

A Picture by an Obscure Newspaper Artist Inspired Thomas Buchanan Read to Write An American Classic—'Sheridan's Ride'



SHERIDAN'S RIDE TO THE FRONT—From a drawing by Sol Eytinge Jr., which appeared first in Harper's Weekly in 1864 and was reprinted in 1867 with a statement by Thomas Buchanan Read saying that it inspired him to write his famous poem "Sheridan's Ride."

By **ELMO SCOTT WATSON**
(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

SEVENTY-FIVE years ago this month occurred an event which is familiar to every American—"Sheridan's Ride." For it was on the morning of October 19, 1864, that Gen. Phil Sheridan, famous cavalry leader in the Union army, was aroused from sleep in a house in Winchester, Va., by a staff officer who reported heavy artillery firing from the direction of Cedar Creek, where his army was stationed.

Thereupon "Fighting Phil" mounted his coal-black charger, Rienzi, and "rode toward the sound of the guns" to find that his army was being routed by a surprise attack by Gen. Jubal A. Early of the Confederate cavalry. How he checked the flight of his disorganized troops, gathered up the stragglers, formed a new line of battle and transformed what seemed to be a disastrous defeat into a Union victory is too familiar a story to need retelling here.

It was one of the most dramatic incidents of the War Between the States but it is not improbable that the memory of Sheridan's exploit might have become dimmed through the passing of the years had it not been for a poet. For, just as Henry Wadsworth Longfellow helped immortalize Paul Revere by writing a poem about his famous ride at the opening of the Revolution, so did Thomas Buchanan Read perform a similar service for Phil Sheridan.

But there is another man who should be mentioned along with Read in connection with this famous poem. You probably have never heard of him, for he was a "special artist" for an illustrated weekly newspaper and, although he helped make a pictorial record of the greatest civil war the world had ever known, his name is all but forgotten now. But if you will leaf through the files of Harper's Weekly until you come to the September 14, 1867, issue, you will find reproduced there the picture shown above and with it this statement:

"We reproduce on this page the interesting engraving of 'Sheridan's Ride to the Front,' published three years ago; and in connection with it we give the spirited verses of T. Buchanan Read, now well known and admired throughout the country. It will be seen by the following note from the distinguished author that the poem was inspired by the picture of Mr. Eytinge:

New York, Aug. 29, 1867.
Ed. Harper's Weekly:
Dear Sir: In reply to your question, it gives me pleasure to acknowledge that the spirited picture which you published of 'Sheridan's Ride' inspired me with the final impulse to write the poem.
Very respectfully,
T. BUCHANAN READ.

From this it is evident that Sol Eytinge, Jr., who was one of Harper's Weekly's "special artists" during the Civil war period deserves some of the credit

for the poem. And it is quite likely that he portrayed that historic scene more accurately than did Read, who was an artist as well as a poet. You will notice in Read's painting of "Sheridan's Ride," which is reproduced with



SHERIDAN'S RIDE—From the painting by Thomas Buchanan Read, author of the famous poem by that name.

this article, that he shows "Little Phil" impeccably dressed in his general's uniform, with his black hat set firmly on his head as he waves his sword in his right hand while his charger, Rienzi, seems to be suspended in mid-air, with all four feet off the ground.

According to the testimony of men who saw Sheridan as he dashed toward Cedar Creek on October 19, 1864, the reality was quite different from Read's pictured version of it. Instead of being a veritable fashion-plate of

facts as a writer—unless, of course, "poetic license" is sufficient justification for error. In the first place, Sheridan wasn't "twenty miles away" as the poem has it. It was only 13 or 14 miles from Winchester to Cedar Creek and Sheridan had his first view of his disorganized army at Mill Creek, less than a mile from Winchester. From there to the actual "front"—if there was such a thing on that day of near-panic and near-disaster—it wasn't much more than nine or ten miles.

SHERIDAN'S RIDE

Up from the South at break of day,
Bringing to Winchester fresh dismay,
The affrighted air with a shudder bore,
Like a herald in haste, to the chieftain's door,
The terrible grumble, and rumble, and roar,
Telling the battle was on once more,
And Sheridan twenty miles away.

And wider still those billows of war
Thundered along the horizon's bar;
And louder yet into Winchester rolled,
The roar of that red sea uncontrolled,
Making the blood of the listener cold,
As he thought of the stake in that fiery fray,
And Sheridan twenty miles away.

