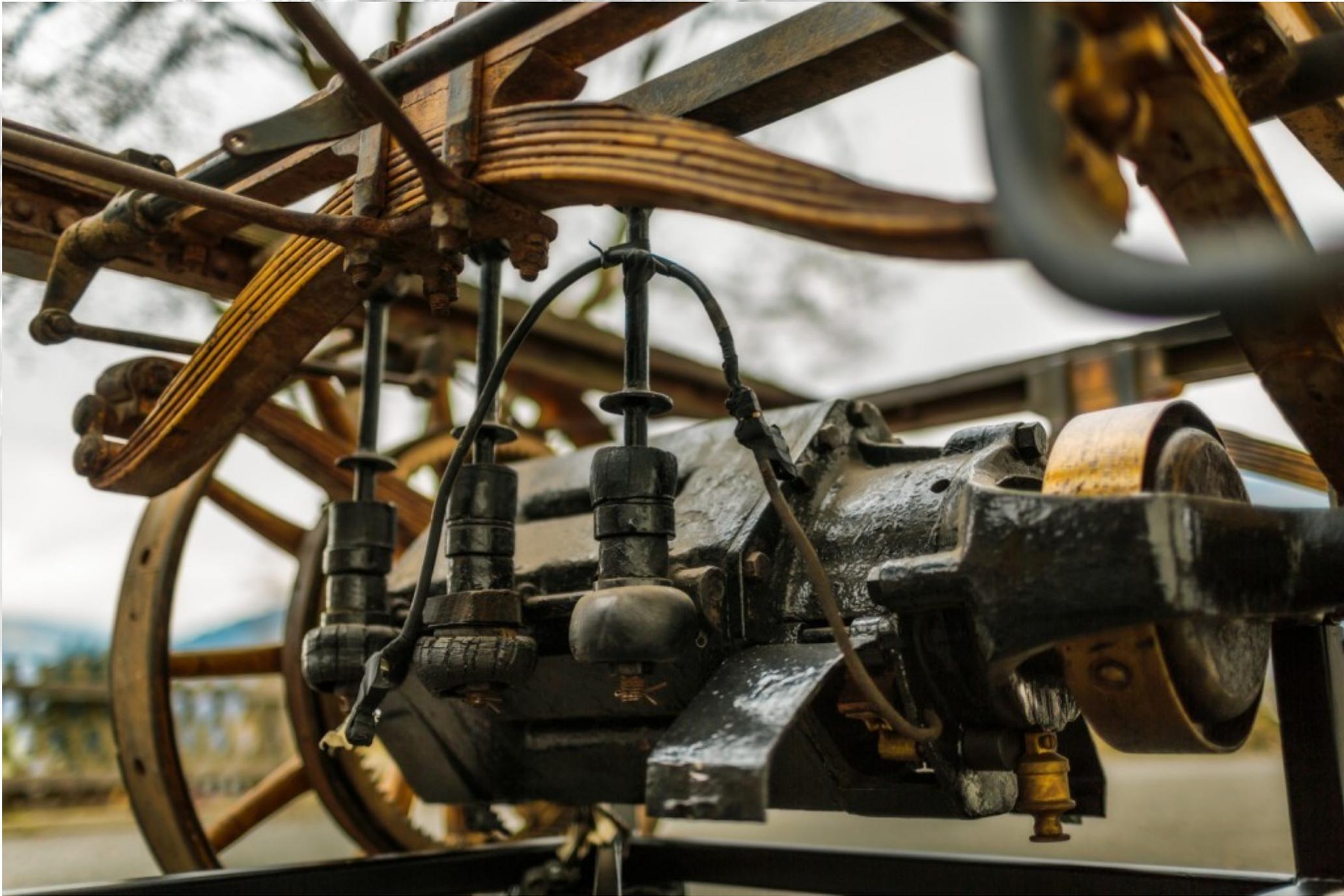


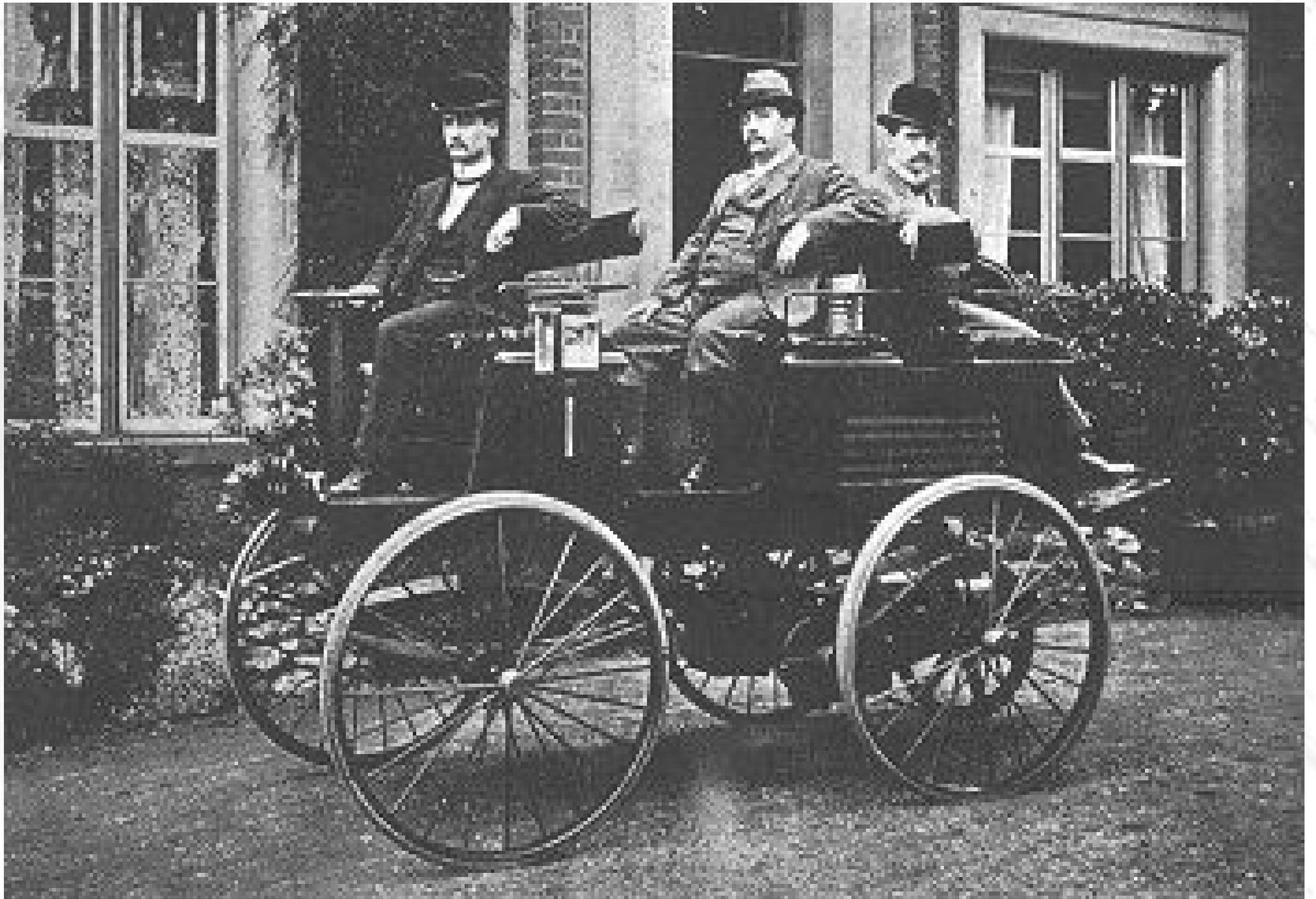
BATTERY OIL

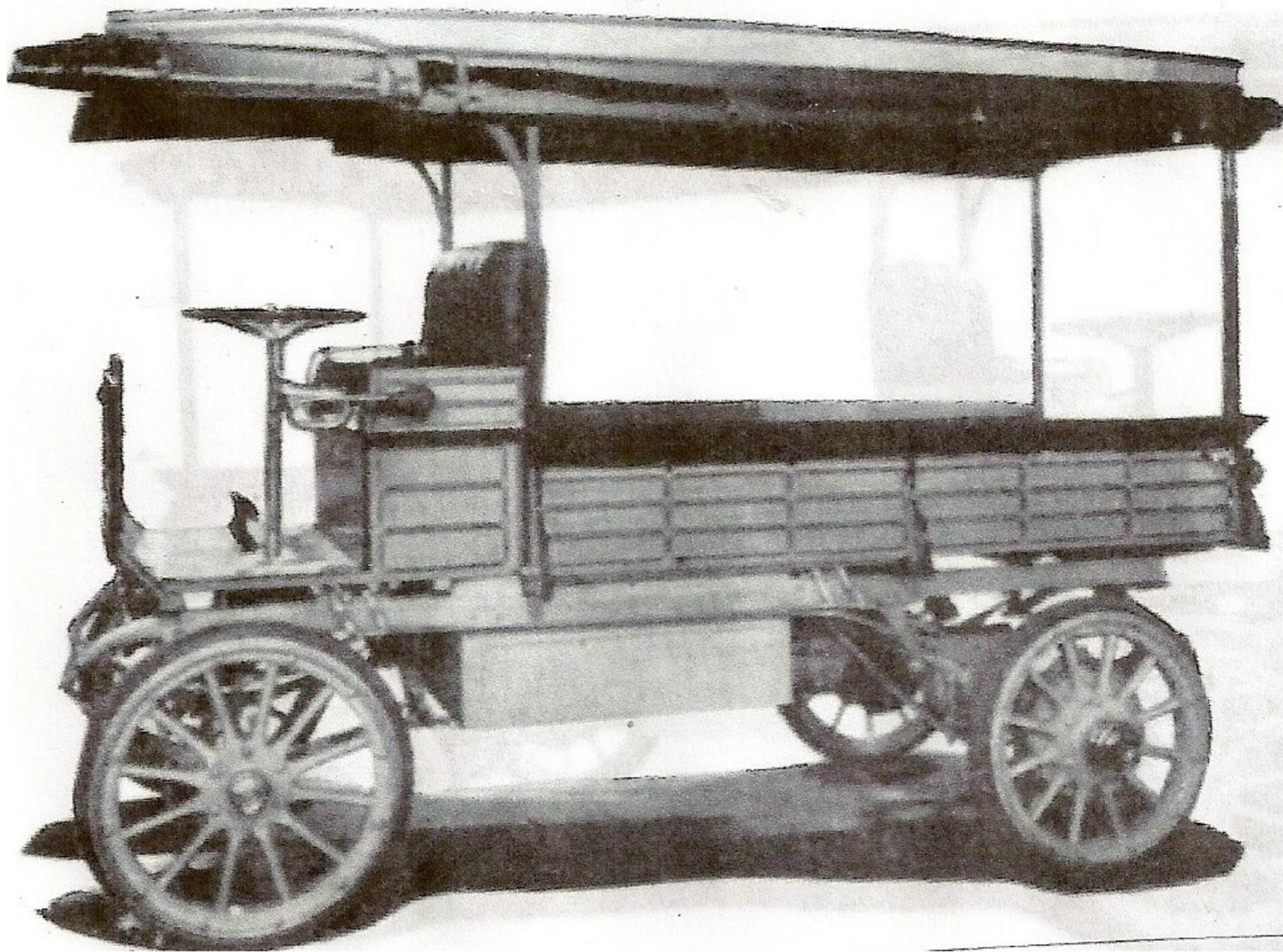
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Thomas Edison's 1889 Electric Runabout. Images courtesy [Automotive Hall of Fame](#).

Today, electric cars are seen by most consumers as an expensive novelty, delivering modest driving ranges, long recharging times and unattractive sticker prices compared to fossil-fueled alternatives. At the dawn of the 20th century, however, electric cars represented a legitimate (and some said superior) alternative to gasoline-fueled motor cars. A new exhibit at the Automotive Hall of Fame celebrates Thomas Edison's work on the development of the ideal battery for the electric car, prompting visitors to wonder what may have been had electric vehicles won out over gasoline power.

