

Modern Points

by Tom Endy

Quite often you find Model A's on the road that have had the distributor modified with modern points. When doing this the original Model A condenser is no longer part of the circuit and has been discarded. A modern condenser is installed along with the modern points and is attached to the upper plate of the distributor.

This can create a potential electrical fault. The mounting of the original condenser holds the tab on the lower distributor plate in place. When the original condenser is discarded there is no longer anything holding the tab in place and it can easily be pushed up against the housing when the ignition cable is screwed in and short out the ignition points.

It is therefore prudent to install a dummy original condenser in order to hold the tab on the lower plate in position. A dummy condenser can be made by removing the material inside the condenser rendering it non-functional, but structurally intact to hold the lower plate tab in place.

A better idea is to leave the distributor as Henry designed it as it will perform just as good, if not better, than any modern improvement.



An original Model A distributor as Henry ordered. Note the screw in the window on the left side of the housing. It is screwed into the business end of an original condenser. The insulated washer keeps the lower plate tab from shorting to the housing.

Ralph The Hubley Man

by Tom Endy

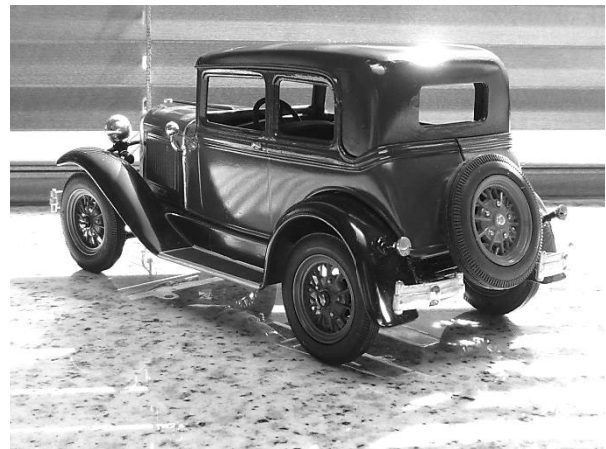
Most people in the Model A hobby know what a Hubley die-cast model is. Quite often at Model A meets there is an event where Model A Hubleys are raced on a downhill track.

The Hubley Company was founded by John Hubley in 1894 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania for the purpose of manufacturing toys. In 1960 the company began producing 1:125 scale model die-cast metal kits. Among the kits were seven Model A body styles; sedan, station wagon, roadster, roadster pickup, coupe, Victoria, and phaeton. Sometime later the company was sold and the manufacture of Hubley kits ceased. Today the kits are somewhat of a collector's item, with the Model A kits being sought by many in the Model A hobby.

There is a source:

Like many things in the Model A hobby, there is always a "guy". Ralph the Hubley Man is the "guy". Ralph is seen at many Model A swap meets in Southern California and he has an abundant supply of all the Model A Hubley kits for sale, along with many of the missing parts. Ralph will also build the kit for you if that is your desire. In particular Ralph has a good supply of Victoria kits for sale, and his prices are reasonable.

To contact Ralph, phone **562-863-0302** and tell the answering machine you wish to speak with "**Ralph the Hubley Man**" and he will immediately pick up. Ralph does not have an e-mail address.



Hubley 1:125 scale model of a Victoria