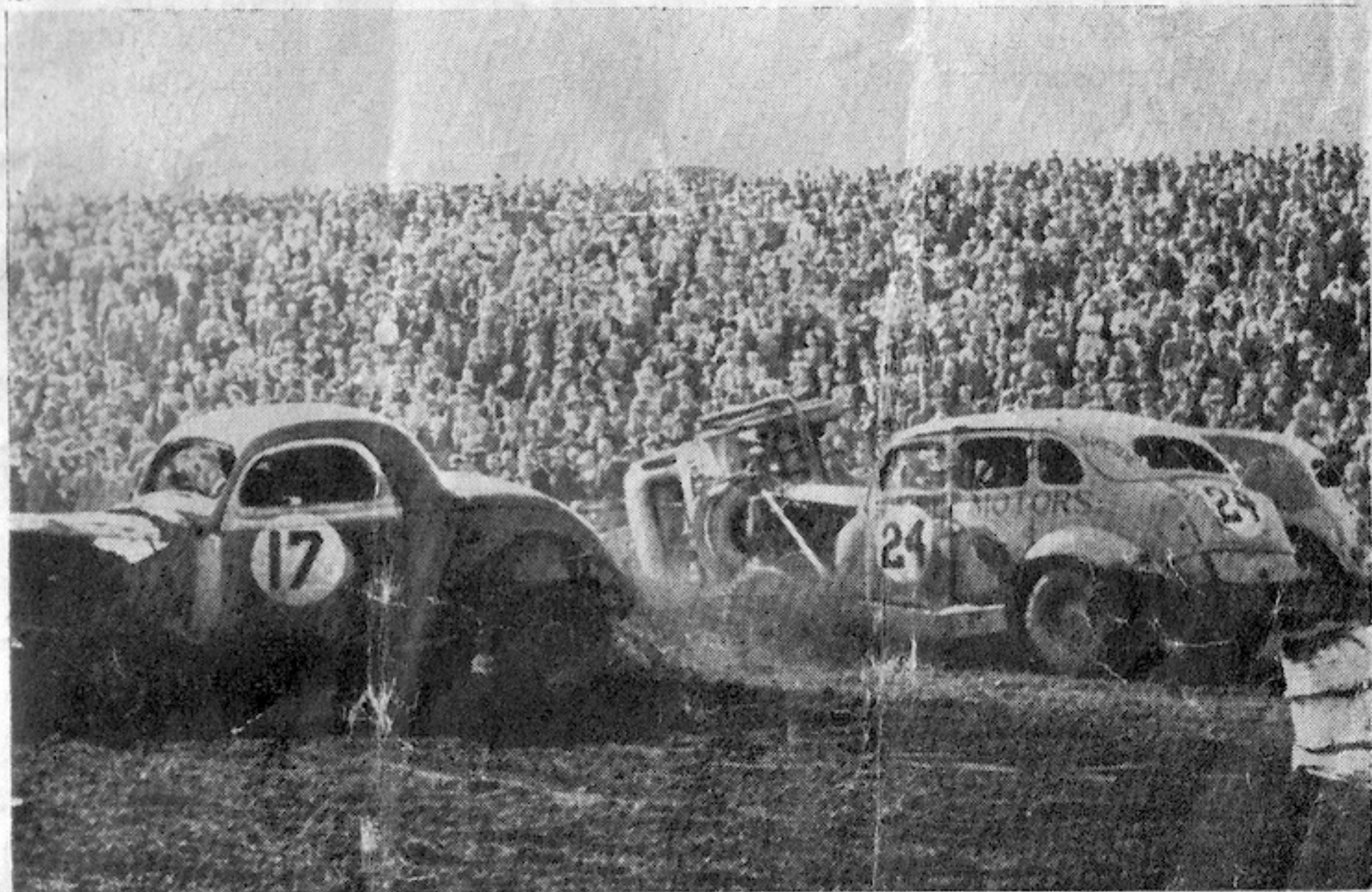


Since 1954 - The Stockist's Alliance  
OFFICIAL PROGRAMME & RACE CARD—Price 1/-

# STOCK CAR RACING



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22nd, 1954  
at 8 p.m.

**BIRMINGHAM SPEEDWAY**

ALEXANDER SPORTS STADIUM,  
PERRY BARR, BIRMINGHAM



# BIRMINGHAM SPEEDWAY

**BIRCHFIELD HARRIERS' ALEXANDER SPORTS STADIUM,  
PERRY BARR.**

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*Promoted by Auto Speedways Limited. 'Phone : Birchfield 6201.*

*Registered Office : 48, ALDRIDGE ROAD, PERRY BARR, 22B.*

*Managing Director : S. L. MARSHALL.*

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## OFFICIALS.

