

# Perquimans People

Take it from a man who knows

## Nothing rides like a fine auto

Some people are just plain crazy about automobiles. So much so, in fact, that every time a last year's version of the same model is slightly modified, they have to have a new one.

That means every year. Willis Jessup, 65, thinks even more of a good car than that. He knows what makes them tick, and in his younger days, he would drive a car as fast as it would carry him.

But Jessup doesn't give a hoot for a new one. He knows there's no point in getting rid of a fine car, and the cars he owns are the world's finest.

The garage by his Market Street home holds five beautiful Rolls-Royce Bentleys, and Jessup is a member of the exclusive Rollis-Royce Owners Association, a club which requires a sponsor and a two year waiting period.

Jessup started collecting the cars in 1967, and since that time has competed successfully in numerous shows and rallies.

"I've never been beaten with the one I just put in the garage," said Jessup. That one happened to be a silver and black 1936 Bentley sports model.

The car is the pride of his collection, and will climb a hill just plain fast. Jessup tells the story of a 1976 road rally in Buck Hill Falls, Penn.

He was to carry a party furnished by the sponsoring club to time his run up the mountain. The poor girl who got the assignment was to receive the ride of her life.

"She was so scared that when she got to the top of the mountain she forgot to stop her watch," Jessup said. "She couldn't talk for five minutes."

Despite the fact that no time

had been recorded for Jessup, he was awarded second place at the awards banquet that night.

Another of Jessup's cars is a Bentley S-3 Long Wheel Based Radford Conversion. "The only one like it in the country," he maintains.

The leather rear seats fold down to make a double bed. Tea tables are built into the back of the front seats, both of them in burl Walnut, with identical patterns in each piece.

In fact, all of the wood in the car is burl walnut, and each piece matches its corresponding piece.

"It's hand picked from the Isle of Cypress, out of the stump of the walnut tree," said Jessup. "They don't shortcut these cars," he said.

The back seat bed is a special option that must be installed by a company approved by Rolls-Royce.

Jessup has another car, a Rolls James Young Convertible, in the early stages of restoration. It's a 1937 model, and parts are hard to come by.

"If I live long enough, I hope to go to ride in it," he said.

Aside from the almost priceless value of Jessup's collection, the most impressive thing about it is that he has done most of the restoration work on the cars himself, and he also handles his own mechanical work.

"I've had every piece of this one out," he said, pointing to the handsome silver Radford Conversion. "I get 'em all not in the shape you see 'em, but more like the one in the middle," he said, motioning towards the convertible.

Fit and finish are a pair of words often used in comparing American cars with the

foreign competition.

In fit and finish, though, nothing compares to a Rolls-Royce. "The English take pride in doing it better than anybody else," said Jessup.

And that kind of craftsmanship commands respect in its native country. Jessup said that on one occasion, he found out just how much clout the Rolls carries.

"My wife and I were in a cab in England and the cabbie pulled to the side of the road. 'I don't care to stop here,' I told him. 'Oh, no, I'm paying my respect to the Rolls,'" the cab driver responded.

Though he's been collecting only 13 years, Jessup's love for the automobile goes back a long way.

His father, a farmer and cotton gin operator just as his son was to become, believed in hard work, and imparted that belief on to Jessup.

"I got my first auto when I was 11 or 12 years old and found a discarded Model T Ford," said Jessup. There was a junk yard at what is known as Peter's Hill where the local Ford dealer, W.M. Divers discarded old cars and parts.

"I used to scratch through the junk yard after school and pick up various pieces. I'd take them home and work on it when I got time. I got that Model T running and drove it," Jessup said.

His next auto was another junker that he rebuilt, this time a 1927 Hudson. "I have great admiration for a Hudson automobile from my early days. I still drive a later model Hudson which is no more than an AMC," he said.

"It's the best automobile in America today. I keep one of these as a working vehicle," he said.

Jessup's latest acquisition is another Hudson, a beautiful two-tone 1929 model with hand pinstripping — a virtual lost art.

"I bought it in Ohio and started home. I got to Port Royal, Va. and maybe I had my foot a little too deep in the carburetor and broke a timing chain," he said. "But I went across the mountains with it and it ran like a dream."

The sport model, Jessup's favorite, also meant a lot to its prior owner. Jessup bought it from the 23 year old son of a

prominent Norfolk dentist.

The young man had dropped out of denistry school and became something of a playboy, when his dad decided to put a stop to it all.

