

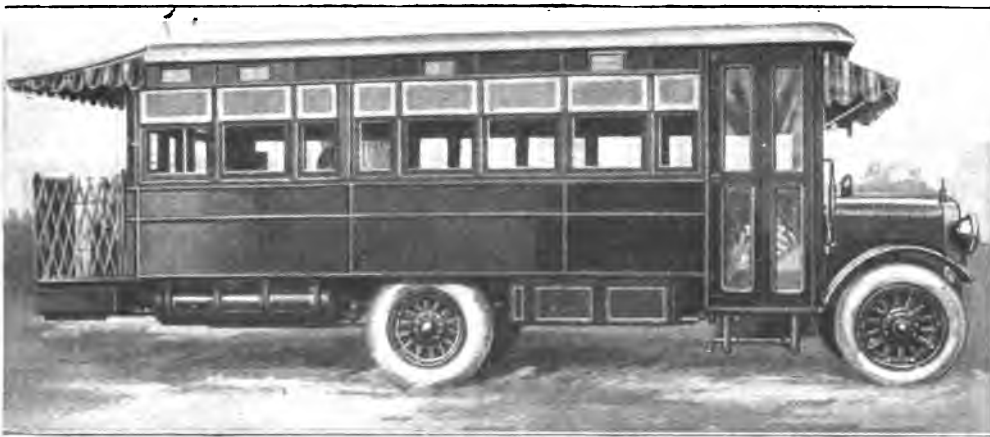
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WRITTEN SO YOU CAN UNDERSTAND IT

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Exterior of the Palatial Auto-Bungalow: The Long Overhang Balances the Load over the Rear Axle, Thus Relieving the Front Wheels and Making Steering Easier; the Underslung Tank Contains Compressed Gas for Cooking and Heating

AUTO-BUNGALOW TOURING WITHIN REACH OF ALL

BY WM. H. HUNT

THE auto-bungalow is the culmination of a movement which has been growing ever since the motor car became a reliable means of transportation. Its ancestor was the two-wheeled homemade camp trailer, designed to carry the tents, bedding, and other simple requisites of a two-weeks period of "roughing it" in the woods or at the shore. Little did the builders of these makeshift contrivances realize that they were obeying a desire which has finally found expression in

the vehicle was \$16,000, of which the major part was expended on the body and appointments.

A standard motor-truck chassis, fitted with pneumatic tires, forms the foundation—if such it may be called. The body, built to the owner's specifications, is a splendid example of the coach builder's art, spacious, substantial, and weather-proof. An over-all length of 30 ft. necessitates an abnormally long overhang in the rear which, though presenting an odd appearance, is a positive advantage, as it balances most of the weight over the rear axle, thus relieving the front wheels and making steering easier. The living quarters occupy the whole of the interior, including the space usually taken up by the front seat. This gives a clear space of approximately 8 by 20 ft., which is ample to accommodate a kitchenette, combination couches and folding beds, easy chairs, a folding dining-room table, and other necessary furnishings. The floor level is well above the top of the rear tires,



This Twentieth-Century Prairie Schooner Was the Bedroom, Dining Hall, Reception Room, Library, and Kitchen for a Family of Six during a Tour to California