But there is a road from Winchester town,
A good broad highway leading down;
And there, through the flush of the morning light,
A steed as black as the steeds of night,
Was seen to pass, as with eagle flight,
As if he knew the terrible need;
He stretched away with his utmost speed;
Hills rose and fell; but his heart was gay,
With Sheridan fifteen miles away.

Still sprung from those swift hoofs, thundering South,
The dust, like smoke from a cannon's mouth;
Or the trail of a comet, sweeping faster and faster,
Foreboding to traitors the doom of disaster.

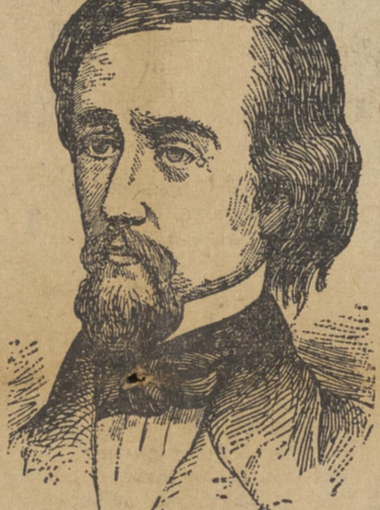
The heart of the steed, and the heart of the master
Were beating like prisoners assaulting their walls,
Impatient to be where the battle-field calls;
Every nerve of the charger was strained to full play,
With Sheridan only ten miles away.

Under his spurning feet the road
Like an arrowy Alpine river flowed,
And the landscape sped away behind
Like an ocean flying before the wind,
And the steed, like a bark fed with furnace ire,
Swept on, with his wild eye full of fire,
But lo! he is nearing his heart's desire;
He is snuffing the smoke of the roaring fray,
With Sheridan only five miles away.

The first that the General saw were the groups
Of stragglers, and then the retreating troops,
What was done? what to do? a glance told him both,
Then striking his spurs, with a terrible oath,
He dashed down the line, 'mid a storm of hurrahs,
And the wave of retreat checked its course there, because
The sight of the master compelled it to pause.

With foam and with dust the black charger was gray;
By the flash of his eye, and the red nostril's play,
He seemed to the whole great army to say,
"I have brought you Sheridan all the way
From Winchester, down to save the day!"

Hurrah! hurrah for Sheridan!
Hurrah! hurrah for horse and man!
And when their statues are placed on high,
Under the dome of the Union sky,
The American soldiers' Temple of Fame;
There with the glorious General's name,
Be it said, in letters both bold and bright,
"Here is the steed that saved the day,
By carrying Sheridan into the fight,
From Winchester, twenty miles away!"
—Thomas Buchanan Read.



T. Buchanan Read

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Like an arrowy Alpine river flowed,
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Sheridan's black charger on his famous ride was known as Rienzi because the horse was presented to him at Rienzi, Miss., in the summer of 1862 by Capt. Archibald P. Campbell. After the battle of Cedar Creek, the horse was given another name—Winchester, in honor of Sheridan's historic ride from that town. Winchester died in Chicago in 1878. His skin was stuffed by a taxidermist and is now on exhibition in the National Museum in Washington.

Strange Facts

Adam's Day
Slow in Anger
Spotted Aristocrats

The world's 250,000,000 Moslems observe Friday as their Sabbath because, according to Mohammed, this was the day Adam was created, the day he entered and was also expelled from Paradise, the day of his repentance, the day of his death and the day he will be resurrected.

Chameleons are "slow-motion" fighters. When two enemies start a battle, many minutes, even hours, pass between each thrust and parry. Sometimes the only way that one can tell a fight is in progress is by the color of their skins, which have turned black with rage.

Increasing age diminishes attendance at the movies to an astonishing degree. Surveys indicate that the number who no longer attend increases from 50 per cent at the age of forty to 75 per cent at sixty to 98 per cent at eighty.

Although about nine thousand members of Britain's aristocracy and sporting world are admitted to the Royal Enclosure at Ascot, England, at each meeting, thousands are excluded because they are in bankruptcy, involved in a divorce, owe too much money to a bookmaker or have not been presented at a royal court.—Collier's.

AROUND the HOUSE

Items of Interest to the Housewife

Metallic Scarfs.—Silver and gold embroidered scarfs will not tarnish when packed away if wrapped in black paper.

