

BUFFALO, N. Y.

ROLLS-ROYCE



Between
YUMA and PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Two Letters
on
Trans-Continental
Touring



by
FREDERICK PHILLIPS
PHILADELPHIA

Robert R. Bridgman, P.E.
24 Spring St.
Springville, N.Y.



BETWEEN LUEPP AND FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA



THE ALVARADO
ALBUQUERQUE, N. M.

Sunday, Mar. 24, 1923

Pennsylvania Motors, Inc.,
21st & Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia.

Gentlemen: Attention Mr. Doolittle

Well, here I am and the Rolls-Royce hasn't fallen apart yet, as so many of our boulevard artists predicted, but on the other hand, after traveling through the frozen gumbo of Missouri and the rotten ruts of Kansas, crossing prairies, no roads, just a board with an arrow to show you in which direction you will encounter least trouble, then up the side of a mountain to come down the other side, crawl down into the bed of a forgotten river and follow it into the bed of a mud hole and out the other side to a Harvey Hotel to sleep, it has begun to dawn on me that the Rolls-Royce is likely to stay together about as long as I need it.

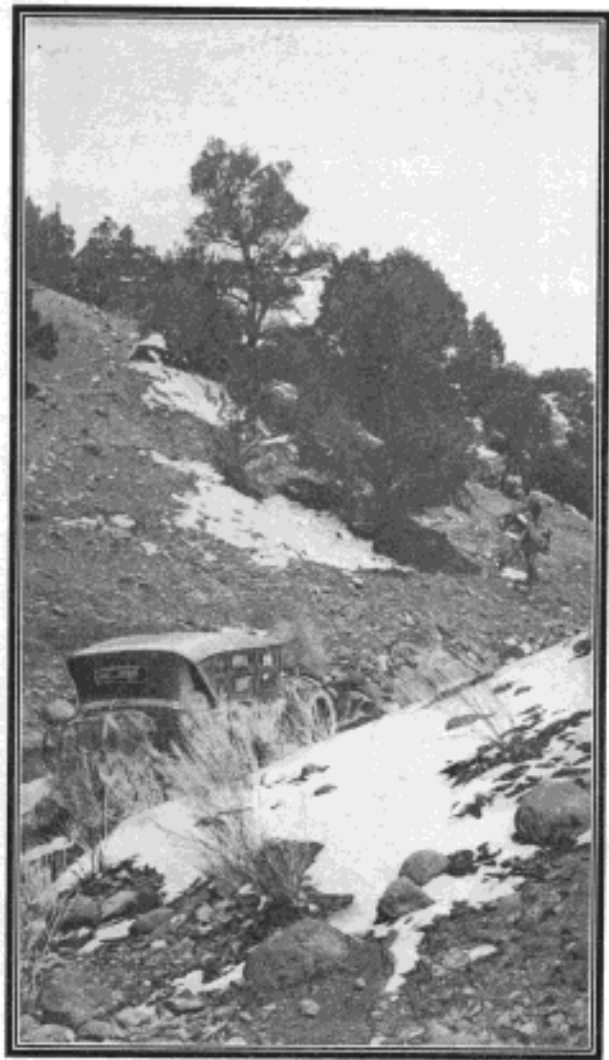
Well, we have had a wonderful trip and as I wired you, if I had been employed to advertise the Rolls-Royce, I probably would not have been able to do so well.

I have been literally mobbed, but am getting used to it now. The motor has been getting better every day and I have been hitting from 10 to 11 miles in mountains all day and when we have had runs on the plains or prairies, she has made 14 easy—almost 15. "Top hole", I should say.

My best respects to Brother Hull. Will let you hear some more.