<i>Medical Officer</i> ... ..	Dr. E. J. Yates
<i>Clerk of the Course</i> ... ..	S. L. Marshall
<i>Judge</i> ... ..	Doug. Ellis
<i>Lap Scorers</i> ... ..	Ernie Farndon, Bill Marshall, Wally Graham, etc.
<i>Announcer</i> ... ..	F. Belfield
<i>Starter</i> ... ..	Ron Mountford
<i>Flag Steward</i> ... ..	George Vaughan
<i>Pit Marshal</i> ... ..	E. A. Rollinson

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The Staff of ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE are in attendance.

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**Public Address Equipment by Messrs. Hadley Sound Equipment.**

Betting is absolutely prohibited at all Stock Car Meetings held on this track.

Right of Admission Reserved.

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## NOTICE.

Stock Car Racing is dangerous and all persons attending this meeting do so at their own risk. It is a condition of admission that all persons having any connection with the promotion, management or conduct of this meeting including the owners and drivers of the cars, are absolved from any liability for accidents causing damage or injury.

There will be no readmission and in no circumstances will any money be refunded.

The management reserves the right to alter this programme.



## WELCOME TO PERRY BARR.

A cordial welcome is extended to all drivers and patrons who are visiting the Alexander Sports Ground to-night on the occasion of the first meeting of Stock Car Racing to be held at the headquarters of the famous Birchfield Harriers and the home of "The Brummies." The "Brummies," in case you don't know, is the name given to the Birmingham Speedway team who are members of the First Division of the National League. Meetings are held (with a few exceptions) every Saturday evening at this stadium, commencing at 6.30 p.m., and if you haven't seen Speedway Racing before, except perhaps on television, why not come along next Saturday when Norwich are our visitors?

On the following Saturday, 2nd October, however, the Birmingham Speedway team is away at Belle Vue, but this stadium will not be unoccupied, not by any means, for it is the night of nights in the Midland Athletic Calendar—the Birchfield Joint Floodlit Sports Meeting. In actual fact, this meeting commences at 2.30 p.m. with the preliminary rounds of the Horse Jumping contests of which there are three classes, the finals being contested during the evening. Track events commence at 6 p.m., competing in which will be world-famous athletes, runners and cyclists, the names of many of whom we hope to announce to you to-night. Admission charge of 2/6 admits to both afternoon and evening events. Admission charges for the evening events are: Adults 2/-, and Children 1/-.

Make a note in your diary of forthcoming events at this stadium.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25th, at 6.30 p.m.      SPEEDWAY RACING.**  
**BIRMINGHAM v. NORWICH.**  
Seats bookable (Birchfields 6201).

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2nd.**  
**FLOODLIT SPORTS and HORSE JUMPING.**  
Afternoon, 2.30 p.m. Evening, 6 p.m.

It is regretted that no further seats are available for the Grandstand—all seats having been sold.

