pickup, they took it cross country up to the bend around the corner, muddy dogs running along side, and jumping in the back when they slowed down. Larry and Steve were dripping mud all over the inside, but neither one of them even noticed, they were having so much fun.

The crawdad hunt was a big success, and the two of them ended up making a fire and boiling them up to supplement the lunch Mom Sitzman had so kindly packed. Then they just leaned back on the grass and watched the clouds drift through the sky as they caught up on each other's doings since the last time they'd seen each other.

Finally, noting the position of the sun in the sky, Larry decided it was time to head home. After all, they still had fish to clean and fillet so Mom could cook them up. With that thought, his stomach started grumbling like he hadn't had such a large lunch. It didn't take much to get Steven to agree, once he thought about those fish sizzling in the skillet. Mom Sitzman could make the best fish ever! Not to mention all the side dishes, green beans fresh out of the garden, mashed potatoes dripping with fresh churned butter, and hot bread fresh out of the oven. Now both boys were almost drooling, and quickly had the Model A headed back home. They made a quick stop to pick up the fish, and took off back down that dusty road, mud puddles and all.

As they pulled into the long driveway, a little too fast, the wheels dug deep into the dirt and the dust just billowed up, giving the truck, the dogs, and the boys a last coat of dust on top of the mud gather through the day. If someone had needed to guess the color of that truck right

then, they would have had to say "brown, dirt brown, inside and out!" But the two tired boys didn't even notice, there was fish to fry, and more fun to be had.

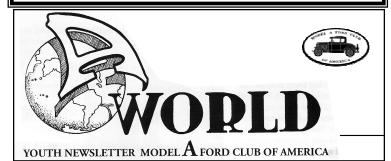
The remainder of the weekend passed much the same way, and much too soon it was time for school again. Larry made sure to get there just a little early to see that beautiful sparking coupe pull in. And once again, he thought to himself, "Why can't I have a beautiful shiny car like that one?"

From the March 1930 edition of "Boys Life":

Hold On

"I wasn't doing forty miles an hour" protested the motorist "or thirty or even twenty."

"Hold on" interrupted the judge, "or you will be backing into something."



A-World is published by the Model A Ford Club of America for the benefit of youth and the promotion of the Model A hobby.



Editor Sherry Winkinhofer AWorldEditor@hotmail.com

© 2013 All Rights Reserved by

Model A Ford Club of America 250 South Cypress Street La Habra CA 90631-5515

A-World subscription is free, courtesy of MAFCA to youth grades 1-12. Others may subscribe for \$10.00 per year or \$2.00 per issue. Call or write for information 562 -697-2712 or email AWorldEditor@hotmail.com

Model A Accessories

This is the first of a series of new columns about Model A accessories!

A lot of times when we look at the Model A, we ask, "was that original?" What we have to recognize is that from day one, Model A owners were adding items to the stock automobile. Some were authorized Ford parts, bought from the dealers when you bought the car, like air gauges & trunks. But many, many other accessories were available from multiple sellers. Here's one!

Spotlights

Spotlight were very popular back then. You have to realize that there were no streetlights if you broke down or came across an accident. And on a lot of farms, there was no electricity, just kerosene and oil lamps. Farmers found a bright spotlight on their vehicles to be really useful!



The "sportlite" was Ford's authorized version of a spotlight

But it wasn't the only choice on the market! Check out these beauties.



"Inner Controlled" -An early version of remote control?

No, just a handle that stuck through the door.





Model A Safety

One of the new safety features on the new Ford was the safety glass windshield. Although we take such safety measures for granted now days, it was a new idea for its time. It's said Henry Ford wasn't convinced of the need until several accidents occurred during Model A road tests.



In the first, Harold Hicks, a Ford Engineer was testing a Model A when on oncoming car turned in his path causing a wreck. His arm went through the windshield causing a severe injury. Later, Henry himself was in a

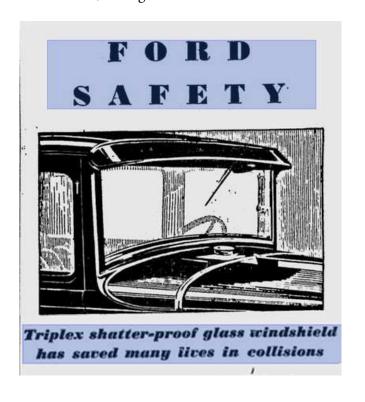
FORD (XXX) TRIPLEX

minor accident where he also received cuts. As a result, the Model A Ford had safety glass in the front windshield when it was introduced in 1928.