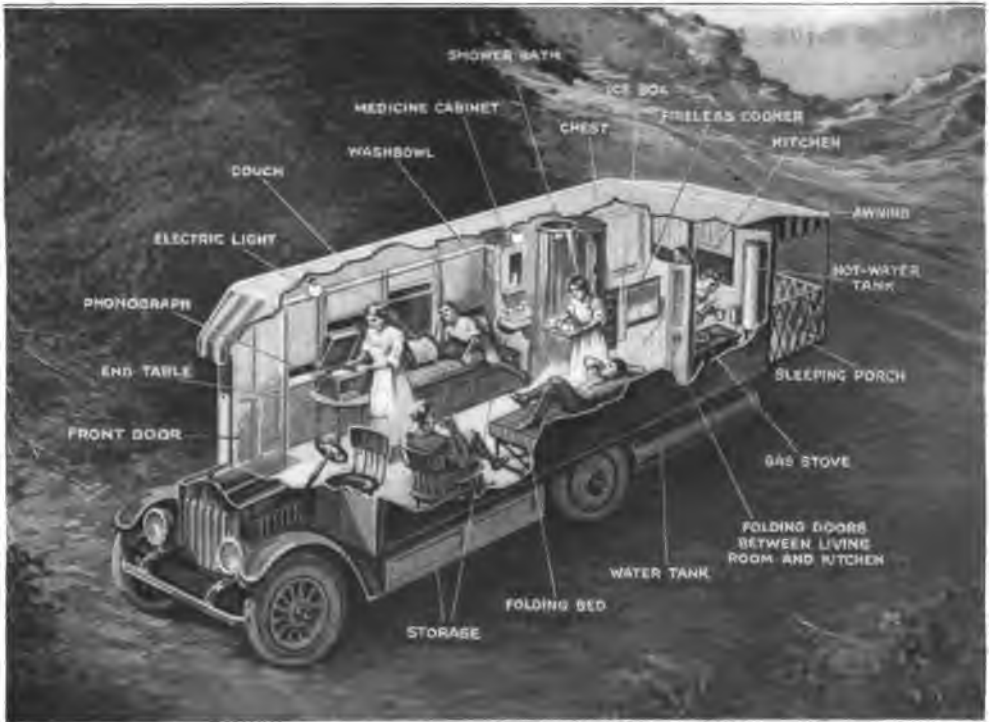
traveling homes equipped with conveniences not found in many rural homes. That this assertion is not overdrawn, an inspection of one of these automotive apartments, built for a retired eastern farmer, discloses. The complete cost of

which affords a surprising amount of space under the body edges for the stowage of steamer trunks, suitcases, and miscellaneous luggage. Sleeping accommodations are provided by three folding cots, which are made up on the rear observa-

tion platform, and by combination couches that extend lengthwise on each side of the compartment. The kitchenette is equipped with a gas stove, fireless cooker, refrigerator, and hot-water tank. Toilet facilities have not been overlooked, being amply supplied by a stationary washbowl, with hot and cold running water, and a shower bath. A special storage-battery and generator installation supplies power to operate 22 incandescent lights of small size but great brilliance.

The owner, his family, and two guests have embarked in this auto-bungalow for

breadth of the land. Thousands of the fraternity are quite independent of hotels, eating, sleeping, and genuinely living aboard their traveling homes. One of the most interesting of these outfits was built by a resident of Kansas City at a reasonable cost, last year. It consisted of a body modeled on the lines of an old-time "prairie schooner." The chassis of a popular make of light car, upon which it was mounted, was lengthened several inches to increase the wheelbase and improve the riding qualities. Six persons enjoyed a trip to the Pacific coast in the



Encamped for the Night after a Leisurely 100-Mile Run: The Ideal Arrangements of This Traveling Bungalow should Satisfy the Most Exacting. Few Rural Dwellings Have the Conveniences—Gas Stove, Shower Bath, Hot and Cold Flowing Water, and Electric Lights and Fans—Which Are Part of the Furnishings of the Very Latest Example of the Automotive Home

a tour of the United States which, according to the plans, will consume two years. The idea opens a vista of pleasant possibilities to the imagination, which, if dwelt upon, will likely arouse the latent wanderlust slumbering in one and stir up longings to go and do likewise.

That few are able to finance the construction of such wheeled palaces need be no bar to their partaking of the joys of the open road on a more economical scale, as witnessed by the growing swarms of self-sufficient tourists which frequent the highways throughout the length and

inexpensive vehicle at a considerably less cost than would have been the case had they traveled by rail. An even simpler equipment was that assembled by a Maine citizen. This was simply an open, canopy-top, light-delivery car, fitted with comfortably cushioned broad benches, which were used as beds by the younger members of the party of six. The others slept upon folding cots under a quickly erected half tent, one side of which was attached to the side of the canopy top and the other to tent pegs. Meals were prepared over camp fires or on an oilstove, depend-



Two Views of a Well-Designed Touring Trailer: The Canvas Extensions Fold Inward, and the Telescoping Sides Permit the Top to be Lowered

for a five-weeks' trip from Belfast, Me., to Santa Ana, Calif., including leisurely stops at all points of interest and two new tires, was \$312, an average of \$52 per person.