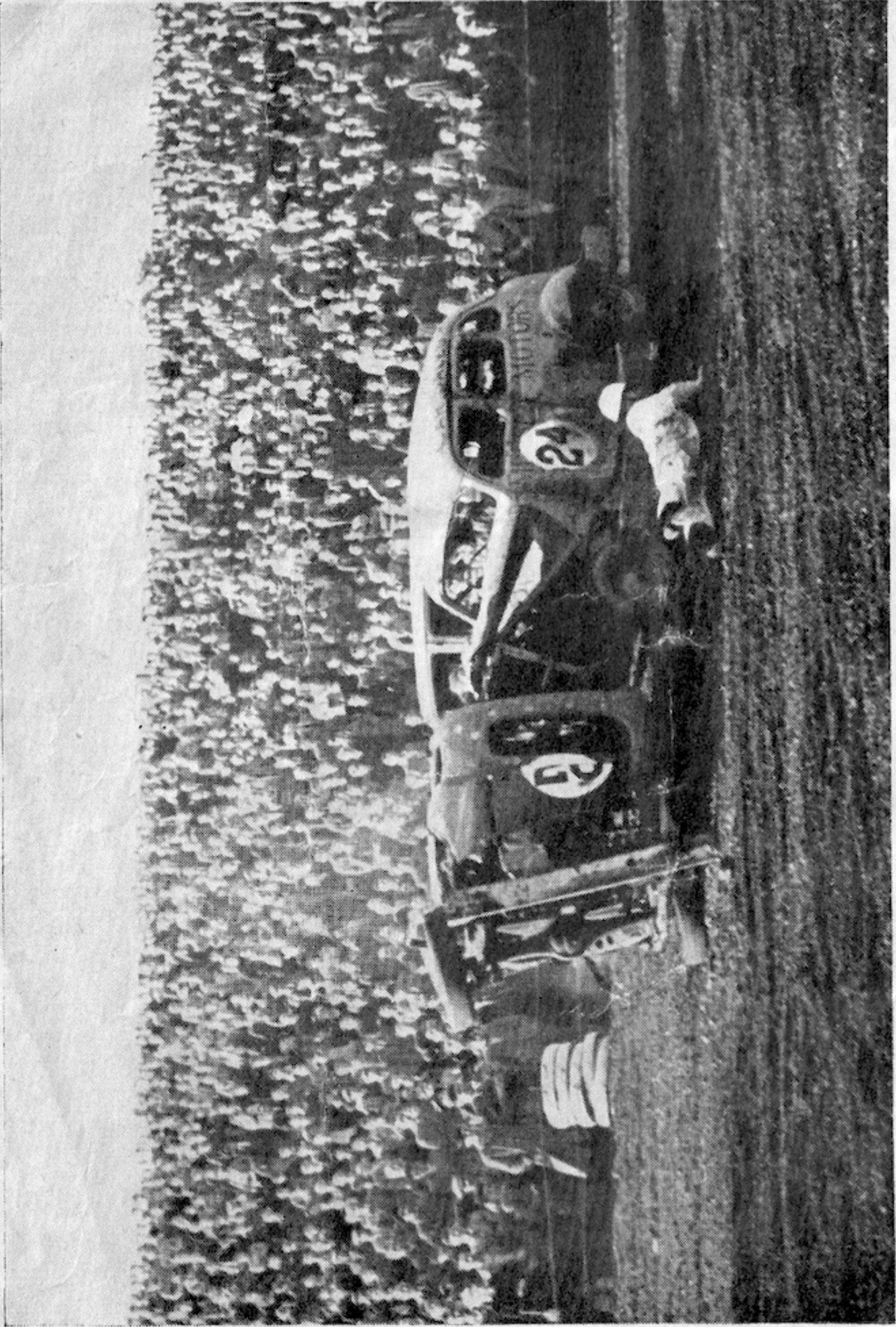
**MONDAY, OCTOBER 4th, at 7.30 p.m.      SPEEDWAY RACING.**  
**BIRMINGHAM v. BELLE VUE.**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6th, at 8 p.m.**  
**STOCK CAR RACING.**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9th, at 6.30 p.m.      SPEEDWAY RACING.**  
**FINAL MEETING OF THE 1954 SEASON.**  
**MIDLAND CUP FINAL, BIRMINGHAM v. COVENTRY.**

We sincerely hope that you will enjoy your visit to the Alexander Sports Ground to-night and if your experience encourages you to support our future events, then you will not be disappointed.





Ken O'Neil, of Manchester, unfortunately did not observe Rule No. 14, and sustained a broken wrist as a result.



## Rules and Regulations in Stock

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Fewer hard and fast rules are laid down for "stock" car racing than for any other sport. Apart from starting, the only stipulation for actual racing is that drivers must not leave their cars until the race ends. Except for obeying flag signals, nothing is barred.

*Modifications must be made, though, to cars entering a meeting. All are examined before racing to ensure that they conform to the standards required.*

These are :—

1. Official numbers, given to drivers, must be shown on both sides of the car and at the rear.
2. Normal bumper bars must be removed.
3. Silencers must be removed and exhaust pipes must extend outside the body of the car.
4. A safety-glass windshield must be fitted and all other glass removed.
5. All doors must be welded or strapped shut.
6. Seats and upholstery must be removed and a bucket seat welded or bolted in position.
7. Steel roll bars and bracing must be fitted.
8. All cars to be fitted with hard-top roofs.
9. Wheelbase must be standard.
10. Drivers must wear crash helmets and be strapped into their seats.
11. All cars to be fitted with front and rear bumpers to specified design with grille on the front.
12. Wheels must be standard. Tyres may be of any make but must be in reasonable condition.
13. No spare wheel or equipment must be carried during racing.
14. Drivers must be equipped in overalls, must not smoke during racing and must not leave their cars until the race ends.
15. Superchargers are prohibited.
16. Each car must be fitted with a self-starter in working order and must leave the pits and starting line under its own power.
17. Petrol tanks must be fitted inside the car.
18. Brakes to be in good working order.

Since 1954 : The Stoxnet Archive



**NEXT MEETING AT THIS STADIUM**

**OCTOBER 6th, at 8 p.m.**





# PROGRAMME.

**HEAT ONE. DISTANCE, 15 LAPS. FIRST FIVE TO FINAL.**

**Prize Money : Winner, £20 ; Second, £10 ; Third, Fourth and Fifth, £5 each.**

<i>Car No.</i>	<i>Driver.</i>	<i>Town.</i>	<i>Position in Draw.</i>
1	MAURICE MILLS	Birmingham	.....
2	EDDIE ROBSON	Birmingham	.....
3	BRIAN KAVANAGH	Birmingham	.....
4	PHIL HART	Birmingham	.....
5	BILL CARTLEDGE	Birmingham	.....
6	JIMMY POTTER	Birmingham	.....
7	RON WARD	Birmingham	.....
8	G. BRIDGEWATER	Birmingham	.....
9	ROY SWEETMAN	Coventry	.....
10	TED HOLT	Northampton	.....
11	"WRECKER" MEADWAY	Birmingham	.....
12	RON (ROLLS) CERRONE	Birmingham	.....
13	GORDON WILLIAMS	Bidford-on-Avon	.....
14	ALAN ROBERTS	Coventry	.....
15	BOB BARNARD	Northampton	.....
16	FRED MITCHELL	Banbury	.....

