

1929

THOUGH FRANK LOCKHART HAD been dead for a year, cars he engineered won the top two spots at the 500.

When Lockhart's estate was settled, the two Millers he had bought and modified himself were sold to separate buyers, M.A. Yagle and Alden Sampson. Ray Keech drove for Yagle and Louis Meyer for Sampson.

Meyer had the lead late in the race, but an oil leak sent him to the pits long enough for Keech to pass him and get a lead too big for Meyer to overcome in the remaining laps.

Duesenberg driver Bill Spence was killed early in the race, and 16 days later Keech also would be dead after a wreck in Pennsylvania.



160,000 CHEER AS RAY KEECH WINS RACE

SWEPTING LABOR
VICTORIES MARK
BRITISH ELECTION

Keech, "Happy, but Awfully Tired,"
Wins in Car Lockhart Once Owned

CITY PAYS WAR
DEAD HOMAGE IN
MANY SERVICES

MEYER CAPTURES
SECOND, GLEASON
SPEEDS IN THIRD

An added attraction in the pits this year was the presence of William Haines, Karl Dane, Ernest Torrence, John Miljan and other Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer screen celebrities who were filming the final scenes of the picture "Speedway," directed by Harry Beaumont.

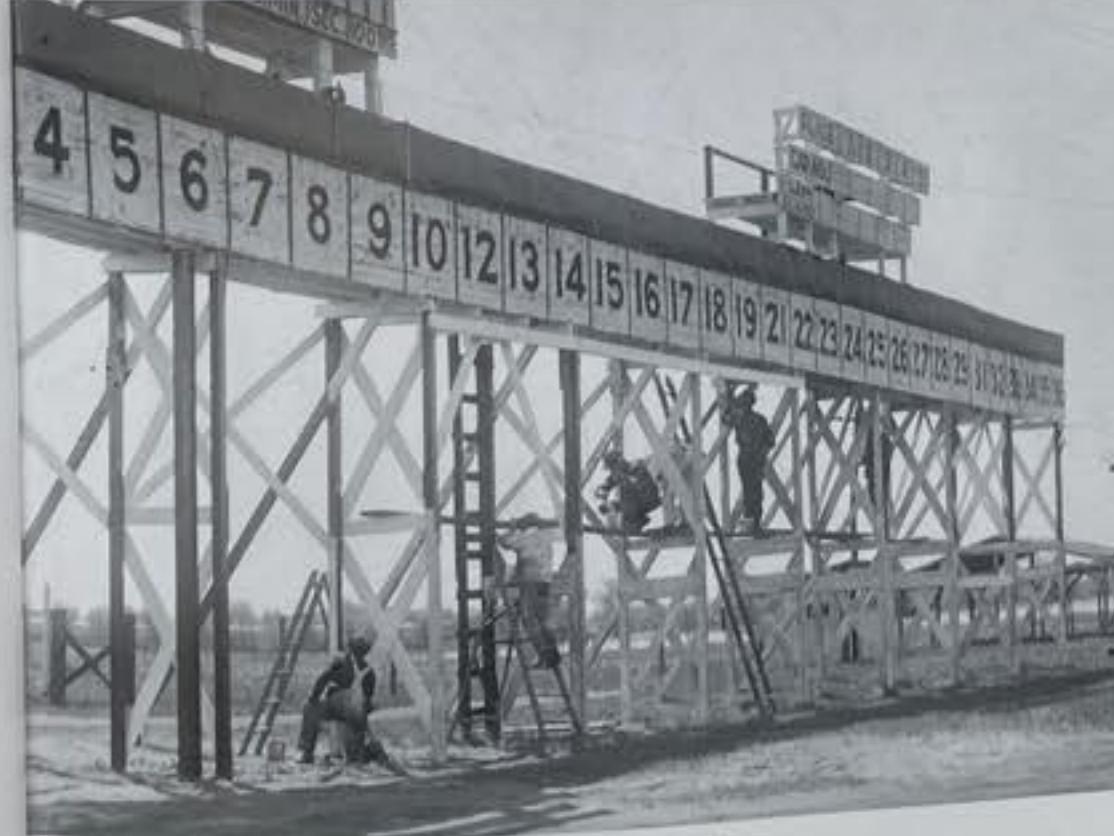
Duesenberg Jay Dampened.

The joy in the Duesenberg pits in placing cars in third and sixth positions was dampened for Duesenberg officials by the death early in the race of Spence. It was Spence's first appearance on the local track in a Duesenberg, although he was a relief driver last year in a Boyie Valve Special. Fred Duesenberg, veteran builder of race cars, paid high tribute to the character and driving ability of the youthful martyr.

"He was a nice boy and had lots of nerve," Mr. Duesenberg said. "I think he was trying to make up lost time when the accident occurred."

Fred Duesenberg Jr., a student in DePauw university, was a member of the Duesenberg pit team. He is the son of August Duesenberg, who also worked with the pit team. Billy Arnold was lifted out of his car by mechanics at the pit after he had been struck in the eye by a small flying object. Arnold, nearly blind, brought his car to the pit but could scarcely stop it due to the exhaustion of driving two laps with severe pain. He was lifted from the car by his racing mates.

Dad Watches Son Drive.
Edward Meyer of Southgate, Cal., father of Lou Meyer, who finished second, hovered around the pits occupied by his son's racing crew, and climbed on and off the rear pit wall in the excitement of watching his son battle for the prize money. The driver's wife witnessed the race from a grand stand seat.



OPPOSITE TOP: Ray Keech won his only Indianapolis 500 in 1929. He was killed two weeks later in a crash in Altoona, Pa.
StarNews Archives

OPPOSITE BOTTOM: The Goodyear blimp hovers just above the infield in 1929 on race day. The Indianapolis Star

BELOW LEFT: A crew of workers brightens up the scoreboard behind the pits with a new coat of paint before qualifying for the race in 1929. StarNews Archives

BELOW: Crew members (left) work on a car in the pit area as others wait for their teams' cars to pull in for service during the race. StarNews Archives