

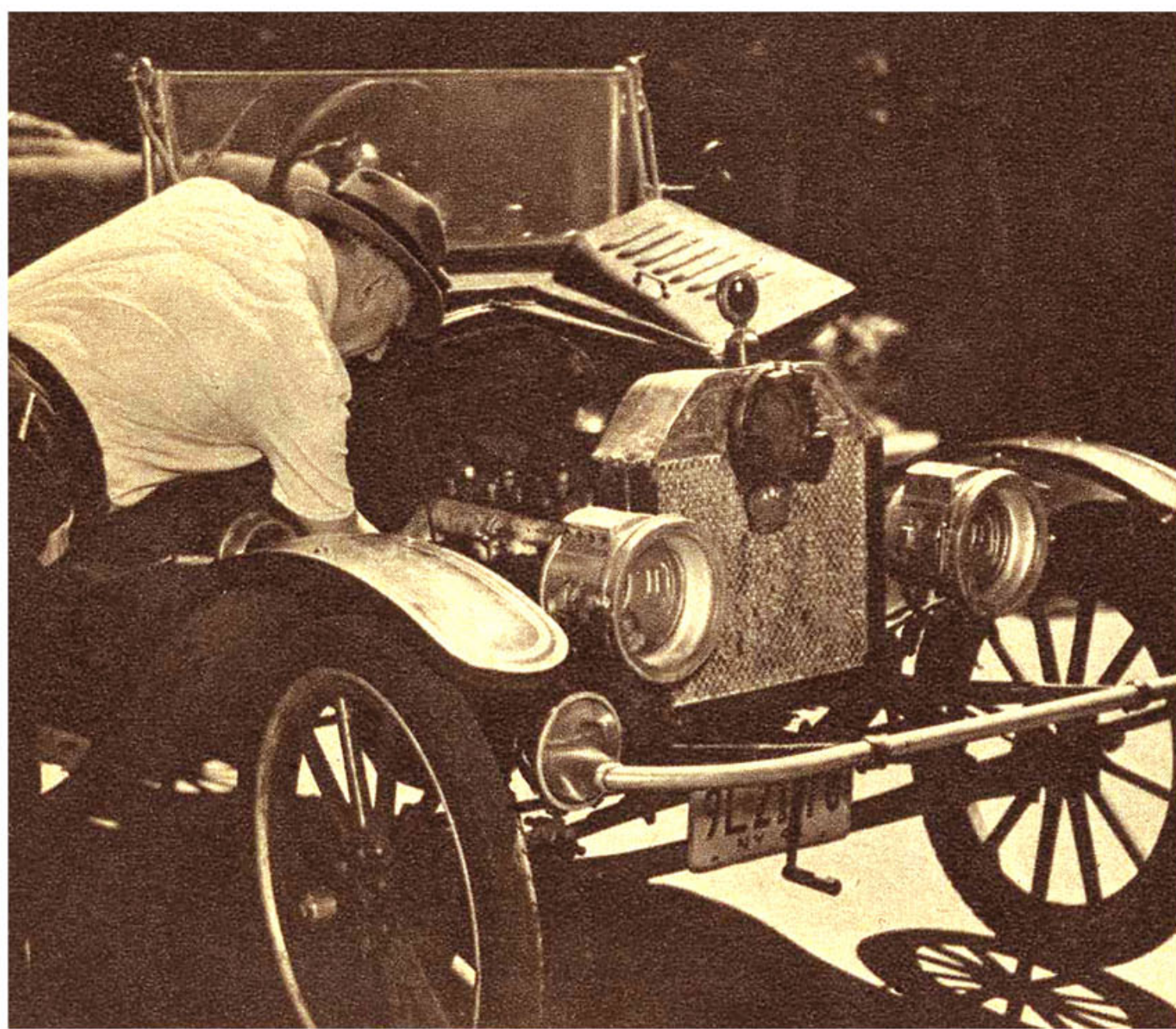
SPOT

NOV., 1941

MR. NYSTROM'S FLIVVER GOES ON FOREVER



A RELIC of the days when kids shouted "Get a horse!" at passing autos, this 1909 Model T Ford (serial No. 15,907) refuses to be retired to a museum. Instead, it continues to carry its proud owner, 61-year-old John Nystrom, around the streets of New York and on long trips into the country. Using the archaic gas buggy is by no means a gag with Mr. Nystrom. He's driven it steadily since 1912, when he bought it second-hand, for a total of over 250,000 miles. Although he still complains now and then that the Lizzie's first owner abused the car, he has kept it in excellent order through these 29 years and wouldn't swap it for a brand new car in an even trade. He's turned down several such offers, as well as one of \$2,000 in cash. Nystrom says he doesn't want to part with the automotive antique because too many pleasant memories are wrapped up in it, and besides, it gets him where he wants to go and back again, which is all the best of them can do.



The owner does all his own repair work. Two sets of fenders have worn away and the car is now on its third.

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FLIVVER

Of course, many of the later models go a bit faster, but Mr. Nystrom is in no particular hurry, and is satisfied with the maximum of 48 m.p.h., which he claims his flivver will do. Generally he holds it down to 25 or 30, and gets 18 miles to the gallon. The gas tank is under the front seat, and when the Nystroms start out for a ride, John has to push the Lizzie out of the garage, jack up the rear wheels, and crank. This makes starting easier when the engine is cold. Like a comic movie version, the car clanks like a boiler factory and shimmies until it warms up. Through no fault of the owner Lizzie is now on its third set of fenders. Others were worn and rusted away. Originally equipped with kerosene headlights, Mr. Nystrom substituted candles because kids kept turning down the lamp wicks.



Since 1917, Mr. Nystrom has nailed up Lizzie's license plates in the garage.



Curious crowds always gather around the antiquated auto, amazed that it still can navigate.