

The **PROFESSIONAL** *CAR*



THE HENNEY *JUNIOR*



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COVER PHOTO – Most of the editorial content in this issue is devoted to a single marque, the brilliantly conceived -- but less successfully executed -- *Henney Junior* produced between 1952 and 1954. When we asked Tom McPherson to compile a history of the Henney Junior, he jumped at the chance. And, he *delivered*. As in previous “dedicated” issues of *TPC* devoted to a single make or type of professional car, Tom has chronicled the entire Henney Junior story in fascinating detail. In his usual thorough style he augments his well-researched story with statistical tables and Henney factory photos. He even includes a sidebar story on the Junior's role in Henney's sad (some historians say unnecessary) demise.

Based on the mechanicals of the Packard 200, the Henney Junior featured a raised roof which offered far more interior room than the sedan delivery conversions that dominated the low end of the professional car market. Available in funeral car, ambulance and combination coach configurations, the ill-starred Junior died with Henney at the end of the 1954 model year. But the seed Henney planted blossomed among its former competitors who later introduced short-wheelbase, raised-roof models of their own: the Flixible Buick *Flixette*, Superior Pontiac *Consort* and the Cotner/Bevington Oldsmobile *Seville*. In its 1953 advertising, Henney issued a color postcard of a Henney Junior ambulance finished in a striking two-tone color scheme (see page 33). When Maryland PCS member Steve Lichtman restored his own 1953 Henney Junior ambulance he had it painted in this authentic color combination. Steve provided the fine portrait of his Junior which graces our cover.

CENTERSTRETCH – This stunning 1953 Henney Junior ambulance owned by Nyle Zikmund, of Blaine, Minnesota was the first professional car ever awarded *Best Of Show* honors at a Packard National meet, in Des Moines, Iowa a few years ago. It's one of three Henney Juniors photographed for this issue by Northland Chapter member Tony Karsnia, to whom we are exceedingly grateful.

BACK COVER – Lady Henney is an Orchard Green 1953 Henney Junior ambulance owned by Betty Oberg of Plymouth, Minnesota. The car was originally delivered to the Seals-Campbell Funeral Home in Marseilles, Ill. on April 24, 1953 at a cost of \$4,778.76. After her husband passed away near the end of the car's restoration, Betty completed his project with the help of members of the local Packard club. Tony Karsnia made a special trip to Plymouth to photograph Lady Henney for this issue.

- **Walt McCall –Editor**