Distributing Bluing.—When making blue-water, try adding a little common salt. This helps to distribute the color evenly and prevents the clothes from looking streaked and patchy.

Spicing Your Cookies.—Add one teaspoon of cinnamon and one-half a teaspoon of cloves to your favorite cookie recipe. The two spices will convert an ordinary cookie dough into something delightfully different.

Apple Fritters.—Pare several apples, slice them, sprinkle the slices with sugar and allow them to stand in a cold place for an hour. Meanwhile, make a batter from one cup flour, two beaten eggs, one-half cup milk, one grated lemon rind, two tablespoons sugar and one-fourth teaspoon salt. Dip the cold apple slices in the batter and fry in deep fat. Sprinkle with powdered sugar and serve.

Shiny Windows.—A lump of starch dissolved in the water with which windows are to be washed will make the glass shine.

Retaining Color of Spinach.—The color of spinach will be preserved if a pinch of soda is added to the water in which it is boiled.

Tight Curtain Springs.—To tighten springs in curtain rollers, hold the rollers firmly and with pincers tighten the end springs.

Cleaning Felt Hat.—To clean a light felt hat brush well to remove all dust, then cover with french chalk. Let stand for several hours before brushing off.

Preserving Rugs.—Constant turning preserves rugs. They should be turned around every six months.

Rest Your Ferns.—After maiden hair fern has grown all during the year it begins to turn brown. This is a sign it needs rest as ferns, like all other plants, want and take their season for rest. Repot it and set in a shady place, water sparingly until a good growth of fronds appear, then give more water.

Living by Spurts

THERE are people who do their work in the world evenly, steadily, quietly. They get up in the morning knowing that the day has its appointed task, which must be done. They dispose of the task with serene exactitude.

The next day brings another, and the next another; each is performed in the same spirit. There is competence, accuracy, but no excitement, no enthusiasm, and likewise there is no discouragement or despondency. Such persons take work and play, as they take sleeping and eating, as part of the routine of life.

Other people live and move by spurts. Everything with them is a matter of zeal and passion. There are days when their daily labor takes on a glory. They see rich possibilities in it of achievement and distinction. They throw themselves into it entirely; they see new openings for effort, and take advantage of them, build large and splendid edifices of hope and confidence and call upon every resource of their spirits to realize them.

Then come days of reaction. Perhaps there is a physical element to consider. At any rate, the spurt collapses. If there is character behind it, the man goes on working somehow, gets his daily task done; but there is no passion in it, and very little hope. Such lives are made up of alternations of enthusiasm and despair.

ASK ME ANOTHER ?

A Quiz With Answers Offering Information on Various Subjects

- The Questions**
1. What are the following: (a) Adam's needle; (b) Adam's peak; (c) Adam's profession?
 2. Why is an artesian well so-called?
 3. What do the racing clothes including boots of a jockey weigh?
 4. Which are the two smallest states in Europe?
 5. A gnomon is a person of no importance, a dwarf, Scottish chieftain or a geometrical figure?
 6. To what does the song, "Comin' Through the Rye" refer?
 7. The unit of current or flow of electricity is called—an ampere, a volt or a watt?
 8. Which is the correct idiomatic expression—"If worst comes to worst" or "if worse comes to worst"?
 9. What American city was first known as New Amsterdam?
 10. What kind of foundations are under the buildings in Venice, Italy?

- The Answers**
1. (a) Various species of yucca plants; (b) Mountain peak in Ceylon; (c) Gardening.
 2. Because such wells were first sunk in Artois (anc. Arto-sium), France.
 3. A jockey's outfit seldom weighs more than 30 ounces.
 4. Monaco, the smallest state, is 8 square miles, and San Marino, the next smallest state, is 38 square miles.
 5. A geometrical figure.
 6. A small river.
 7. An ampere, named after Andre Ampere, French scientist who established the relationship between electricity and magnetism.
 8. Dr. Rossiter Johnson, in "Alphabet of Rhetoric," says—"If worse comes to worst" is often rendered meaningless by being changed to "if worst comes to worst." The original and correct form is evident on a moment's thought. It is essentially a continuation of from "bad to worse—from worse to worst."
 9. New York.
 10. Mostly piles.

