

THE MAGIC AGE of STEAM

Route 82
Yorklyn, Delaware 19736

THOMAS C. MARSHALL, JR., President
WELDIN V. STUMPF, Mechanical Director

Phone: Area Code 302 239-4410

- * Operating Steam Museum
- * Auburn Valley Miniature Steam Railroad
- * Old-Time Amusements
- * Largest Collection of Stanley Steam Cars in the World

Dear

I am planning to drive a 1912 Stanley Steam Car across the continent from Montreal to Tijuana, Mexico, early this summer, and am wondering if you can advise me where I can get soft water in your vicinity. This car is non-condensing, and we must take on water about every 75 miles; often commercial laundries and similar places have soft water in "hard water" country.

In passing through _____, we will be enroute from _____ to _____, as a member of the 1972 Trans-International Reliability Tour for Cars of 1914 vintage or earlier.

I shall very much appreciate any advice you can give me, and enclose self-addressed stamped envelope for your reply. We will be in your area on _____ in _____.

Thank you very much.

Yours very truly,

Tom Marshall
Thomas C. Marshall, Jr.

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Dear

I certainly want to thank you for all the trouble you went to in order to get me information on soft water (and kerosene, for those of you I asked) in your area. It is much appreciated, and I know we'll enjoy driving through your area very much, indeed.

Please excuse the form letters. I wish I had time to write a personal note to each of you. To me, this is a trip of a lifetime, and the most ambitious ever undertaken by anyone in a Stanley Steamer. I started driving and working on Stanleys in 1946, having inherited this interest from my father who was a Stanley dealer in his early years. I have always wanted to give one coast-to-coast, and the Trans-International Tour, of which we will be a member, has given us this opportunity in 1972. The Tour itself is 3800 miles from Montreal to Tijuana (Mexico), but we expect to cover about 7500 on our own power from our home and back again.

Our car is a big 30-horsepower 7-passenger Stanley of 1912, but we have removed the "jump seats" to fit in an additional fuel tank. We will carry a total of 40 gallons of kerosene, and 113 gallons of water, and this will give us a range of about 300 miles on fuel and 85 miles on water. Around this area, where we have reasonably soft water most places, we are not finicky, but when the regular water supply is over 15 grains of hardness, this can give trouble in our high-pressure boiler with continued use. So, since we still have a long way to go when we visit most of you, we want to take advance precautions where we can, and, as I said, we very much appreciate your help.

I'm sorry I don't have a picture of our car for each of you, but I do enclose a post card from our Museum, which shows a Stanley of the same year and horsepower, our 1912 Mountain Wagon. This Mountain Wagon is built on practically the same chassis as the one we will be driving, but the car you will see us in will look like a touring car, not a wagon, and is somewhat faster on the road.

We hope to have a chance to meet you in June or July!

Sincerely,

Tom Marshall

Thomas C. Marshall, Jr.