He gave his son a choice. "Sell all your wheels and bring me the money and I'll use it to put you through dental school." The alternative was to never see another penny of his father's money.

The car was in a shambles, but as Jessup took it away there were tears streaming down the young man's face.

Now the son has become a successful dentist, and he and his wife have come to Hertford to visit the Jessups, and the car. The young dentist took great pleasure in tooling around in the Bentley, Jessup recalled.

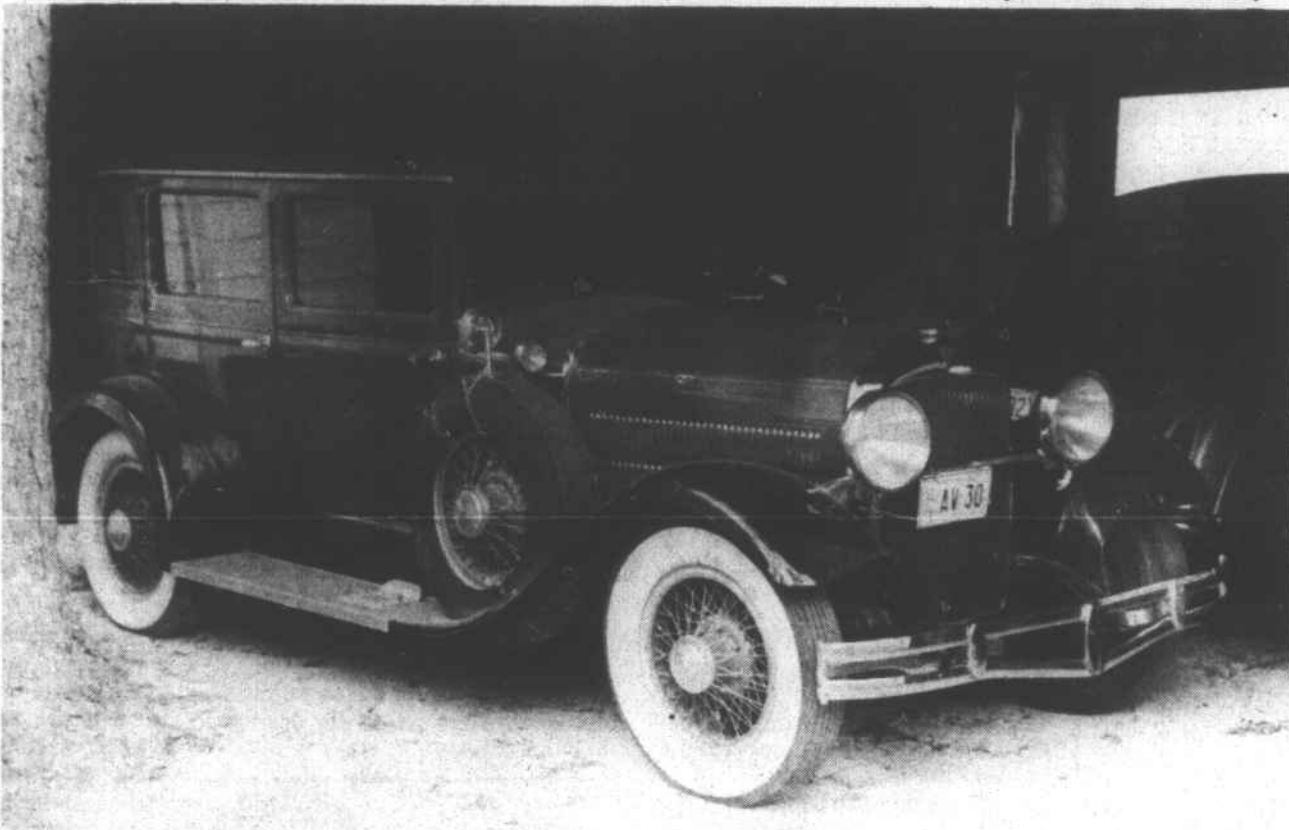
"He calls my wife faithfully every year to ask about me," said Jessup. "He wants that car when I expire."

Jessup knows what it means to love a car. The young man will get first shot at it. But not before he expires, which looks to be a few miles down the road yet.



Willis Jessup checks under the hood of his black on silver sport model Rolls-Royce Bentley. The Bentley is the that's something worth pride of his collection, and boasting about.

### Sport model and sport



### Teenage years revisited

A 1929 Hudson is the most recent addition to the Jessup collection. The car is similar to one Jessup drove during his teenage years.