Edison was a strong proponent of the electric car, and the inventor believed that conventional, readily available lead-acid batteries were



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The use of the ELECTRIC is rapidly increasing,—it has a field of usefulness all its own. For the busy business man, in going to and from his home, office, bank, etc., or for making business calls; or for the lady in her shopping, calling, pleasure riding, the theatre, etc.—the "ELECTRIC" is just the right type of car,—and the BAILEY ELECTRIC is invariably chosen by the discriminate.

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WHEN you buy a Detroit Electric you anticipate the future, because of this car's many new, exclusive and patented features.

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Aluminum body panels add to the strength of the body, beauty of finish and life of the car. They do not check, warp or crack.

For those who do not care to make the expenditure necessary for the Edison battery at first, we furnish the Detroit Electric Guaranteed Lead Battery with our own warranty—the first lead battery made by and guaranteed by the manufacturer of the car. This makes it possible for us to guarantee the car in its entirety.

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Anderson Electric Car Co.

408 Clay Avenue

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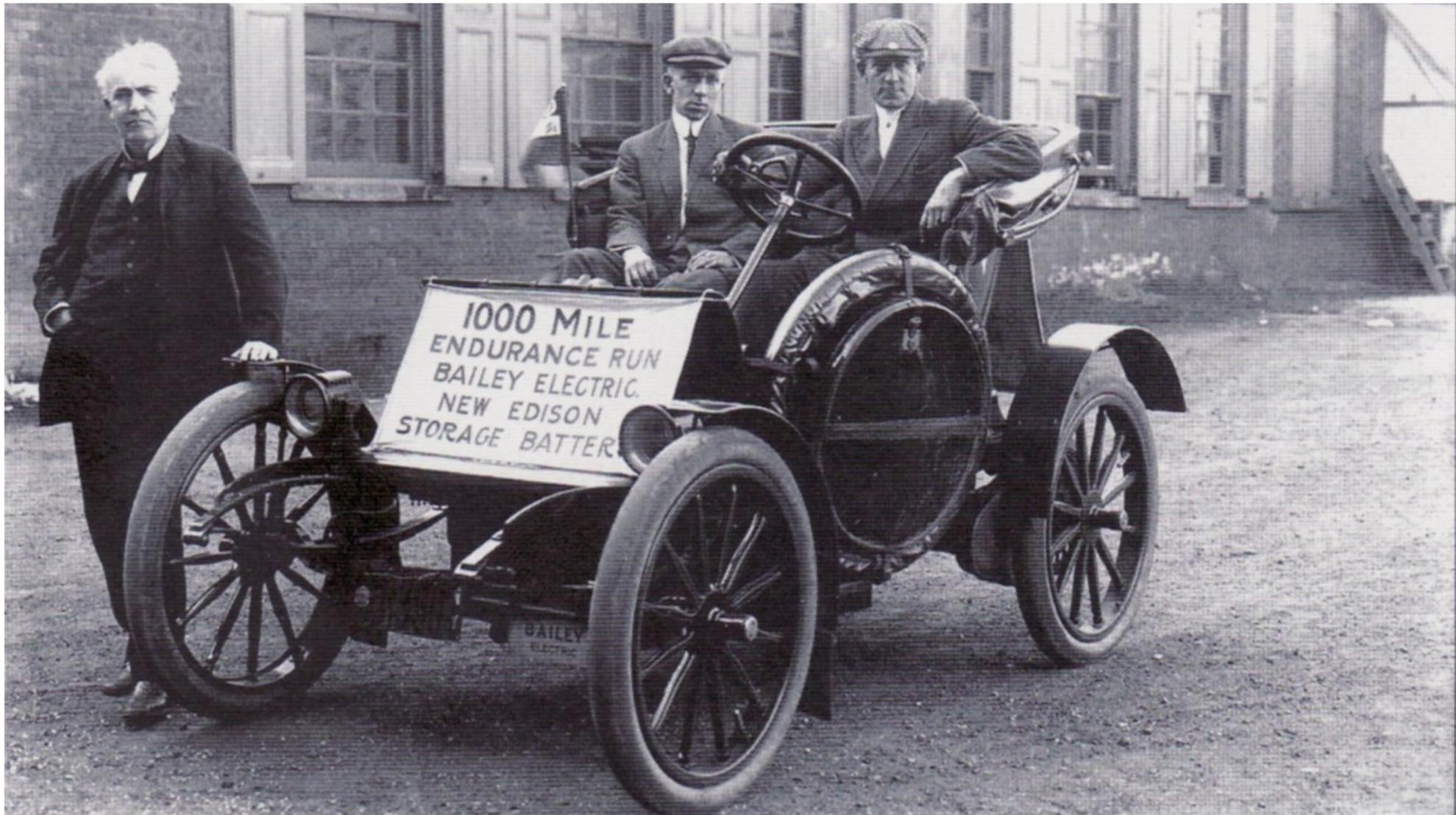
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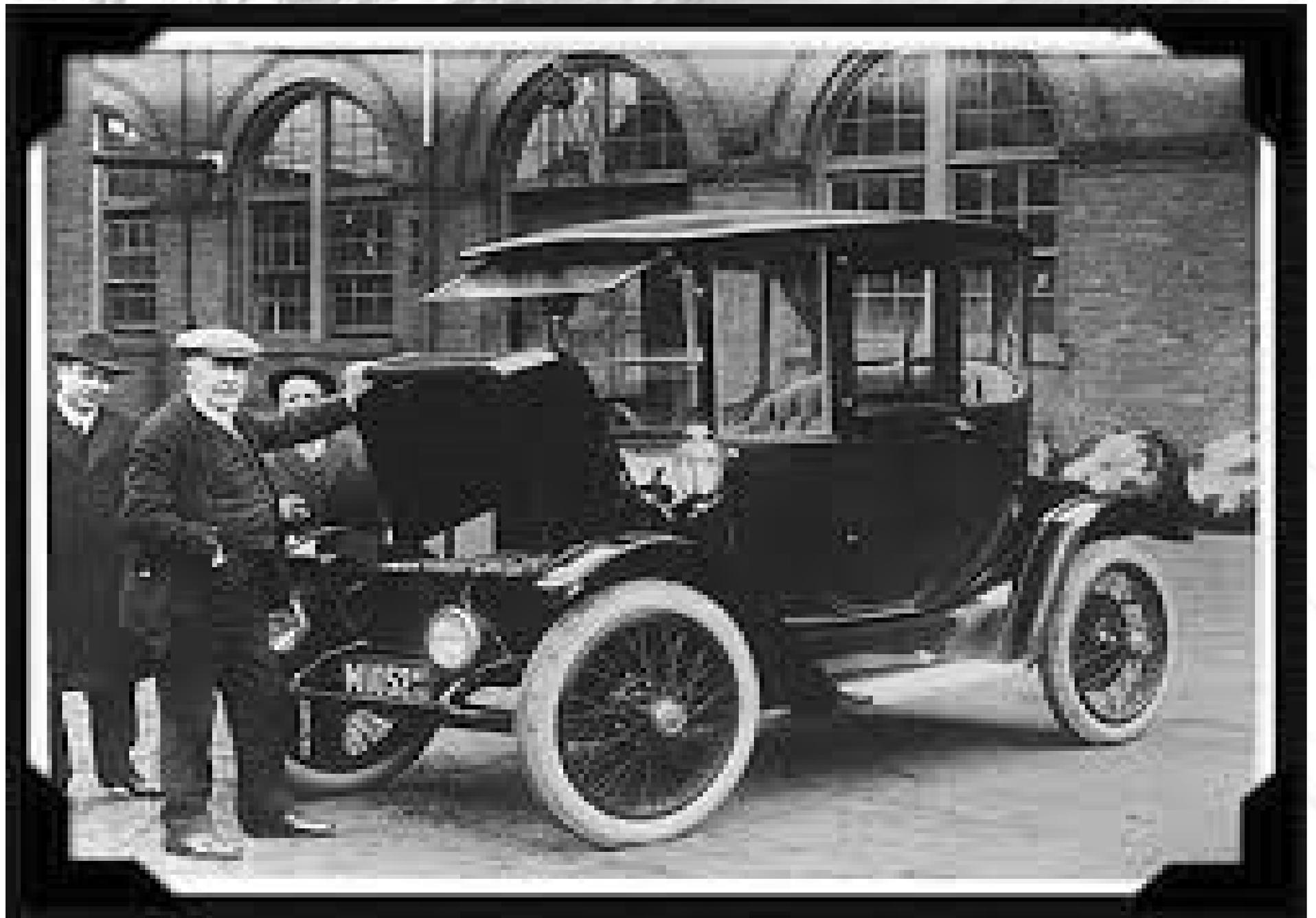
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THOMAS A. EDWIN AND HIS IMPROVED STORAGE BATTERY





2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

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ROAD ENGINE.