For those who have neither the leisure nor the ingenuity to originate and build outfits, there are numerous two and four-wheeled trailers offered on the market. Many of these are of quite elaborate design and make-up, including two comfortable berths, extension canvas sides fitted with mosquito-barred windows, kitchen cabinets, gas stoves, and luggage space. One or more is made on the double-deck plan, with the top deck collapsible. This arrangement furnishes sleeping quarters for four.

So far, in this country, those who have taken to the various modest or ornate wheeled homes have done so from choice, on account of the novelty and enjoyable features, and with the idea that the sojourn should be only temporary. But there is another angle of the matter that is not quite so enjoyable to contemplate. At the rate at which our increase in population is outstripping our home-building activities, the time may come, and shortly, when hundreds or thousands may be compelled to take up their residences in wheeled bungalows, cottages, or shacks, as the case may be.

ing upon the weather, and eaten from paper dishes. The party's total expense

This possibility is not so remote as it may seem. In France it is an actuality, so



acute that the French government has contracted for a quantity of two-story bungalows, mounted on two-wheeled trailers, for quick transportation to those parts of the war front where whole communities were left homeless. To be sure, we have not been swept by fiercely struggling millions, but peace has its ravages, secondary in severity to those of war, yet severe enough. Not the least disquieting of these is the housing shortage and high-rent era through which we are passing, and which seems to be becoming more critical as time passes. Another matter of grave concern to those living in the northern states is the yearly threat of fuel shortage and the attendant high price of that commodity. Were it not for the excessive travel cost thousands of families would gladly migrate south or west in an effort to better their condition or at least escape the rigors of the northern winters. When these factors are given considera-

tion, and an easy solution of the problems presented by them is found in the inexpensive method of climbing aboard a light, simply equipped car and, in a few days' travel—really a vacation—reaching a climate where the mean yearly temperature is 55°, and life's principal necessities spring spontaneously from the soil, it is not to be wondered that every season finds more families "hitting the trails" south or west in home or custom-made dwellings on wheels. If a census were taken, it would probably be found that these wayfarers constitute an army which outnumbered that of the '49ers many times over. The auto-bungalow or cottage dwellers are not all tourists by any means. Hundreds of them are people migrating from one section of the country to another, who have discovered that their outfits supply not only a satisfactory mode of transportation but also a comfortable home when they reach their journey's end.

NOVELTY WINDOW SIGN SPELLS WORDS WITH SNOWFLAKES

An advertising novelty for the shop window is a case, about 18 in. square by 4 in. thick, covered at the front by a pane of glass and at the back by a fine-mesh screen painted black. Thousands of tissue paper snowflakes are kept swirling and eddying inside the case by the blast of an electric fan. Pressed against the back side of the background, out of sight of the spectators, are the openings of a number of tubes so arranged that they form designs or groups of words. Four distinct designs and word groups are used. When a vacuum is created in any one set of tubes, the artificial snowflakes are caught and held against the inner face of the screen in an outline that spells the words or displays the design represented by that particular group of tubes. When the latter are relieved of the vacuum, the flakes are released and the blast from the fan quickly sweeps the background clean. As the miniature blizzard is continuous, the effect is pleasing though somewhat bewildering.

AUSTRIAN STREET-CAR TRACKS CLEANED BY NOVEL FRAME

A metal frame which is pushed along street-car or railway tracks to remove



Pushed by the Street Car, This Steel Frame Removes Dirt and Ice from the Tracks. The Steel Uprights, Seen at the Left, can be Adjusted to Fit a Track of Any Gauge

insulating dirt and ice, is an Austrian invention that is proving popular in Europe. The frame is made of bars arranged fan shape. The apex of the fan is coupled to the drawbar of the street car; the front of the frame carries two steel uprights, which are adjustable for gauge and carry the steel cleaning knives.