Safety glass" was actually invented by accident: In 1903, a Parisian scientist

who was experimenting with melting liquid plastic discovered that the glass beaker he was using would break, but not shatter like normal. But until the Model A, safety plate glass was not really used in cars.

Ford used "Triplex shatter-proof" glass in its windshield. By the late 1930s, Ford had started using laminated glass in all of its cars, calling it "Indestructo Glass."



Model A Camping

I bet you take going on vacation as a normal everyday thing. But in the Model A era, it wasn't that easy. Unless you were very rich, travel before the automobile age was a slow and difficult process, done by train, or by horse drawn wagons. Even a trip into town from a out lying farm was a tedious, day long or longer trip undertaken as rarely as possible!.

But the invention of the automobile changed all that. One of my favorite quotes: In the 1920's when a farm wife was asked by a reporter why there were more Model T's on farms then there were bathtubs, the reply was "you can't drive to town in a bathtub!".

With it being much easier to travel, it soon became very popular to take a motoring or touring vacation. Now back then, they didn't have all those hotels along side an interstate where you could just check in every night. So camping was the way to go! Whole families packed up the Model A, and took off on an adventure.

Check out these camping items that were sold specifically for automobile trips. All of these items were sold in 1928-1931 "Western Auto" Automobile parts catalogs.



My favorite has got to be this "Lean To Auto Tent". For those people that loved their car so much they wanted it in the tent with them! Maybe it was for a fast get away if a bear came along!



Then check out this car bed. I know they say people in the Model A era were smaller than us, but I still think this would be very uncomfortable and really hard on the vehicle's upholstery! But I guess you wouldn't need a tent if there was just one of you.



If you didn't want to sleep in the car, here was a folding bed for use in the

tent. Of course, you would need to bring the mattress too!

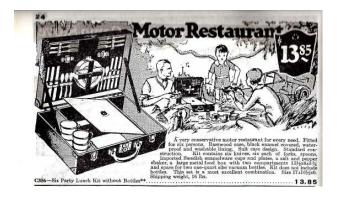




No need to worry about where to eat when you carried this on your running boards! A combined cupboard, table, refrigerator, and water cooler, what more could you ask for! '

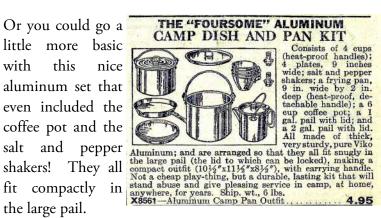
And here's a nice little extra, a shovel that was essential for ahem... restroom duty! (Think about it!)





For formal sittings, how about carrying your own restaurant with you? Of course, its just the dishes, you need to bring your own food!

Or you could go a little more basic with this nice aluminum set that even included the coffee pot and the the large pail.



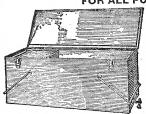




Let's not forget about the seating arrangements, no roadside picnic tables back then.

But you could always use this nice set, or a few of these auto chairs. Did you think folding chairs were modern invention?





You should have this refrigerator to keep foods clean, pure and sweet. Keeps perishable foods like milk, butter and meats in perfect condition. Clamps on the running board or trunk

Handles make it easy carry. Made of gal-

You could get everything but the kitchen sink apparently! But you could get a "refrigerator". Of course, today we would call "cooler". or