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CENTURY CLUB PROGRAM
(Continued From Page One)

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 Mrs. G. S. Harrington

POULTRY ASSOCIATION
IN MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Members of the poultry committees of the Caesar Rodney and Hartly local poultry associations, and representatives of the State Board of Agriculture and the Extension Service of the University of Delaware met in the State Board building on Tuesday evening of last week to discuss plans for conducting a campaign for membership in the Delaware Poultry Improvement Association.

The Caesar Rodney group was represented by George M. Bringham, chairman; Paul M. Hodgson, secretary and vocational agricultural instructor; W. H. Richter and Charles C. Marker. Representatives of the Hartly organization included Louis B. Bloo, chairman; Ernest Smith, secretary; Melvin Blechman, Eric Lasch and Henry Morton.

The meeting was attended also by H. L. Richardson, extension poultryman of the University of Delaware, Kent County Agent Russell E. Wilson, H. R. Baker, poultry pathologist of the State Board of Agriculture, and J. Franklin Gordy, vocational agriculture instructor in the Dover High School.

In connection with plans for securing members in the Delaware Poultry Improvement Association (this campaign started October 10 and will continue for a period of ten days, closing with a victory dinner on the evening of October 31 for the winning team securing the greatest number of members. At the meeting last week Mr. Bringham of the Caesar Rodney committee challenged Mr. Bloom of the Hartly group to a membership contest.

Following the close of this contest the members of the Caesar Rodney local will hold their annual meeting on November 14, and the Hartly association will meet on November 15, for the purpose of electing officers and committee members. The object of this state poultry association shall be to promote the general welfare of the entire poultry industry in Delaware, and it is hoped that many poultrymen will become actively associated with this organization during the coming year.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
(Continued From Page One)

- Mary Mozik
 Grace Minner
 Thelma Wix
 Agnes Wright
- TENTH GRADE**
(Mr. Darbie's Room)
 Boys
 Carlton Barber
 Cabbage Brown
 Luther Hatfield
 Russel Legates
 Dick Richards
 Bob Roberts
 Fred Marvel
 Thomas Peck
 Harry Raughley
- Girls
 Anna Lee Brown
 Anna Lee Derrickson
 Gladys Kemp
 Christine Powell
 Marian Price
 Thelma Reutsche
 Hazel Thompson
 Ruth Brown
 Jane Hill
 Thelma Porter
 Genevieve Sapp
- ELEVENTH GRADE**
(Mr. Witchey's Room)
 Boys

Fred Greenly
 Franklin Koontz
 Lyman Price
 Gus Raughley
 Charles Townsend
 Merritt Tatman
 Brice Turner
 Robert Wix
 George VonGoerres

Girls
 Charlotte Ann Adams
 Louise Clifton
 Irene Ford
 Kathryn Greenhaugh
 Bernice Hickman
 Thelma Hall
 Lydia Johnson
 Pauline McCloskey
 Jean Messner
 Phyllis Masten
 Maxine Simpson
 Margaret VonGoerres
 Betty Jane Williams
 Pauline Wright
 Thelma Wright
 Audrey Wix

TWELFTH GRADE
(Miss Decker's Room)
Boys
 John Lord
 Louis Price
 Hayward Quillen

Girls
 Marguerite Billings
 Charlotte arimore
 Louise Lyons
 Evelyn Roberts
 Hazel Turner
 Evelyn Welch

REPORT OF CONDITION OF THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF HARRINGTON

in the State of Delaware, at the close of business on October 2, 1939.
 Published in response to call made by Comptroller of the Currency, under Section 5211, U. S. Revised Statutes.

ASSETS
 Loans and discounts (including \$1.93 overdrafts) \$181,981.20
 United States Government obligations, direct and guaranteed 135,606.25
 Other bonds, notes and debentures 463,251.75
 Corporate stocks, including stock in Federal Reserve bank 4,500.00
 Cash, balances with other banks, including reserve balance and cash items in process of collection 203,985.89
 Bank premises owned 839,850.00
 Furniture and fixtures 10,500.00
 Real estate owned other than banking premises 2,100.00
 Investments and other assets indirectly representing bank premises or other real estate 7,200.00
Total Assets \$1,047,975.09

LIABILITIES
 Demand deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations 203,284.68
 Time deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations 628,031.42
 Other deposits (certified and cashier's checks, etc.) 957.28
 Total Deposits 832,273.38
Total Liabilities \$832,273.38

