

THE SANDYLAND CHRONICLE

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Editors note: Imagine the adjustments that had to be made by our ancestors as the first automobiles arrived in Nevada County. Some folks were curious, others were skeptical, and I'm sure some thought the world had gone plumb cuckoo. Below are several articles that give us an idea of what it was like in those days as these horseless carriages arrived.

PRESCOTT'S FIRST CAR

The Nevada News- May 6, 1909

The first and only automobile in Prescott is a homemade product. The design of the vehicle as well as the mechanism is the work of the brains and hands of a young Australian, Frank Terusen. The young Terusen conceived the idea of the machine about six months ago, and has been constantly at work on it along with his plumbing business. Removing the shafts from an ordinary run-about, he built a small platform in front of the dashboard where he placed a compact gasoline engine as the propelling power. Using tools in a local blacksmith shop, he welded the gearings, made the cog-wheels, propelling rods, brakes, etc. and a few days ago he appeared on the streets of Prescott with the machine in a successful operation.

Young Terusen was born in Albany, Australia 22 years ago. His father was a civil engineer there and later did construction work on the Panama Canal. Six years ago, Frank ran away destined for America. As a stowaway, he arrived in New Orleans in 1903. Using his natural mechanical talent, he worked in the plumbing trade and in 1907 he arrived at Little Rock, where he secured a position with a plumbing firm. He came to Prescott about a year ago and opened a plumbing establishment.

A 10 ½ HOUR TRIP FROM GURDON TO PRESCOTT

The Nevada News-May 12, 1910

The automobile of H. E. Bemis arrived here this morning about 3:30, the delay being caused by the driver getting lost in the Little Missouri River bottom and making a wrong turn after leaving Beirne. The machine left Little Rock at 10:00 yesterday morning and had reached Gurdon at 5:00 p.m. Had the right road been taken, it should have reached Prescott at least by 6:30.

TOURISTS ARRIVE IN PRESCOTT

The Nevada News-June 2, 1910

A touring party from Shreveport enroute to Chicago in an automobile drove into Prescott this morning at 8:30 and for 45 minutes drew around them a crowd of curious people. They are riding in a 50 horsepower Maxwell car carrying a 19 gallon gasoline tank. They left Shreveport Thursday morning. The party was complaining considerably on account of the roads, having made but 72 miles the first day and 28 miles the second day, coming here from Shreveport by way of Lewisville and Hope. They left here at 9:15 this morning and expect to make Little Rock by tonight.

THE SANDYLAND CHRONICLE

CHARLES JASPER GLIDDEN

Charles Glidden was born in 1857 in Massachusetts. He started work at age 15, working with Alexander Graham Bell in the telephone and telegraph business. He retired as an executive of the company at age 43.

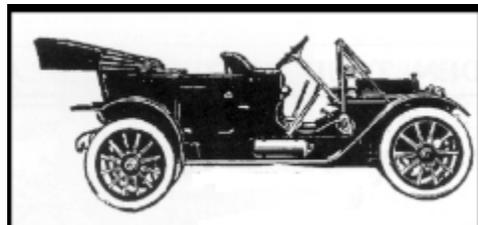
He was also known as an automobilist, making several long trips by car usually accompanied by his wife. To prove that the automobile was a reliable means of transportation, Glidden organized the Glidden Reliability Tours. These were held from 1905 to 1913. A magnificent trophy was awarded to the winner of each tour and there was fierce competition between the auto manufacturers to win the Glidden trophy. Glidden also was a strong advocate of balloon travel. He died of cancer in 1927.

PRESCOTT WELCOMES THE GLIDDEN TOURISTS

The Nevada News- June 23, 1910

A large crowd of Prescott people welcomed the Glidden tourists in front of the Park Hotel for four hours. The first contest car to arrive was Premier No. 1 coming in at 12:30 followed by the Glide at 12:46. The Glide was the tenth car out of Hot Springs. Then came Maxwell No. 7 at 12:49, Chalmers No. 3 at 12:55, and Chalmers No. 4 at 1:00. From then until 4:00, the cars came in at regular intervals and after waiting the required 30 minutes for dinner, they proceeded on their way to Texarkana.

The official pathfinder sprang an axle south of Arkadelphia and it is reported several cars were out of commission by accidents. The whirling, smoking, dust-laden autos came strolling in for nearly five hours and the crowds remained until the last, some missing their dinners, others slipping away to nearby restaurants and back again as quickly as possible. It was a big day, a novel experience, and women, men, and boys crowded around the cars in a mighty mass eager to find out every detail of the trip. The party reported the roads today were the worst they have found in Arkansas, but complimented the roads through Nevada County. Twenty one cars had arrived by 4:00 p.m. with five more still to come in. The official car passed Fulton at 2:00 p.m. and reached Texarkana at 4:11 p.m. Four cars had reached Texarkana by 4:09 p.m. The telephone company gave out bulletins on the progress of the cars into Prescott and the crowd knew almost to the minute when the first car would get in and were waiting with a kindly reception and lots of refreshments.



The Chalmers "30" Touring Car which won the 1910 Glidden Tour that came through Prescott. *Note: The 1910 Glidden Tour ran from Cincinnati, Ohio through Louisville, Memphis, Little Rock, Dallas, Oklahoma City, Omaha, Des Moines, and on to Chicago. It was the longest undertaken up to that time, a distance of 2851 miles. The average distance per day was 178 miles and the longest distance in a single day was 242 miles.*

THE SANDYLAND CHRONICLE

THE TIN LIZZIE

By 1926, automobiles were a common sight in Nevada County. Henry Ford and his assembly line were turning out automobiles very fast and the price was cheap enough that many people could afford one. It was said that you could get one in any color you wanted as long as it was black. In the January 14, 1926 issue of *The Nevada News*, the Wildcat Rd. correspondent had this to say about these "tin lizzies".

