



A One H.P. Car.



Photo : " Free Press."

With the hope that it will play a large part in teaching children road sense, a one h.p. car has recently been produced by the Atco Company, of Birmingham. The engine of the vehicle is similar to that used in the famous Atco motor lawn mowers. Our photograph shows one of the vehicles, an "Atco Junior Safety First Trainer," which Messrs. Mann Egerton and Co., Ltd., Bury St. Edmund's, have secured for demonstration purposes. An indication of the power of the vehicle is given by the fact that although built for children it is capable of carrying two grown-ups. The

vehicle is definitely not a toy, but a standard car scaled down, and with the same controls as an ordinary car.

At the Atco works at Birmingham, a special track has been laid down, complete with Belisha beacons and crossings. The makers point out that tracks can be laid out in grounds and school playgrounds. The vehicles require the use of all the faculties necessary for safe use of the roads as a driver and for grasping the elementary engineering principles of power propelled vehicles, so essential to every youngster in these days. The car is priced at £35.

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TEACHING THEM TO BE

Good Motoring Citizens



With the help of the miniature car shown in the photograph, and a comparatively small space laid out to represent a modern road system, children can be given the foundations of an expert knowledge of motor driving and road behaviour.

*Manufacturer's Idea
For Giving
Children Road Sense
And Mechanical
Knowledge*

Should Interest Trade

A PRACTICAL contribution towards the road safety question, which should interest the motor trade for several reasons, has been made by a Birmingham firm of manufacturers.

The idea is an outcome of a statement in the Alness report on road accidents that "one of the most important of remedial measures lies in the education of children . . . and that instruction in road safety should form part of the school curriculum," and consists of teaching children not only the principles of road sense, but how to control a power-propelled vehicle.

To this end, the firm—Charles H. Pugh, Ltd., Whitworth Works, Birmingham—have put into production a miniature motor car—a scaled-down edition of a normal car, petrol driven, and with the controls of a full-sized car reproduced in a form calculated to be easy for children to master.

Normal Controls

The car is propelled by a 1 h.p., 2-stroke internal combustion engine using a mixture of petrol and oil as fuel. It has one forward speed and reverse, the controls consisting of gear lever, clutch pedal, and brake pedal placed according to standard car practice. There is also a hand brake.

It is claimed to be virtually impossible to overturn the Atco Junior Safetyfirst Trainer, as the car is called, under normal conditions. In appearance it is a smart open two-seater type of vehicle, and the body is removable by undoing 12 nuts so as to leave the chassis clear for use as an educational lecturing model.

The engine is mounted over the rear axle, and gives a maximum speed of 8-10 m.p.h., at a fuel consumption of three-quarters of a pint per one hour's

running. The weight of the complete vehicle is about 150 lbs., and the price £35.

The makers emphasise that the vehicle is a trainer, not a toy, and is intended for use in private gardens, school playgrounds, and the specially-built training grounds which educational authorities are laying down as part of elementary and secondary school education.

To form a basis for using the vehicle as a trainer, a very well-produced book has been prepared in which the procedure for training children is set out, together with a clear explanation of the vehicle and its maintenance.

Widespread use of the trainer would undoubtedly have a profound effect on the driving efficiency and motor engineering knowledge of motor drivers of the future, and the trade will therefore watch the experiment with considerable interest.

Distribution of the trainer will be through the motor trade, and through those firms who already handle the Atco motor mower.



By undoing 12 nuts, the body of the Atco trainer can be removed, leaving the chassis clear for use as a lecturing model in the classroom