Result : 1st ..... 2nd ..... 3rd .....

          4th ..... 5th ..... 6th .....

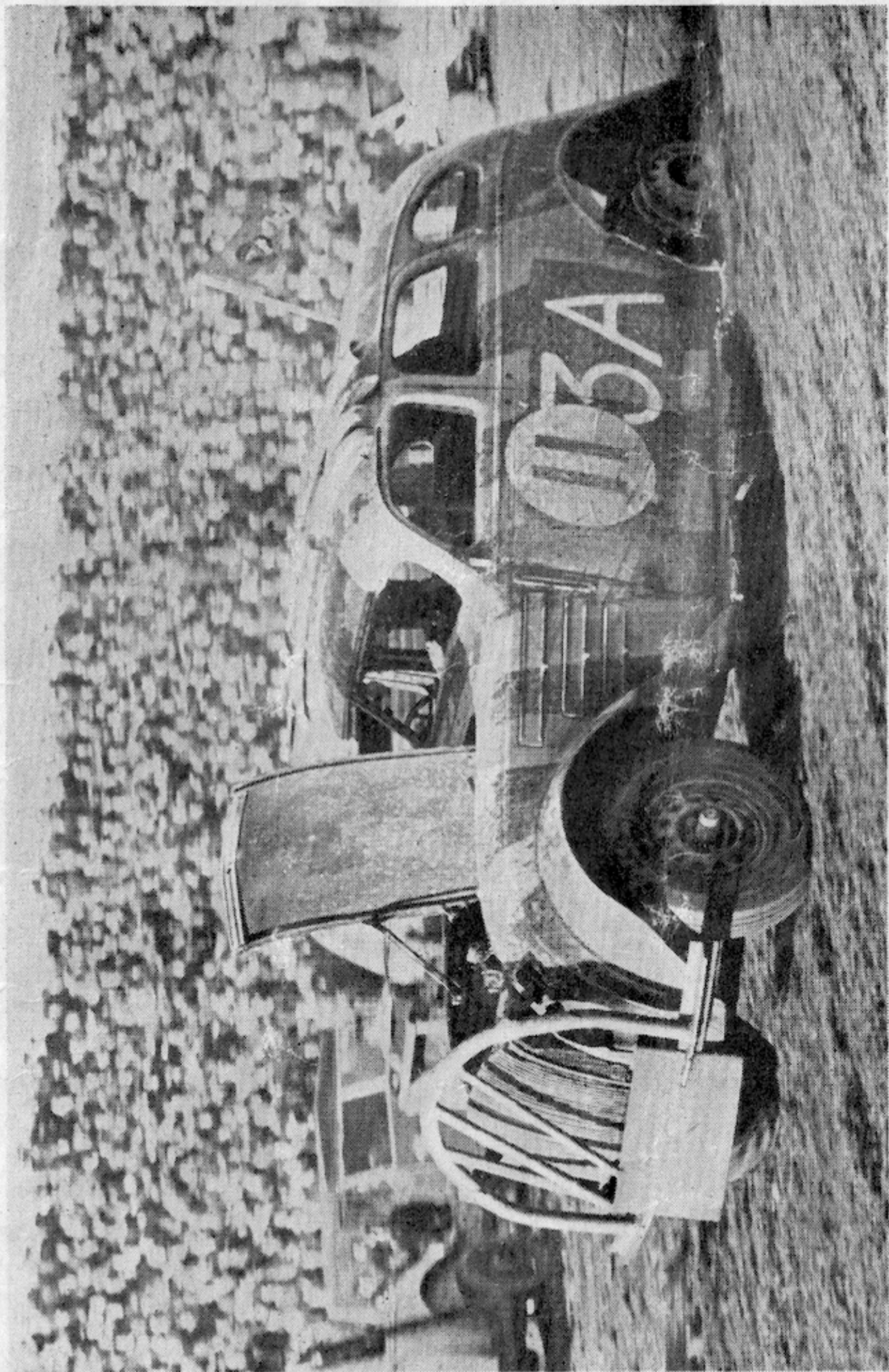












"Everything happens to me," says Wrecker Meadway—but he still came in third.











