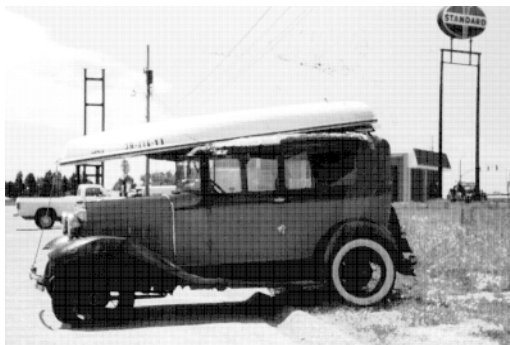


TOURING AGAIN/MYSTERY & ROMANCE



BY WARREN E. SHEPPICK (& JANE)

It's 1993 and once again we took the last week of June and 1st week of July, thru the road atlas into the car and headed west, and we will pick up this adventure getting onto I-90 west of Souix Falls, South Dakota.

We did the usual tourists stops, first at the Corn Palace in Mitchell and the on to the Pioneer Auto Museum, in Murdo, SD. (Now called the pioneer Auto Show). This place is a must for all car buffs. They have always advertised 200 cars on displayed. Some restored, some as they were taken off the street/road. They had fields of ancient cars in the weeds just waiting.

We saw a 1954 Nash Rambler on display there. Our honeymoon car was a new 1954 Nash Rambler Club Sedan, the only one I have seen since. They also had on display the first motor home, 1930's vintage.

Next morning to breakfast, at the diner in Murdo was a 1930/31 Franklin Sedan, Unbelievable! Found a young couple inside and they were from Michigan, in that car heading for Yellowstone Park, with small boys along. He wasn't the least concerned about the problems he might be facing.

After breakfast we headed west on 90 and stopped at Badlands National Park. You got to see it; I don't know how anyone could have made it thru here back then! Next stop was Wall Drug. Anyone who goes west must stop at Wall Drug. All the highway signs insist upon it. Saw a couple of 1965 Fords just sitting in the weeds across the road. Looked pretty good to me. They had been resting there for sometime.

Onto Rapid City and Mt. Rushmore, second visit there for us but always worth it, then off to Deadwood where Will Bill Hickcock was killed in Saloon #10 (still there) holding what came to be called "the dead man's hand!" We had been to Deadwood before but now they had transformed it into a gambling mecca.

Back onto I-90 west and at Buffalo onto Rt. 16 to Worland, down to Thermopolis and up 120, thru the Shoshone National forest and up to Cody, WY. Our idea was to have lunch there and call to make reservations for our stay at Yellowstone Park. They are hard to come by as there aren't that many for the volume of tourists going through.

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