

The Automobile

WHEN THERE IS DANGER OF MIRING.

As it is said of those who are getting on in years that their thinking tends to become settled in grooves, so the motorist is always in danger of getting into a rut. While the spring time may be an especially rutty period of the year, these difficult places to get out of are apt to be factors in a motorist's experience at any time of the year. As long as cars are called to operate on anything but improved highways and paved streets there will always be ruts to avoid, or, if not avoided, to get out of.

When the frost is coming out of the ground or when spring showers and rainy days are numerous, getting mired with an auto is not an uncommon happening. Even on some provincial roads where the main roadbed is perfectly hard, the sides are often so soft that in turning out to pass another car or in meeting a car on the road the driver may find his machine sinking into the soft mud. If he is not careful his car may become stuck in this yielding substance. Surprises of this sort are apt to occur because in many cases the dirt or grass along the side of the road has every appearance of being hard and capable of holding up the vehicle. But ground in the springtime is not always as hard as it looks.

TAKE PRECAUTIONS.

If it is impossible to avoid a bad piece of road there are certain precautions which the careful driver can take. In the first place, he can see to it that his chains are on the tires and properly tightened. If the chains are too loose the wheel may spin around inside the chain when the car is stuck. Then as the driver approaches a bad spot he should shift his gears into either second or first speed as his engine is less apt to stall under such conditions.

In case there are some well worn ruts he may decide that it will be best to get in them. These grooves in the road indicate the path other cars have taken. A driver can assume that if no other cars are in sight then those which preceded him must have got through somehow. Having got into ruts of this sort it is far better to keep in them than to try getting out. In undertaking to get out the turning of the front wheels tends to slow the car down tremendously as these wheels turn turned have a similar effect to putting on the brake.

Of course, if it is absolutely necessary to get out of a rut in order to proceed that is something else again;

then the driver should remember that the steering wheel will require more than the usual twist in order to turn the wheels out of the ruts and that once the front wheels are out there will be a tendency for the car to make a sharper turn than the driver intends. On approaching an especially bad place a motorist should slow down his car. If he has been going along at twenty-five or thirty miles an hour he ought to come down to fifteen miles an hour or less when he strikes a poor strip of highway. "Go slowly" is a safe motto, but a comparison slogan which is much more important is "Keep on going." This is the most vital rule for soft ground traveling. He who stops is apt to get stuck.

TRY BACKING UP.

For those motorists whether they stopped or not, who are so unfortunate as to be stuck in the mud and unable to proceed the first thing to do is to try backing up. If the wheels spin when undertaking to go backward or forward after one or two trials further attempts along this line are apt to be futile. They may be even worse than futile, for the spinning wheels simply employ themselves in making bigger and deeper holes from which it will be more difficult than ever to extract the car.

In case there are several people in the car it might be tactfully suggested that they get out and push. It is not unlikely that the car, thus relieved of part of its load and having the advantage of the passengers' strength in pushing it, will be rolled along to more solid ground.

If this fails, however, another procedure is to jack up the wheels and build as substantial a road as possible under them by filling up the holes with small stones. It may be necessary first to build up some sort of foundation on which to place the jack before it can be made to function. A piece of board or brick or something of the kind can usually be found in the car, by the road or at a nearby house to help in such an emergency.

Still another method which has been found to work successfully at times is to dig a hole consisting of the mud or sand away from the front of the wheel, so that the road for a few feet ahead will be on a level with the bottom of the hole. This may make it possible for the driver in proceeding to get up enough speed while on this level to carry him through to a better road.

man her had taken their places, and were about to start out, Tom recovered his courage, and exclaimed: "Oh, dad! please let me go with the men."

"Why, Tom," replied his father, "that's a dangerous fish. There's no telling where and when he's going to strike."

But Tom pleaded so hard that the captain consented; and Tom, nimbly descending the ladder, was caught in the strong outstretched arms of one of the sailors.

"Be careful of that boy," said the captain.

"Aye, aye, sir," came back the response.

The boat, under the steady, strong strokes of the experienced oarsmen, danced merrily over the waves; and Tom, who sat near the helmsman, tried to dip the water with his hand.