No. 549,160.

Patented Nov. 5, 1895.

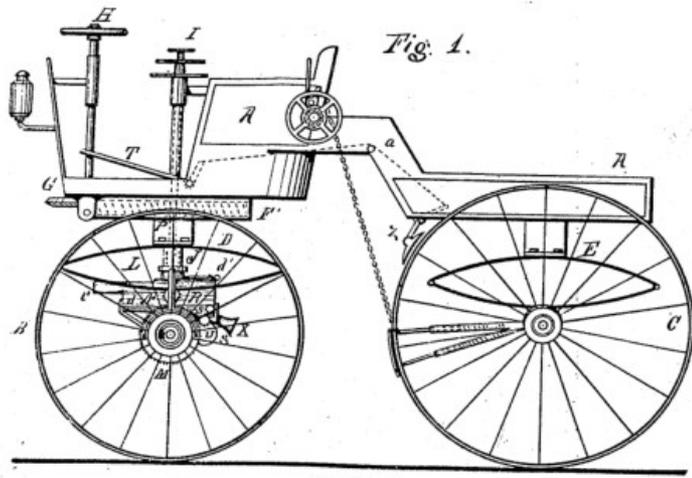


Fig. 1.

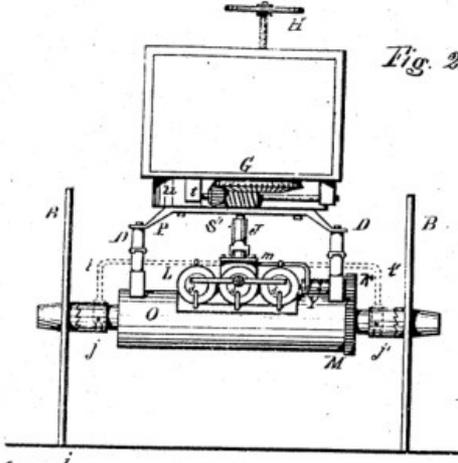


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES
Wm. H. ...
Geo. B. Selden

INVENTOR
Geo. B. Selden





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Steel Container—Unbreakable.

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Connectors—Copper wire in lugs over tapered poles. **Perfect electrical connection** without "lead burning."

The Edison Storage Battery may, **without harm**, be short circuited, charged in the reverse direction, left standing idle indefinitely either charged or discharged, charged at rates several times normal and at any time regardless of the state of charge.

The Edison Storage Battery is guaranteed to be capable of developing **100 per cent** capacity at the end of **four years**.

EDISON STORAGE BATTERY CO.
213 Lakeside Avenue Orange, N. J.





EDISON'S BATTERY POWERED ELECTRIC CARS

TODAY'S ELECTRIC CARS CONTINUE THE TRADITION OF
EDISON'S ELECTRIC DESIGNS FROM OVER 100 YEARS AGO.

Between 1900 and 1910, Edison and his staff developed an improved storage battery for use in electric automobiles.

Though cheap to operate, easy to control and safe, most consumers favored gasoline powered cars. However, storage batteries were a great success in delivery wagons and tractors, which could be recharged after short trips.

Did you know? The first project Thomas Edison and Henry Ford collaborated on was a battery and starting system for the Model T.



A Bailey Electric Automobile Called "Maud," 1910
Manufactured by S. R. Bailey Co. Inc., of Amesbury, Massachusetts.
Pictured above (left to right): Thomas Edison, Edison engineer Frank McGinness and test driver Captain George W. Langdon.



Thomas Alva Edison poses with an electric car outfitted with his storage batteries in the yard of the West Orange, New Jersey Laboratory complex ca. 1913.