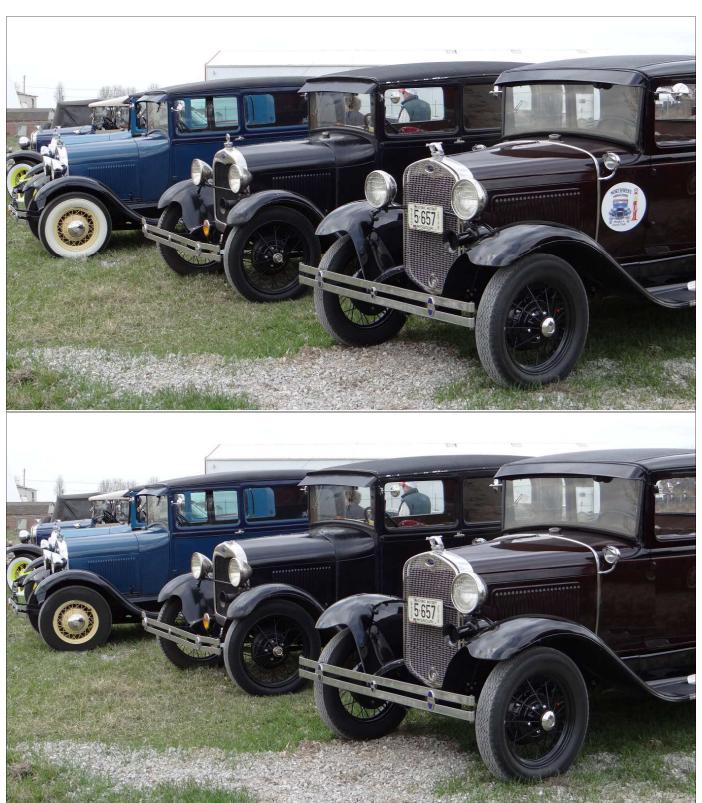


And finally, with space being an issue, I'm sure this folding pail and wash basin were popular items with Model A campers! No bathtubs or showers on the road!

SIX THINGS ARE DIFFERENT!

These Model A's are having fun on this Shakedown tour! But the bottom picture has apparently had a few things shook loose in the parking lot! Can you find them without looking at the hints?

The answers are on page 8, but don't peek too soon!



Grandpa's Games

Kick the Can—

Here's a game that doesn't need any special equipment to play. Just find a can, any can, that you can kick, and a bunch of people to play with, and you are good to go!

The basic rules:

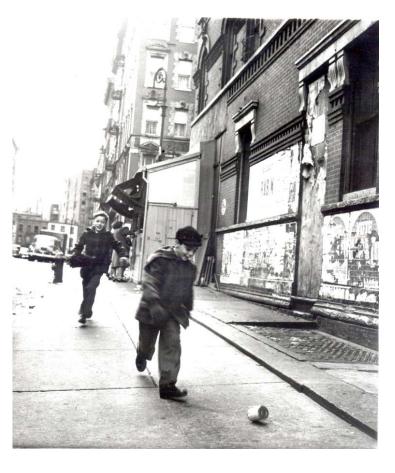
- 1. Get some friends to play, the more the better.
- 2. Find an empty can to kick.
- 3. Find a place to play. You need a clear space in the middle, where the can to be kicked is placed, and places to hide for players.
- 4. Choose someone to be "it".
- 5. Place the can in the middle of your playing area.
- 6. "It" stays at the can with their eyes closed, and counts to whatever number is decided. While "it" is counting, everyone else runs and hides.
- 7. When the "it" finishes counting, its time to go find everyone else.
- 8. When "it" sees someone, they call out their name. Then the hider and the "it" race back to the can. If the "it" gets there first, the hider is in jail. If the hider gets there first, they must kick the can (hard).
- 9. After the can is kicked, the hider runs to find a new hiding place, while the "it" gets the can and places it back where it was.
- 10. When someone kicks the can, all other hiders in jail are free to go and hide again.
- 11. The Game continues until all but one hider have been found. Last hider is winner.

Some variations:

"It" tries to tag each player instead of racing back to the can. Any player who is tagged (caught and touched) is sent to the jail.

When the can is kicked, one of the captured players is set free each time. The first person caught is the first to be set free, the second caught the second to be set free, etc. until the person kicking the can is tagged or all the captured players are freed. If "it" catches all of the players he or she wins that round and generally a new "it" is designated for the next round. The new "it" is usually the person that has been held the longest by the time round ends.

"It" just has to call out a player's name and hiding place rather than tagging him by touch. In some variations, "it" must jump over the can after calling the player's name and location.



Driving Grandpa's A

"Today, an older gentlemen stopped me as I was driving my Grandpa's Model A. He told me I was the luckiest kid on earth to be driving a nice car like this. Then he asked, 'Did you work on this by yourself?' I said, 'Yes sir I did'. He said he was proud of the way I had done the work on this, and that I know how to drive it. I very much appreciate what he said. Earlier, my grandpa also said, 'Nathan, you sure work well on the Model A, getting it shined up and driving it well.' Stuff like this is what you call respect."

The above is Nate Spears talking about driving his Grandfather's Model A pickup. Nate is only 16, but when his grandfather offered him the chance to get behind the

wheel of this beautiful vehicle. he didn't hesitate. According to his Grandfather, Charles Rothrock, didn't even have to show Nate how to drive it, he figured it out on his own in short order. Given the



Bringing the pickup back from a drive.

opportunity to run it up and down the driveway, he ended up taking it around the block, and it's been hard to get him from behind the wheel ever since.