## WHAT IS THIS STOCK CAR RACING ?

As probably many of our patrons here to-night have never seen Stock Car Racing before and quite a few possibly have no idea of what it is all about, a short explanation of this new sport seems the best introduction to our first meeting at this stadium.

Stock Car Racing started in America where a group of young people keen on car racing but unable to afford the expense normally involved, decided to organise competitions with any old car and no holds barred. This idea found immediate appeal and spread all over the States but did not arrive in Europe until after the war when U.S. troops staged meetings in France, Belgium and Germany, and it settled down as a regular feature at the Buffalo Stadium outside Paris.

Stock Car Racing arrived in England this year and has created a sensation wherever it has been put on. The tracks used in this country are usually those used for Speedway racing and have shale or some similar surface, with a special fence erected inside the ordinary speedway safety fence. This fence consists of heavy steel uprights, seven foot lengths of railway line in our case, sunk in one ton of concrete at intervals of twenty feet. These uprights are padded with old tyres to reduce the impact when the cars hit them, and through them is threaded over a mile of special steel hawser in four strands, the hawser being held taut by screw strainers. On the inside of the track a row of spaced-out empty oil drums do something to keep the cars roughly to the track and the centre flag pole and officials are rather hopefully protected by straw bales.

The cars used are usually of the all-steel saloon type, stripped of all trimmings and glass and reinforced at the sides and over the roof. The driver's seat is welded to the floor and he has to secure himself in with a quick-release safety belt and wear a crash helmet. There is one golden rule of Stock Car Racing, whatever happens, the driver should stay in his car until the race has stopped.

The preparation of the car, the type of crash bar used and any modifications he may care to do to the engine, etc., are left to the ingenuity of the individual, the list of essentials is given elsewhere in this programme.

A race is made up of any number of cars, usually from ten to twenty-five, lined up in accordance with the positions they have drawn and moving off to a rolling start over a course of fifteen or twenty laps. Once started there are no rules and competitors may drive where they like, how they like and in any direction they like, except to complete a lap they must go round both end poles and across the finishing line in a left-handed direction.

Bumping, boring, pushing and deliberate obstruction are all part of the game, and although it may look sheer brute force and luck will decide the winner, there is, in fact a considerable degree of skill involved and to be successful requires very exact judgment and quick thinking.

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### **Service and Breakdown Vehicles kindly supplied for this meeting by :—**

Rootes Ltd. Service Dept.,  
Charlotte Street, Birmingham, 3.  
Bunting Garages, Ltd.,  
Austin and Volkswagen Agent,  
Aldridge Road,  
Perry Barr, Birmingham.

Churchbridge Motor Garage Ltd.,  
Churchbridge, Near Cannock.  
Meadway Motors, Ltd.,  
Meadway,  
Lea Hall,  
Birmingham, 33.