"This is really glorious!" he said, as the boat receded farther and farther from the ship.

Once the keen, practiced eye of the harpooner caught a momentary glimpse of the fin—for it was really the twelve-foot fin of this monster of the deep—and called out: "Pull lively, men!"

"Aye, aye, lively it is!" And the boat seemed to fly over the water.

Suddenly a hissing sound, only a few feet off, startled all hands, and bearing down upon the boat with the velocity of the wind was the sailor fish, his great dorsal fin swaying to and fro like a huge fan, and his long, sharp sword elevated in a threatening manner.

"Back water, men—quick!" came the order; too late, however.

The sword pierced the side of the boat, crushing it like an egg-shell, and glancing upward, barely grazed Tom's back.

The boat careened, throwing the men into the water, one of whom caught Tom by the arm, just as he was disappearing under the waves; and they all struck out to swim away from the now enraged fish, who was lashing the water into foam and crushing the boat into fragments.

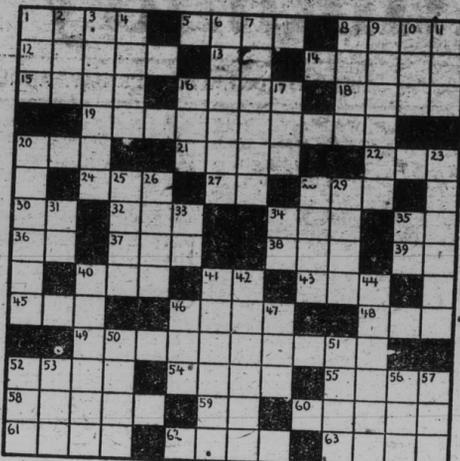
On the deck of the ship all was excitement. The wrecked boat and helpless crew were more than a mile from the ship, and Captain Blatchley ordered the cutter to be lowered away, which was done immediately; and the men bent to their work with a will, and were soon in the vicinity of the wreck, picking up the men.

Tom was discovered on the shoulders of one of the men, who was swimming toward the boat. As soon as he saw his father, he shouted:

"I'm safe, dad, but awfully wet and frightened."

A third boat had followed, by command of the captain, and as the fish rose again a harpoon was plunged into it, which only served to increase its anger. It bent its huge body into a crescent, and leaping high out of the

CROSS-WORD PUZZLE



SUGGESTIONS FOR SOLVING CROSS-WORD PUZZLES

Start out by filling in the words of which you feel reasonably sure. These will give you a clue to other words crossing them, and they in turn to still others. A letter belongs in each white space, words starting at the numbered squares and running either horizontally or vertically or both.

HORIZONTAL

- 1—To rub dry
- 5—Otherwise
- 8—To strike flat-handed
- 12—Perfect
- 13—Preposition
- 14—Extra
- 15—Sailors
- 16—To ignore rudely
- 18—A water container
- 19—Tightness
- 20—Also
- 21—To depend
- 22—Sprite
- 24—At present
- 27—Famous ball player (nickname)
- 28—Nominal value
- 30—Exclamation
- 32—Joyous
- 34—To harass
- 35—Otherwise
- 36—Pronoun
- 37—Recline
- 38—Anger
- 39—Point of compass (abbr.)
- 40—Encountered
- 41—Part of verb "to be"
- 43—Utilize
- 45—To place
- 46—To make liquors
- 48—Contradictory
- 49—Acknowledged
- 52—A Mohammedan prince
- 54—A vegetable
- 55—Double
- 58—To cauterize (pl.)
- 59—A southern State (abbr.)
- 60—A funeral hymn
- 61—Limits

VERTICAL

- 1—A humorist
- 2—Feminine name
- 3—Individual
- 4—Orient
- 6—A bird
- 7—Cozily
- 8—Gambling purchase (slang—abbr.)
- 9—Counselor
- 10—Exist
- 11—Through (prefix)
- 16—A term of respect
- 17—Turkish governor
- 20—Workman's implement
- 23—Woodland
- 25—Side glance
- 26—Linger
- 28—South American country
- 29—Central lines
- 31—Pronoun
- 33—Plural pronoun
- 34—Roman numeral
- 35—Preposition
- 40—Innumerable
- 41—Silvery
- 42—A threat
- 44—Tolerate
- 46—To cut short
- 47—To achieve victory
- 50—Does wrong (pl.)
- 51—To prepare for publication
- 52—Point of compass (abbr.)
- 53—Males
- 56—To grow old
- 57—Conducted

Stories About Well-Known People

Too Many Princes.