He has now started learning even more about the vehicle, disassembling and rebuilding an extra transmission. He hopes to learn enough to get the pick-up tour worthy, but for now he enjoys driving it around the neighborhood. He did recently take it to the local burger shop where the Model A club meets, and shortly after arrival, as he puts it ",A whole pile of Model Aers were crowded around it." Sounds about right!

Nate stated that "cars need to run and be driven to stay in good shape" and he does his best to give this "A" some street He time. has already taken quite a few relatives on a drive and looks forward to being able to take some



Nate works on the "A" in his Grandfather's garage.

friends out soon. His posts on Facebook have already garnered quite a few admirers.

When asked why he likes the Model A, Nate states "It's beautiful: it's fun drive; and it's simple while still being complex." That sums it up pretty well!



Even when very young, Nate knew that he belonged behind the wheel of this Model A.

A few more jokes from a 1930's Boys Life Magazine: **Hot Air**

Fresh: (to garage tender): where's the scales?

Garage Man: What do you want with scales?

Fresh: I want to find out how many pounds of air I need in my tires...

Not Their Make

Difficult customer: I can't remember the name of the car I want, I think it starts with T.

Exasperated Salesman: Madam, all our cars start with gasoline.

Six different things:

Did you find them all?

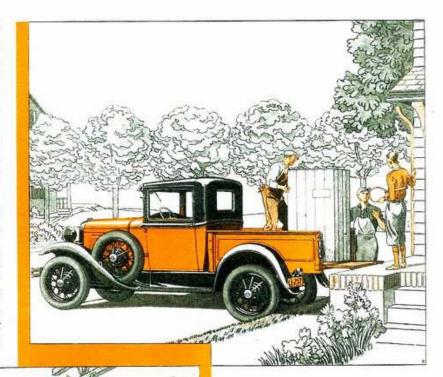


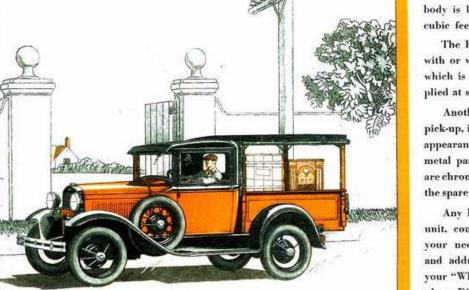
Vintage Model A Advertising

Added convenience, nore loading-space... New Ford Pick-up

THE pick-up light-delivery car, one of the more than forty standard Ford commercial types, is widely used by retail merchants, jobbers, distributors and others because of its sturdy and durable construction, alert performance, reliability and proved economy. It is a car that can be used for quick deliveries of many kinds of merchandise, as a service-car, and for all kinds of rough work with medium-size loads.

New features have been incorporated into the Ford pick-up which add greatly to its convenience, usefulness, and value. Most important is a loading-compartment of improved design, which has a flat bottom with straight sides and with square corners. This provides full-width loading-space at the floor. The floor is of sheet steel with pressed skid-strips. The





body is larger, with a capacity of 2234 cubic feet.

The Ford pick-up is available either with or without a canopy-top. The top, which is provided with curtains, is supplied at small additional cost.

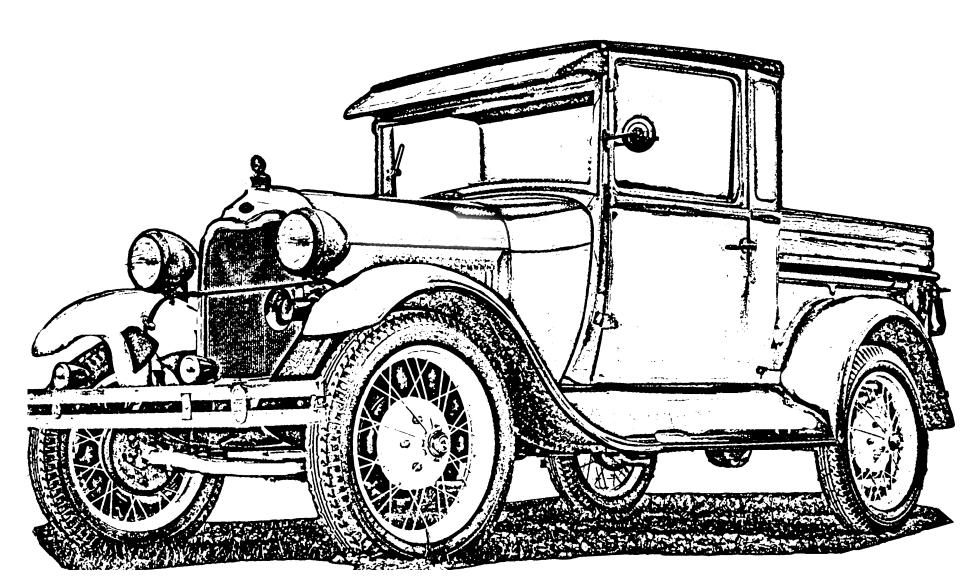
Another new Ford type is the de luxe pick-up, in which body and cab have the appearance of a single unit. Exterior metal parts are of Rustless Steel, there are chromium-plated brass side-rails, and the spare wheel is carried in a fender-well.