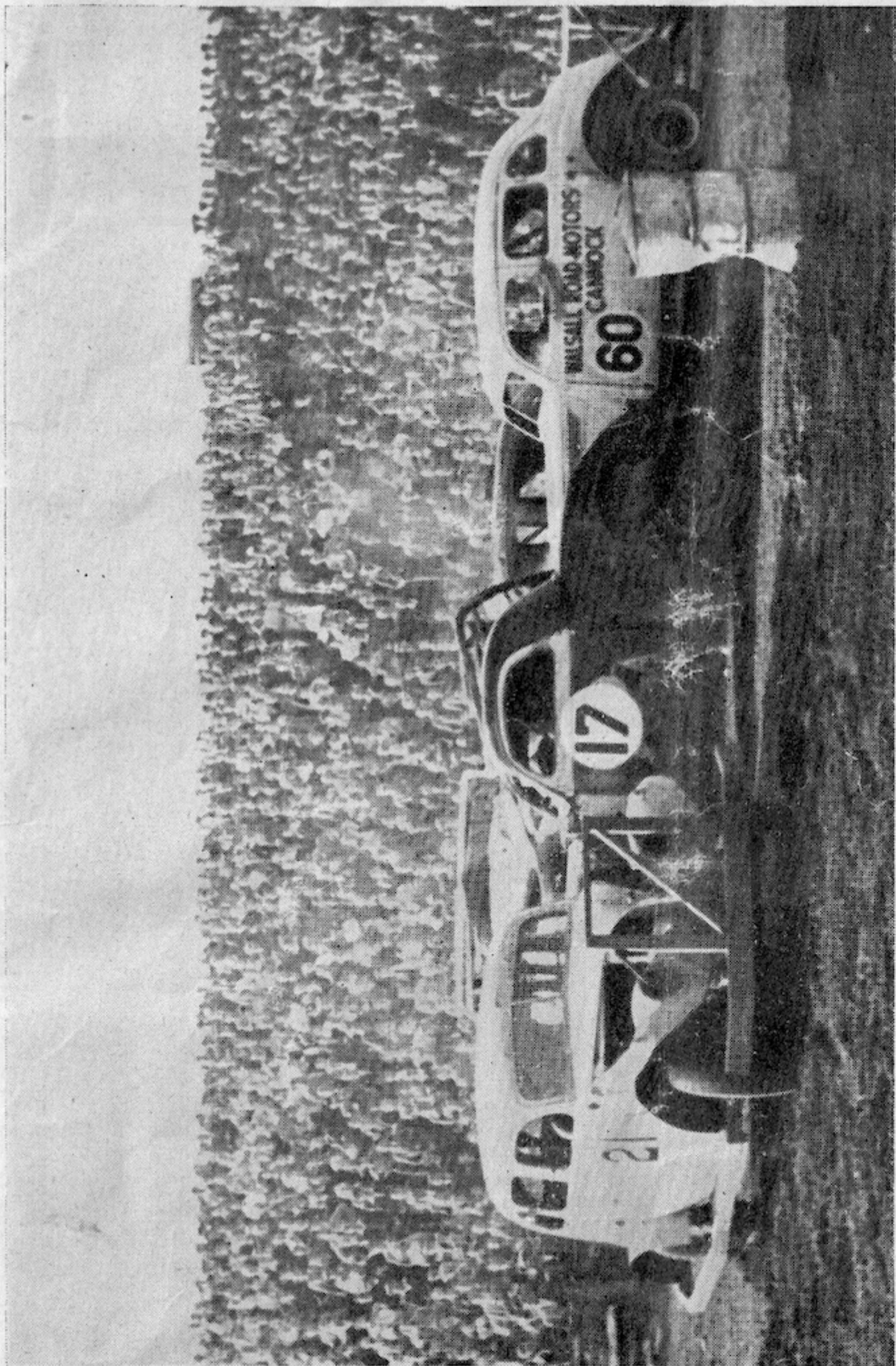
Frank Guest, Ltd. (Main Ford Dealers) West Bromwich.

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### **Fire Extinguishers kindly supplied by :—**