CAPITAL ACCOUNTS
 Capital Stock (c) Common stock, total par \$75,000.00 75,000.00
 Surplus 75,000.00
 Undivided profits 60,877.63
 Reserves (and retirement account for preferred stock) 4,824.08
Total Capital Accounts 215,701.71

Total Liabilities and Capital Accounts \$1,047,975.09

STATE OF DELAWARE, COUNTY OF KENT, SS:
 I, Theo H. Harrington, cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
 THEO H. HARRINGTON, Cashier.
 Correct-Attest:
 WM. I. MASTEN
 WILLIAM W. SHARP
 W. T. CHIPMAN
 Directors.
 Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8th day of October, 1939.
 JOSHUA SMITH, Notary Public.

PLANS ARE COMPLETED FOR FIREMEN'S SUPPER

At the regular monthly meeting of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Harrington Fire Company, held Monday evening in the Fire House, plans were completed for the annual Firemen's supper to be held Thursday, October 19th at the Fire House.

Committees were appointed to solicit the town and firemen have been appointed to solicit the rural districts. This is the only time during the year that the public is asked to contribute anything to the Fire Company and it is hoped everyone will feel it their duty and respond generously.

The menu will consist mainly of chicken salad, fried oysters or ham and will be 50 cents per plate.

The solicitors are requested to report and turn in all donations at a special meeting to be held in the Fire House on Monday evening, October 15.

REPORT OF CONDITION OF THE PEOPLES BANK OF HARRINGTON

in the State of Delaware at the close of business on October 2, 1939.

ASSETS
 Loans and discounts (including \$17.41 overdrafts) \$389,104.07
 United States Government obligations, direct and guaranteed 99,749.24
 Obligations of States and political subdivisions 23,405.36
 Other bonds, notes and debentures 71,536.09
 Corporate stocks 17,928.50
 Cash, balances with other banks, including reserve balances and cash items in process of collection 93,559.06
 Bank premises owned 553,500.00
 Furniture and fixtures 2,913.50
Total Assets \$755,809.82

LIABILITIES
 Demand deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations 151,781.33
 Time deposits of individuals, partnerships and corporations 462,211.87
 Deposits of United States Government (including postal savings) 1,763.59
 Deposits of States and political subdivisions 2,631.00
 Other deposits (certified and officers' checks, etc.) 1,438.64
 Total Deposits \$619,826.51
 Other liabilities 15.19
Total Liabilities \$619,841.70

CAPITAL ACCOUNTS
 Capital 50,000.00
 Surplus 50,000.00
 Undivided profits 25,968.12
 Reserves (and retirement account for preferred capital) 10,000.00
Total Capital Accounts 135,968.12

Total Liabilities and Capital Accounts \$755,809.82

MEMORANDA
 Secured and preferred liabilities:
 (d) Deposits preferred under provisions of law but not secured by pledge of assets 1,763.59
 (e) Total 1,763.59
 (a) On date of report the required legal reserve against deposits of this bank was 38,872.05
 (b) Assets reported above which were eligible as legal reserve amounted to 93,559.06
 I, Randall H. Knox, cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true, and that it fully and correctly represents the true state of the several matters herein contained and set forth, to the best of my knowledge and belief.
 RANDALL H. KNOX
 Correct-Attest:
 SOLOMON L. SAPP
 A. C. CREADICK
 E. E. RASH
 Directors.
 STATE OF DELAWARE, COUNTY OF KENT, SS:
 Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11th day of October, 1939, and I hereby certify that I am not an officer or director of this bank.
 JOSHUA SMITH, Notary Public
 My commission expires 8-30-1943.

ON DISPLAY OCT. 14

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Look at the greatly increased size and luxury of this car with new longer wheelbase and stunning new "Royal Clipper" styling... And then you will know it's the streamlined beauty leader of the low-price field and the biggest value money can buy!

Tune into gear with Chevrolet's New Exclusive Vacuum-Power Shift... Test its matchless combination of power, acceleration, smoothness and economy... And then you will know it's the best-driving, best-riding and best-performing low-priced car!