"Many a man is getting his license to wed him a Lizzie for one year. He should be sworn to say-Will you take Lizzie for better or worse; will you let Sal and the children do without and promise you will feed her gas and oil, keep her by your side, stand by her when she is in a mud-hole, love and cherish her until in a trash pile you do part."

Mrs. Lucille Knight Kirk, age 93, of Bluff City died April 9, 2002 in a Camden nursing home. Survivors include a son, Wayne Kirk of Texas; three daughters, Bernell Johnson and Doris Barlow of Bluff City, and Marjorie Keith of Lockesburg; 15 grandchildren; 31 great grandchildren; and 8 great-great grandchildren. Burial was at Bluff City Cemetery.

WRITE MOTHER

A Poem from the Camden News March 15, 1923

If you have a gray-haired mother
In the old home far away,
Sit down and write the letter
You put off day by day.
Don't wait until her tired steps
Reach heaven's pearly gate,
Just show her that you think of her
Before it is too late.

We live but in the present
The future is unknown.
Tomorrow is a mystery,
Today is all your own.
The chance that future lends us
May vanish while we wait,
So give life's richest treasures
Before it is too late.

If you've a tender message
Or a loving word to say,
Don't wait till you forget it,
But whisper it today.
Who knows what bitter memories
May haunt you if you wait?
So make the loved one happy
Before it is too late.

The tender word unspoken
The letter never sent,
The long forgotten messages
The wealth of love unspent.
For these some hearts are breaking,
For these some loved ones wait.
O show them that you care for them
Before it is too late.

Riddles (answers on page 4)

1. What has two arms, two wings, two tails, three heads, three bodies, and eight legs?
2. What has six eyes but can't see?
3. Why do dogs scratch themselves?
4. If you took 5 chocolates from a box which contained 21 chocolates, how many chocolates would you have?

THE SANDYLAND CHRONICLE

I got this from the Internet.

A fourth grade teacher collected old, well known proverbs. She gave each kid in her class the first half of a proverb, and had them come up with the rest.

As you shall make your bed, so shall you.....	mess it up.
Better to be safe than	punch a 5 th grader.
Strike while the	bug is close.
A miss is as good as a	Mr.
It's always darkest just before.....	daylight savings time.
Never under-estimate the power of	termites.
You can't teach an old dog new	math.
If you lie down with the dogs, you'll	stink in the morning.
Love all, trust.....	me.
The pen is mightier than the	pigs.
An idle mind is	the best way to relax.
Where there's smoke, there's	pollution.
A penny saved is	not much.
Two's company, three's	the musketeers.
Don't put off until tomorrow what	you put on to go to bed.
Laugh and the whole world laughs with you, cry and.....	you have to blow your nose.
None are so blind as	Helen Keller.
Children should be seen and not	spanked or grounded.
If at first you don't succeed,	get new batteries.
When the blind leadeth the blind,	get out of the way.
Don't bite the hand that	looks dirty.
You can lead a horse to water, but	how?

Answers to riddles on page 3:

1. A man riding a horse carrying a chicken
2. Three blind mice
3. Because they know where it itches
4. You took 5 chocolates, so you have 5

OLD LAND OWNERSHIP MAP

On the next page is a map of an area near Bluff City in Nevada County which shows who owned land in that area in 1861. This area was in Ouachita County at that time. I took this information from the Ouachita County tax records which are preserved on microfilm and available at the Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives in Old Washington. Each little square on the map is forty acres (640 acres per section). The roads on the map are as they exist today. You can see from this map some of the old pioneer families who settled this area. Some of their descendants still live in the area.

THE SANDYLAND CHRONICLE

THIS MONTH'S RECIPES

Eva Dell Henry's Chocolate Pie

Eva Dell Starnes Henry and her husband, George Henry, operated a store and gas station on the corner at Bluff City for many years. Both are now deceased and the old store building has been torn down. This recipe was submitted by their daughter, Patricia Farr.

1 cup sugar (almost)
1 tablespoon flour
1 heaping tablespoon cocoa

Sift above ingredients together three times.
Add 3 egg yolks (one at a time). Mix well.
Then add:
1 small can Pet milk
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup homogenized milk
1 teaspoon vanilla

Cook on top of stove while stirring until thick.
Pour into a baked pie shell (8 or 9 inch)

Beat 3 egg whites until stiff. Add $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sugar gradually and blend in. Put on top of pie and brown in oven.

For other pies, leave off cocoa and substitute with one small can crushed pineapple or $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of coconut.

IDEAL HOMEMAKER A LA MODE (from the Watts Family Cook Book)

1 cup of patience
Mix well with a dash of humor and add:
1 tbsp. of kindness
1 tbsp. of respect for the rights of others
1 tbsp. of ambition to seek more knowledge
1 tbsp. of community participation
1 tbsp. of neatness
1 tbsp. of efficient home management
1 tbsp. of interesting hobby
Blend with a steadfast faith in God and a child's laughter.

This mixture becomes more valuable when it is used every day and mellowed with experience. Do not refrigerate.