L. & G. Fire Appliance Co. Ltd.,  
368, Victoria Road, Birmingham, 6.  
'Phone : EAsT 2483.

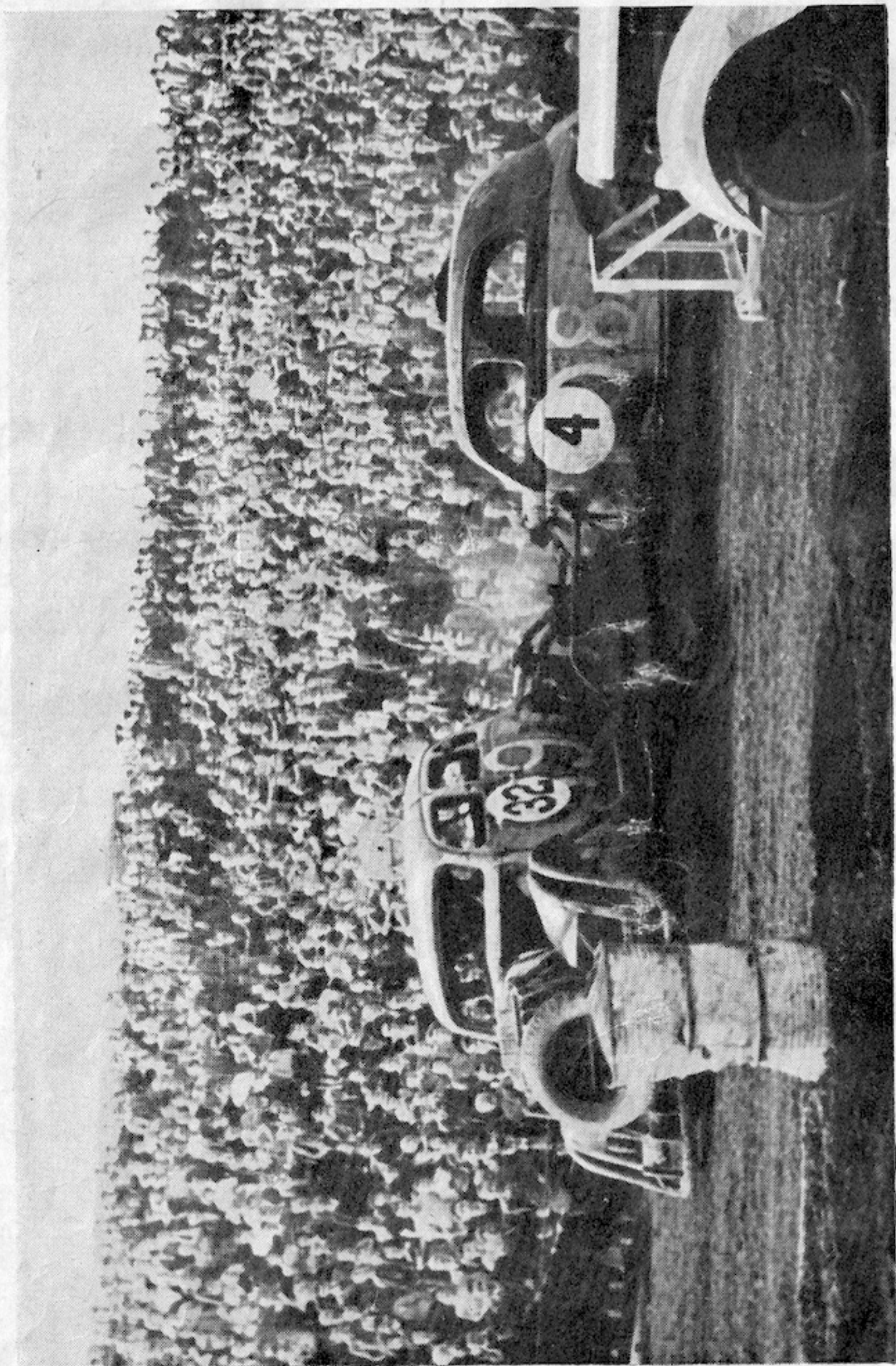




Margaret Bott joins the queue at Hednesford Hills Stadium,



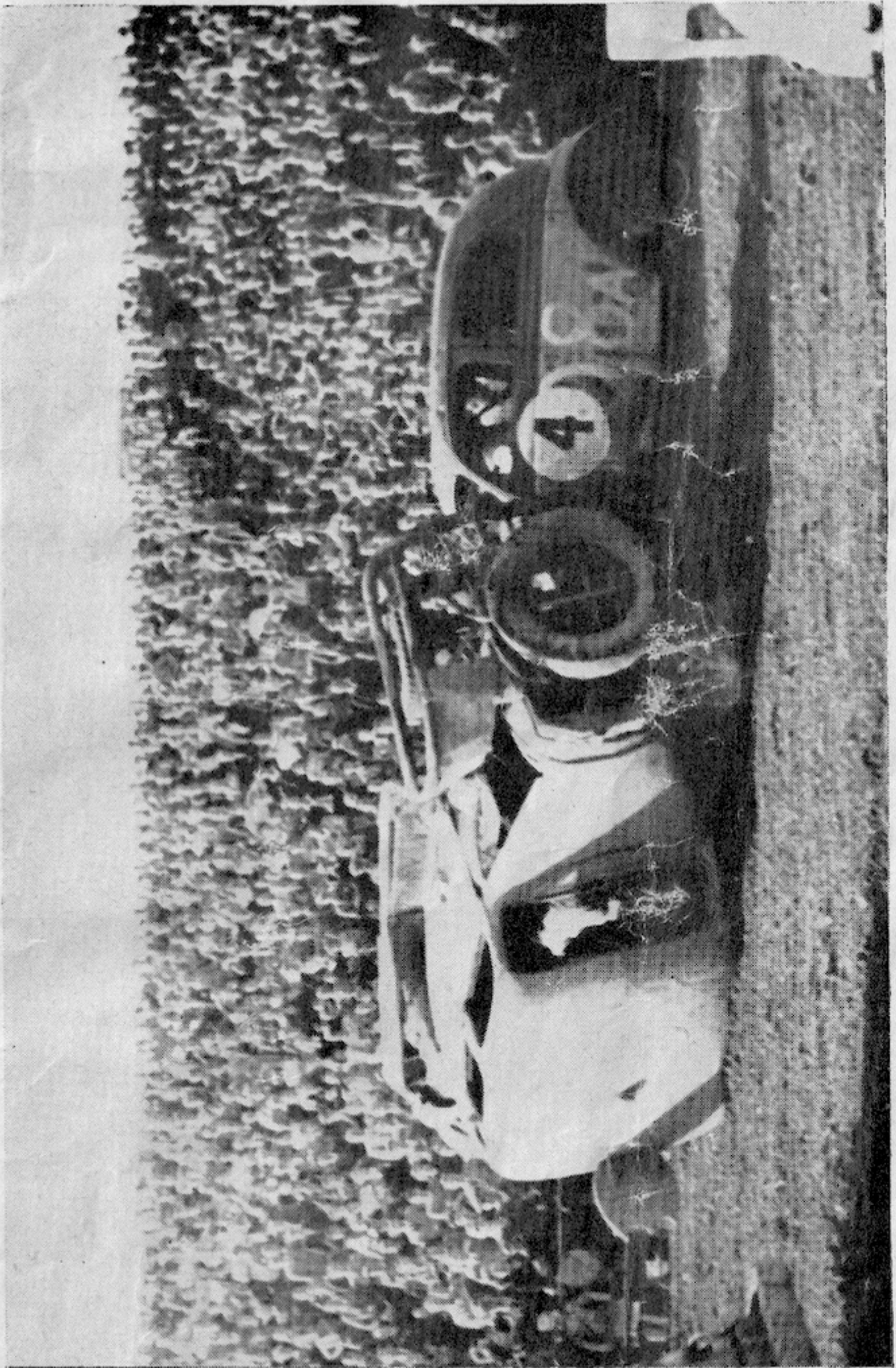
BEFORE.