There are forty-six public-houses called "The Prince of Wales" in the current edition of Kelly's Directory, and I am not sure that a petition ought not to be signed to forbid any increase in the number, says an English writer. Why should our Prince be saddled with such liquid responsibility? Why should he be put into the category of Blue Boars, Jolly Farmers, and Bald-faced Stags?

The Prince himself tells an amusing story of an occasion when he was made to suffer intensely. It was during his University days. While at Oxford, he wanted to get in touch with a friend in town, and he tried to ring him up on the telephone. He had a great deal of trouble, and at last the servant at the other end was induced to admit that his master was but:

He was a new servant, so the Prince forgave him for the length and manner of their fruitless telephone conversation; but, later, he said to his friend:

"I tried to get a message through to

you, but I think your man took me for a public-house!"

King and Queen Enjoy Radio.

The finest available radio set, equipped with a loud speaker, has been installed on the royal yacht Victoria and Albert for the entertainment of the King and Queen on their Mediterranean cruise. Both are keenly interested in radio, listening in as often as possible when in London. The Queen especially enjoys talks and lectures, while both are fond of concerts by the Savoy band, specialists in American syncopated song hits.

The royal pair anticipate spending the idle hours aboard the yacht listening in to broadcast programs by causing the burden of their duties and engagements ashore prevent their devoting extended time to broadcasting. The yacht will always be in constant touch with London, but this is the first time specific arrangements have been made to receive radio programs. The yacht should pick up Madrid excellently, although with a large portion of the British fleet in the Mediterranean there is likely to be naval interference.

Who Plants a Tree.

Who plants a tree
Plants not what is, but is to be—
A hope, a thought for future years,
A prayer, a dream of higher things
That rise from out our doubts and fears.
As seed or acorn from the cold
And dungeon darkness of the mould
To light upsprings.

Who plants a tree
Blesses earth's children yet to be.
Toilers shall rest beneath its shade,
The dreamers dream of golden hours,
And frolic youth and winsome maid
Shall bless the shadow that it gives;
So, happy birds among the leaves,
And lowly flowers.

Who plants a tree
Plants aspiration heavenly;
Youth, with eternal upward glance,
And vigor, counting not the toll
That raises life 'bove circumstance;
Plants resolution absolute,
And home-bred courage striking root
In native soil.

Who plants a tree
Plants beauty where all eyes may see,
In mirror of her loveliness,
Now Nature fashions beauteous forms
Through sunny calms and darksome stress.

A parable of human life
That grows to excellence through
strife
Of beating storms.

—Robert H. Adams.
Literary Translation.
"Tell the gentleman I am in negligence, but that I will be down as soon as I am dressed," the girl instructed her new maid.
When she appeared she was greeted by a smiling young man caller.
"What are you laughing at?" she asked.
"The maid said that you were as naked as a jay, and that you would be down as soon as you put on some clothes."

Cumma, Venezuela, is the oldest English town on the South American mainland.

Gems From a Book of Laughter.

A precocious child found the long graces used by his father before and after meals very tedious.

One day, when the week's provisions had been delivered, he said, "I think, father, if you were to say grace over the whole lot at once, it would be a great saving of time."

A celebrated wit, coming from a bank which had been obliged to close its doors, slipped down the steps into the arms of a friend.

"Why, what's the matter?" said the latter.

"Oh," was the quick reply, "I've only lost my balance."

Jimmy giggled when the teacher read the story of the man who swam across the Tiber three times before breakfast.

"You do not doubt that a trained swimmer could do that, do you?"

"No, sir," answered Jimmy, "but I wonder why he did not make it four and get back to the side where his clothes were?"

A "religious" who kept a grocer's shop was heard to say to his assistant, "John, have you watered the rum?"

"Yes."