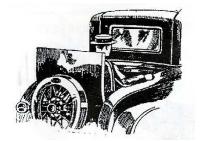
Any Ford dealer can supply a Ford unit, complete, specifically adapted to your needs. You can find the name and address of the nearest dealer in your "Where to Buy It" Classified Telephone Directory, under the name "Ford." In principal cities, there are centralized exhibits of Ford trucks and light-delivery cars.

Here's a great ad for the 1931 Model A pickup. I don't know why, but pickups weren't advertised as heavily as the cars. Maybe it because they are considered utility vehicles so they were bought as needed, not as a luxury. Although this ad does show a deluxe pick-up. But notice it is not in full color like most of the Model A ads. And unlike most other Model A ads, this one actually shows people working, not playing or at leisure in luxury surroundings. Just a hard working truck for hard working men. Did you notice the radio in the back of the bottom picture! And the wood crates in both pictures that are being delivered. No cardboard boxes back then!

Here's a nice Model a pickup for you to color!

This pickup is painted a nice bright red. But you can paint it any color you like as long as you paint the fenders black!





Rumble Seat

Sherry Wink

Spring finally sprung, and the Old Lady and I hit the road again! As I'm writing this, we've already been to two club tours, and a car show. And plenty more are on my schedule! How about you, anything fun planned this summer? Send me some pictures!!

Our shakedown tour definitely shook down a few things on the Old Lady. It took several trial and error tries to finally get it all figured out. And along the way, I learned where the starter switch is, how to remove the starter band (not a good thing to find smoke pouring from the starter when I did this), how to change the fan belt, and how to start the car by 1) popping the clutch when while someone pushed, and 2) by using the crank! We just said "the Old Lady was a little cranky". . . But overall it was nothing a new fan belt, tightened screws (on the starter rod), and a rebuilt starter motor wouldn't fix!

Something that was a new experience for the Old Lady was acting as a limo for Prom. Check out this picture with Ashley and her escort getting ready to ride to the prom in Model A style! Word from them is that it was "The best prom ever!" I know I enjoyed acting as chauffeur!

Looking forward to hearing from you, hope you are still enjoying A-World!



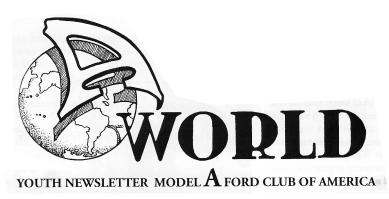
Is there anyone who would like to start receiving the A-World by email? If so, just let me know and send me your email address. One advantage to this is that you will receive it in color!

Quiz Time

Take a half sheet of paper. Number 1-10. Name at the top right corner. If you share this A-World with others in your family or friends, make sure you do not write on the newsletter pages. There are two ways to take this quiz: 1) Not looking back 2) Looking back as you take the quiz to find the answers. Try the "not looking" way first!

- 1) What were Larry and Steve hunting for after fishing??
 - A) Frogs B) Crawdads C) Turtles
- 2) What was Steve's fishing pole made from?A) Willow B) Elm C) Bamboo
- 3) What is the Ford accessory in this issue called?
 - A) Sportlite B) Headlight C) Taillight
- 4) What brand of safety glass did Ford use?
 - A) Triple XXX B) Triplex C) Trident
- 5) What was an important bathroom item for camping:
 - A) Cot B) washbasin C) spade
- 6) What is the collapsible washbasin made from?
 - A) Duck canvas B) Paper C) Tin
- 7) What did Grandpa kick?
 - A) bucket B) Bottle C) Can
- 8) What age did Nate learn to drive a Model A?
 - A) 15 B) 16 C) 17
- 9) What year is the pick-up being advertised?
 - A) 1929 B) 1930 C) 1931
- 10) What did the Old Lady have smoking?
 - A) Fan belt B) Starter Motor C) Starter switch





Model A Ford Club of America 250 South Cypress Street La Habra CA 90631-5515

Address Service Requested