Phil Hart has Jack Stewart worried, then—

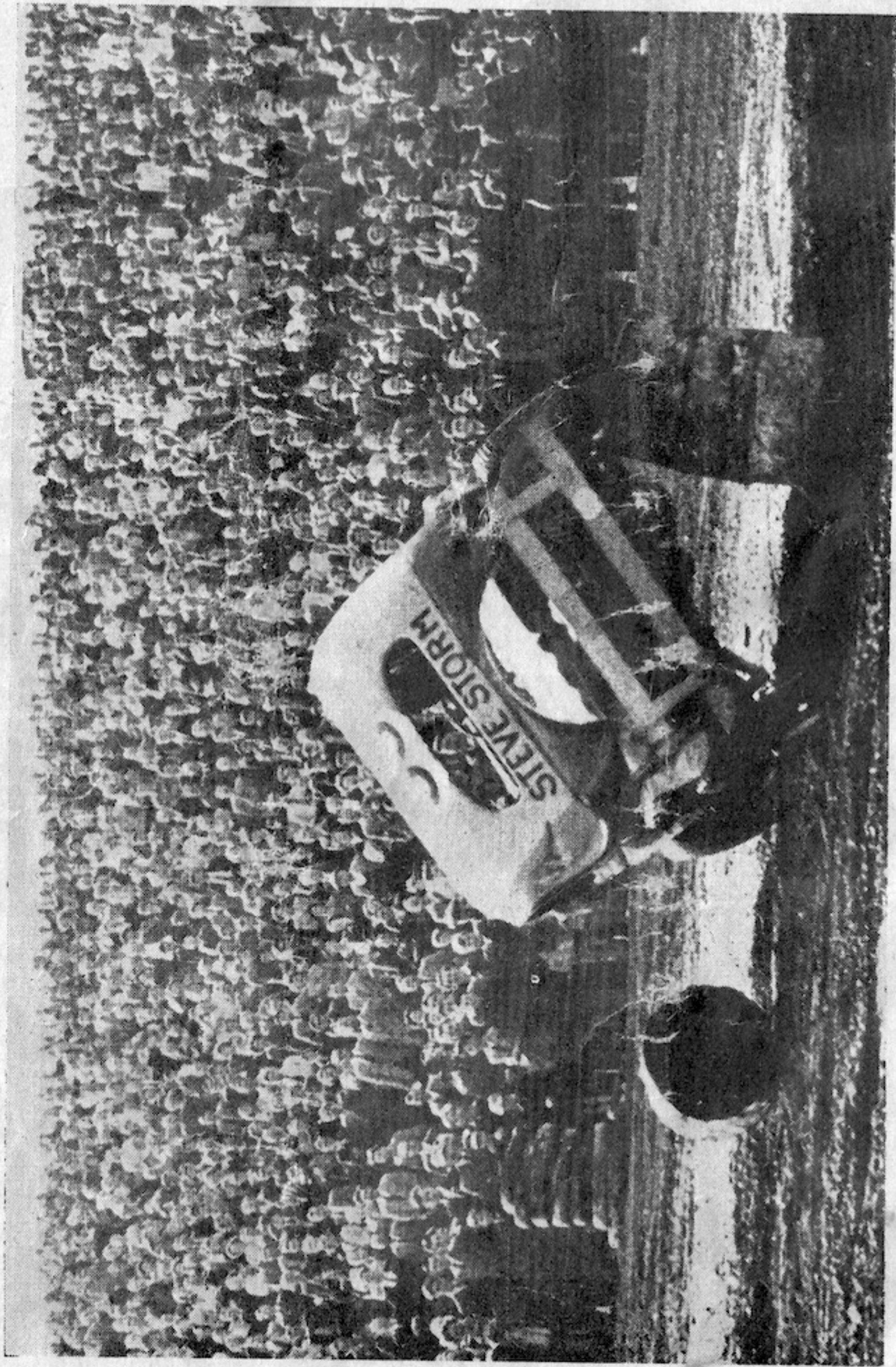


AFTER.



Over she goes !





This competitor is obviously more at home on two wheels !