Upkeep of the Car

By W. E. Hill

"Watch your car for you, mister!" Ike is a very accommodating boy, and for the modest sum of fifty cents he will wash your car after you've parked it in the public parking place. This item should be put down in the luxury column when adding up the expense account.

The hard-hearted cop, the member of the family who just will not park in the wrong place, and the little slip which means a fine in the traffic court tomorrow. Just another little item in the upkeep of the car.

"Harry, don't you dare try and pass that car! Do you want to get us arrested? O, dear!" The amount of nervous energy expended in combating a back seat driver during one fiscal year would, according to, if converted into panning, provide for the upkeep of a dozen high priced cars for as many years.

Those little Saturday-to-Monday tours are expensive items in the budget of a car owner. If the route lies along country roads where antiques shops ply their wares, a Boston rocker or a slat back is bound to creep into the expense account before Monday morning. Particularly if the little wife is one of those women who is driven almost insane with envy by the sight of a farmer's wife sitting on a porch in a Boston rocker or a slat back chair.

Laundry bills are certainly one sky high in these families where Poppa and Eddie do not keep the bath towel. A nice bath towel is far better than rags and waste to wipe off the grease. A good towel is even better!

Lester, the chauffeur, and Mike, the garage owner, are having a little friendly get-together over the month's garage bill. Lester gets a slight rake-off, but that, thanks to Mike's clever figuring, will more than take care of Mike in the sun year.

Something to be reckoned with in the expense account of the car owner is the money spent on lactic acid of soda after an afternoon along a public highway. Indeed, there are those who whisper that the hot dog and ice cream cone stands are run by a syndicate which controls the bicarbonate of soda interests.

The upkeep on feminine accessories to a well kept car is really much less than it was in the early days of motoring. Observe, if you will, the 1927 girl, all ready for the start road with practically nothing extra tucked on, and then look at the young lady of twenty years ago or thereabouts, about to venture forth in her new Winter. A swell girl in those days had to have a motor coat, goggles, gauntlets, cap, and automobile veil, if she wanted to register class on the highway.

The money spent on motor car accessories is considerably increased if you live next door to a neighbor who likes to borrow your tools. Especially if your garage is right near his. Maybe he'll return them.