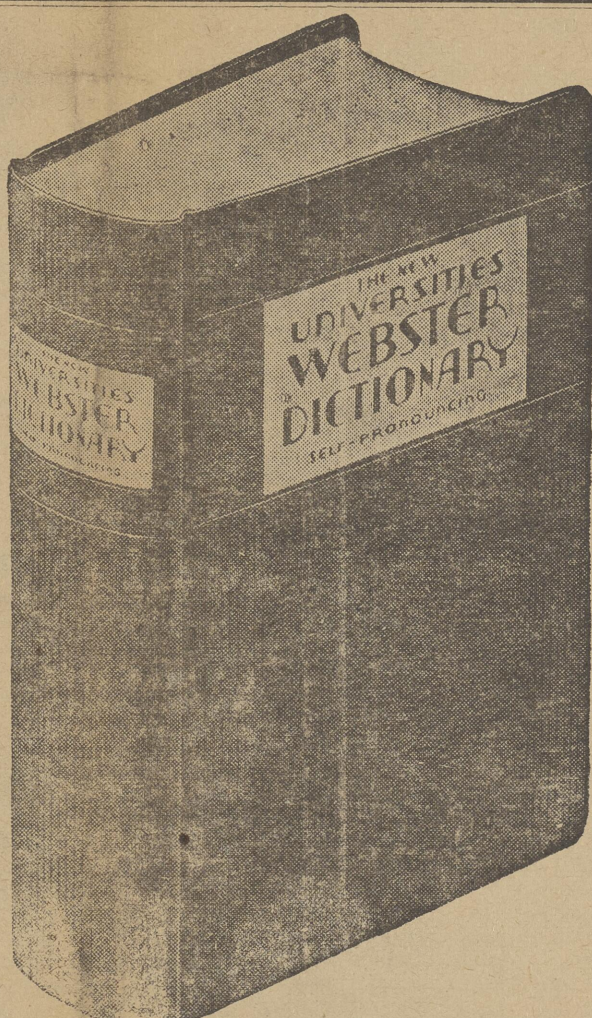
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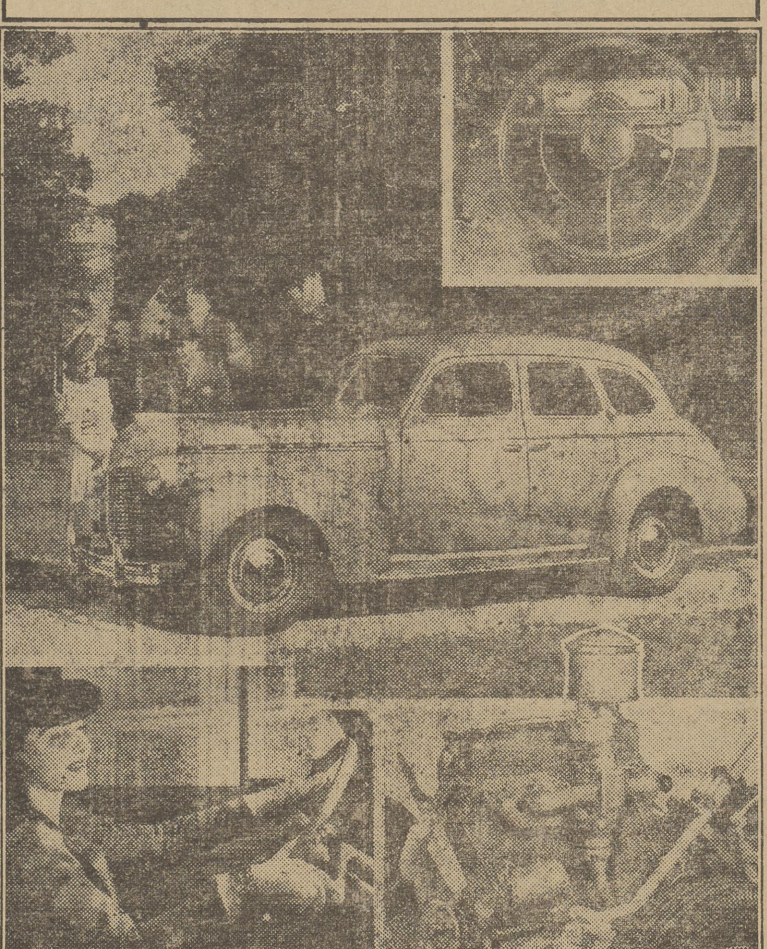
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