"Have you sanded the brown sugar?"

"Yes."

"Have you damped the tobacco?"

"Yes."

"Then come in to prayers."

"Do you suffer from cold feet?" the doctor asked the young wife.

"Yes," she replied.
He promised to send her some medicine.

"Oh," she said nervously, "They're not—not mine."

A master of a ship called out, "Who is below?"

A boy answered, "Will, sir?"

"What are you doing?"

"Nothing, sir."

"Is Tom there?"

"Yes," said Tom.
"What are you doing?"
"Helping Will, sir."

A young recruit was somewhat perturbed regarding a regulation about which his comrades had told him.

"If you please, sergeant," he said, "the other fellows say I've got to grow a moustache."

"Oh, there's no compulsion about growing a moustache, my lad; but you mustn't shave your upper lip," was the reply.

During a cross-examination an undertaker produced his business card, on which was a telegraphic address. He was asked why the latter should be necessary.

"Oh," interposed the judge, "I suppose it is for the convenience of people who want to be buried in a hurry."

A clergyman met a parishioner of dissolute habits.

"I was surprised but very pleased to see you at the prayer meeting last night," he said.

"So that's where I was!" replied the man.

Dog Tired, Maybe.

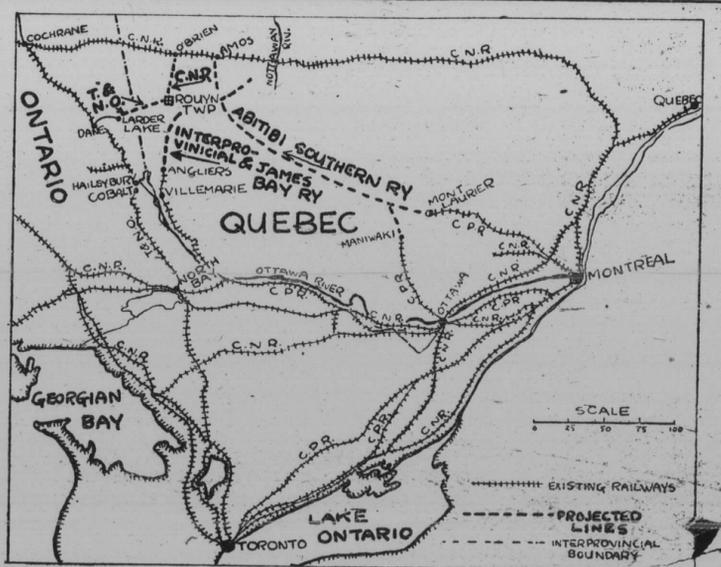
"It's a hard life," said the traffic policeman.

"What's the trouble?" asked the genial old gentleman.

"I had to fall down a fashionable dame just now for violating a traffic law. The look she gave me was bad enough but the way she gave me the dog yawned in my face was positively insulting."

Solution of last week's puzzle.

Battle of the Railways for Trade of Rouyn



THE RAILWAY SITUATION IN NORTHERN ONTARIO AND QUEBEC

The above map shows the railway situation in northern Ontario and Quebec in the battle for the trade of the Rouyn goldfields, which reached a climax recently by the refusal of Premier Taschereau of Quebec to grant a right of way into his province for the Nipissing Central, a projected branch of the T. and N. O. Railway from Larder Lake into Rouyn. The premier based his objection on the ground that Quebec having gone to the expense of developing the Rouyn mining field, an

Ontario line should not be allowed to divert the trade of the region to their province from Quebec. He contended that the projected line of the C.N.R. from O'Brien southward into Rouyn would be ample to meet the requirements of that district. He also mentioned the Abitibi Southern Railway, for which a charter has just been granted by the Quebec legislature, to run from Amos on the Transcontinental in a southeasterly direction, connecting up with Mont Laurier and

Maniwaki, present termini of C.P.R. branches. A further development is the right granted by the federal parliament to the Inter-provincial and James Bay Railway to run a line from Angliers or Ville Marie on their present line to the head waters of the Nottawa River in Abitibi county. All these projected lines and their connections with existing railways are shown in the above map, the projected branches being shown by broken lines.