## Insulating safety

The awareness of the need to conserve energy has made nearly everyone conscious of the value of insulating the home.

In many cases, it has become a "do-it-yourself" job. Amateur installers should be aware of certain safety precautions.

Protect yourself as well as the house by installing the insulation properly, caution North Carolina State University agricultural extension housing specialists.

For example, when you're working in the attic, provide good lighting so you can see what you're doing. Also lay boards or plywood sheets over the joists to form a safe walkway and working surface.

Watch out for roofing nails that might be poking through roof sheathing over your head.

Always wear gloves and a breathing mask when handling insulation. You will probably want to wear long sleeves, too, to avoid skin irritation that some of the

insulating materials can cause.

Most batt and blanket insulation has a vapor barrier attached. Keep in mind that vapor barriers should always be placed next to the living area. If you are adding new insulation over old and the new has a foil or paper vapor barrier, slash the foil or paper at frequent intervals. This helps prevent moisture from being locked in.

Place ceiling insulation over the top of the outside walls. Use a baffle to insure air space between the insulation and the underside of the roof deck.

Install floor insulation with the vapor barrier next to the floor. Floor insulation may be supported by wire supporters called "tiger teeth."

Keep combustible insulation materials away from chimneys. Never place any type of insulation within three inches of a recessed lighting fixture.

**Note of Appreciation**  
I would like to thank the residents of Perquimans County for their vote of continued support.  
**Joe Nowell**

CLASSIFIEDS DO THE JOB

**WATER HEATER PROBLEMS? GIVE US A CALL!**

**HEATING SYSTEMS CLEANED AND SERVICED!**

Call Lloyd R. "Flutch" Dail  
"ARTIFICER"  
ONE CALL DOES IT ALL!  
264-2752 RT. 3, BOX 60 HERTFORD

**NAPA**  
QUALITY AUTOMOTIVE PARTS AND SERVICE

**BUY GOODYEAR QUALITY AND SAVE! ON GOODYEAR TIRES!**

**GOODYEAR MURRAY MOTOR PARTS**  
HERTFORD, N.C. 426-5218

**MORE HEAT, LESS WOOD!**  
WITH  
**The ATLANTA STOVE**

With the Huntsman, an all-new, high efficiency wood heater with TRI-AIR draft controls!

**We Also Carry A Complete Line Of Wood Heating Accessories**

- Stovepipe Dampers
- Stovepipes, Collars & Elbows
- Thermostat or manually controlled blowers
- Tin heaters from \$44.50

**HERTFORD HARDWARE**  
MARKET STREET 426-5211

"Serving your heating and hardware needs for over 50 years."

**ATLANTA**  
Line of Quality

**HUNTSMAN**  
\$389<sup>95</sup>

**STARTS FRI.**

**Legend of the Wild**

AT THESE ALBEMARLE AREA THEATRES

GROUPS WELCOME SPECIAL RATES!  
CALL ONE OF THESE THEATRES FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Taylor** PHONE 482-2312

**CAROLINA** PHONE 335-1518

Another great idea from Quasar

**Instant, direct channel change**  
That's fantastic! That's Quasar.

**Quasar 25" CONSOLE COLOR TV**  
diagonal

• Solid State Service Miser™ 25 Chassis for reliability • Compu-Matic™ Electronic Touch Tuning • Dynacolor™ System locks in colors automatically • Dynabrite III™ Picture Tube for bright, sharp picture • Personal Touch, Tone and Sharpness Controls • Illuminated Channel Numbers • Provision for Cable TV Hook-Up • Casters • Rico Pecan grain finish on select hardwood solids and hardboard with simulated wood material • Model WU9624SS.

**COMPU-MATIC™ touch tuning**

**Quasar 25" CONSOLE COLOR TV**  
diagonal

• Solid State Service Miser™ 25 Chassis for reliability • Compu-Matic™ Electronic Touch Tuning • Dynacolor™ System locks in colors automatically • Dynabrite III™ Picture Tube for bright, sharp picture • Personal Touch, Tone and Sharpness Controls • Illuminated Channel Numbers • Provision for Cable TV Hook-Up • Casters • Rico Pecan grain finish on select hardwood solids and hardboard with simulated wood material • Model WU9624SS.

**COMPU-MATIC™ touch tuning**

**Your Choice \$695<sup>00</sup>**

**WESTERN AUTO STORE**  
135 E. Main St.  
Murfreesboro, N.C. 27855  
PHONE: 398-3172