

Physicians Lead as Autoists.

Wherever an attempt is made to classify automobile users according to their vocations, it will be found that the medical profession not only appears at the head of the list, but leaves a comfortable margin between its own figures and those of the nearest competitor. No other calling has availed itself of the advantages of the automobile with greater alacrity—and with obvious reason. How strong a hold the automobile has taken on the doctor's appreciation may be seen from a statement of the Maxwell-Briscoe Motor Company, that of 51,000 of its cars in use at the present time, 16,527 are in the hands of physicians. This gives the medical profession a lead that is not likely to be overcome for some time.

In calling the motor car into his service, the doctor does not pay tribute to fashion. He adopts this modern method of individual transportation in the same spirit in which he utilizes the valuable discoveries of science and the advantages of improved apparatus. It is essential, especially to the country practitioner, that he possess facilities for independent transportation—hence cheaper than horses, even when used to the fullest limit, says a writer in the *New York Evening Post*. It requires feeding only when running, while causing no expense whatever during periods of non-use. It doubles the usefulness of the physician, because he can call upon his patients in one-third the time, or he can call on three times the number of patients, increasing, in either case, his value to the community, and last, but not least, his income—not to forget the increased opportunity for study and recreation, gains which in our modern life are of equal importance.

Finally, the automobile is less troublesome than the horse, because it requires no grooming, no shoeing, no veterinary skill; in fact, it is not in need of any sort of attention that cannot be given to it by the doctor himself. Likewise, it adds dignity to the doctor's calling, in proclaiming him to the community as a progressive member of the medical fraternity.

Automobiles are becoming more and more of an absolute necessity to the doctor, for in addition to all that has been said they mean convenience, pleasure, and relaxation when the routine of the physician's calling gives way to rest and recreation.