

## Thomas Neal Chosen President of General Motors

**D**ETROIT, Jan. 30—Thomas Neal, for years the head of the Acme Qualities Company, of Detroit, and one of the best known manufacturers of this city, has been chosen by the board of directors of the General Motors Company to be the president of that concern. Mr. Neal's acceptance of the position is announced. The salary, it is stated on good authority, has been placed at \$50,000.

The meeting of the board of directors at which Mr. Neal's election took place also resulted in a full choice of officers as follows:

President, Thomas Neal, Detroit; vice-president, E. O. Wood, Flint; secretary, Standish Backus, Detroit; treasurer, James T. Shaw, Detroit; controller, C. A. Magee, Detroit.

Mr. Neal was selected, it is understood, because of his record as a manufacturer and a systematizer. He has not been identified with the motor car manufacturing industry heretofore, the Acme Qualities being a maker of paint. It is understood that he will retain his connection with the Acme Qualities, though he has systematized the work of that enterprise to an extent which will allow him to devote all his energies at present to the reorganization of the General Motors.

Mr. Wood was formerly the assistant to W. C. Durant when the latter was the guiding spirit of the General Motors corporation. He will reside in Flint and will work in close touch with the main office of the corporation, which will soon be established in Detroit.

Mr. Backus is a young Detroit attorney who has had charge of the legal affairs of General Motors for some time.

Mr. Shaw has been for some years identified with J. S. Lapham & Company and is a well-known Detroit business man. It is said that a total of \$60,000,000 a year will pass through his hands as treasurer. Little is known locally of Mr. Magee, who came here recently from St. Louis.

Until further announcement and perhaps permanently the headquarters of General Motors will be located in the upper floors of the Buick salesroom on Woodward avenue. Whether or not other arrangements will be made later is a matter of doubt. At present, both Mr. Shaw and Mr. Magee have offices there.

Vice-president Wood returned Saturday from a visit to New York, where he went to inquire into the slump which has recently affected General Motors securities. He announced here that, in his opinion, the stock was being affected by a bear movement, inaugurated by parties desiring to secure control of the properties. Mr. Wood believes that the situation will speedily be remedied and predicts a bright future for the newly reorganized properties. Nearly all the 20 and more properties of General Motors are now running, particular activity being in evidence at the Cadillac, Buick and Oldsmobile plants.

Secretary Murphy, speaking on behalf of W. C. Durant, authorized the following statement with regard to the absence of the name of Mr. Durant from the list of officers:

"W. C. Durant is first vice-president of General Motors and is a member of the board of directors and finance committee of that organization and is actively identified with the management. Mr. Wood's mission in New York was to sign the permanent certificates which will replace the temporary certificates of indebtedness, the basis of the recent \$15,000,000 flotation. In reality Mr. Wood is not a director of General Motors."

W. J. Mead is also a hold-over vice-president.

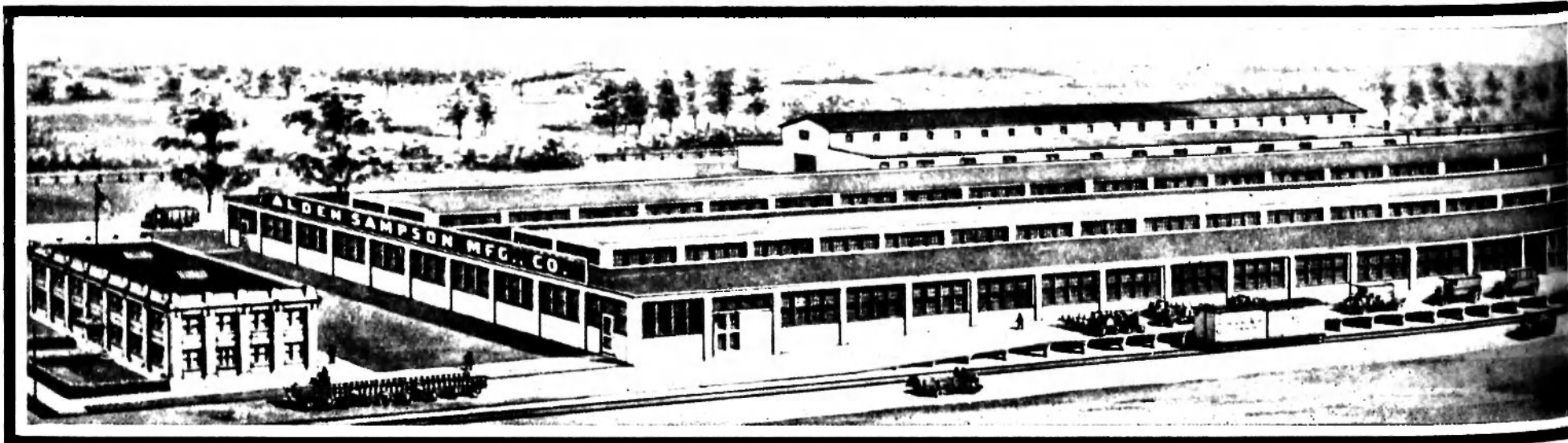
## Quakers Give Annual Dinner

**PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 30**—Unanimity of opinion regarding the abolition of toll gates, the building and maintenance of good roads, the good work being done by the Quaker City Motor Club in that direction and the Fairmount Park Road Race characterized the remarks of the speakers at the third annual banquet of the Quaker City Motor Club held in the Hotel Walton last week. About 150 members, guests and representatives of the press attended and the consensus of opinion was that it was the most successful yet held and that the cause of good roads and a State highway in Pennsylvania from Philadelphia to Pittsburg was given a substantial boost.

The Quaker City Motor Club was hailed as a pioneer in road-building and was eulogized for its indefatigable work in season and out of season in this movement, and for the admirable way in which the club has conducted the annual road race in Fairmount Park. The assembly room in the Hotel Walton was beautifully decorated for the occasion with flowers and ferns and an orchestra completely hidden by banks of ferns dispensed music throughout the evening.

Joseph P. Rogers, one of the leading lights of the local bar, filled the post of toastmaster and wittily introduced the various speakers of the evening.

Charles Thaddeus Terry; Webster Grim, late candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania; S. M. Butler, who announced that in future a grand circuit of automobile racing would be established—along lines similar to that under which horse racing is conducted each year—and that the Fairmount Park race would form a feature of this circuit; John Weaver, ex-Mayor of Philadelphia; Nathan T. Folwell, president of the Manufacturers' Club; Henry F. Walton, Prothonotary of Philadelphia, and J. R. C. McAllister, head of the finance branch of the city government, all exploited the virtue of the automobile and the building of good roads.



PLANT WHERE THE NEW ALDEN SAMPSON CAR IS BEING MANUFACTURED AT DETROIT,