Yours as ever,

Lus



THROUGH LUEPP, ARIZONA

FREDERICK PHILLIPS
1330 FAIRMOUNT AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

May 23, 1923

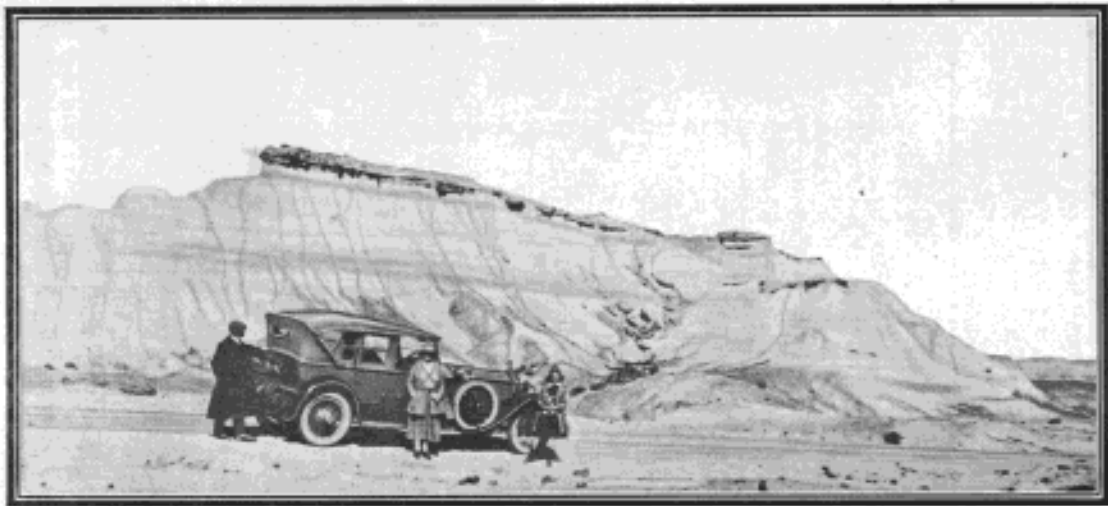
Rolls-Royce of America,
Springfield, Mass.

Attention Mr. Southern:

You may remember when I took my car from your factory I told you I was going out to the coast. I left on March 15th and arrived in Los Angeles on March 31st—3043 miles and used 251 gal. gas which is a little better than 12 miles to the gallon. I stayed in California until April 14 when I left and arrived home in Philadelphia on May 3rd covering 3584 miles and used 267 gals. of gas or better than 13 miles to the gallon.

I went out all the way over the Santa Fe Trail which is the only way possible at that time of year. We had perfect roads until we reached St. Louis, but after that they were bad. In fact after we left Colorado there were nothing but trails and open country. I was told that in the summer you could get through on a trail all the way, but when I went I had to leave the trail all together on account of the water, which covered parts for miles, and had to make the best of the open prairie and what passes I could find over the mountains. There were times when I drove 65 miles without seeing a hut or one living thing and I can tell you it was then that I realized the satisfaction it was to be driving a Rolls to which one felt nothing could possibly happen.

Many times I was told that I couldn't get through but I did and feel that 17 days was a good proof of what a Rolls could do. I had my wife and daughter with me, also my man, and a lot of luggage which made a heavy load and I never had to touch a thing, just gas and oil. I



IN THE PETRIFIED FORESTS, ARIZONA

really sometimes hit plains that I cannot begin to describe, where I thought I would have to tear something off or apart but did nothing to the car except dent her underpan.

I rode 130 miles in desert from Yuma to Phoenix. The thermometer was 102° in the shade in Yuma in the morning and 98° in Phoenix when I arrived in the evening. I have one of the hand operated shutters on my car and only had it 3 notches open all day to keep her at about 1900 which surprised me very much. I only wish I was able to explain in words what a terrible lashing my car got but it is utterly impossible unless one saw it.

I am enclosing a few photos of the trip which may interest you. I have driven a lot of cars and do a great deal of long driving, and by the way, I drove every yard both ways on this trip, and must say we only drove from about 9:30 in the morning to 6 in the evening and none of us were ever one bit tired.

There is only one thing the trouble with a Rolls, and that is that it makes one so careless, as you don't care where you go or how much you abuse it, it comes up smiling always the same.

Yours very truly,





THE PETRIFIED FORESTS OF ARIZONA