

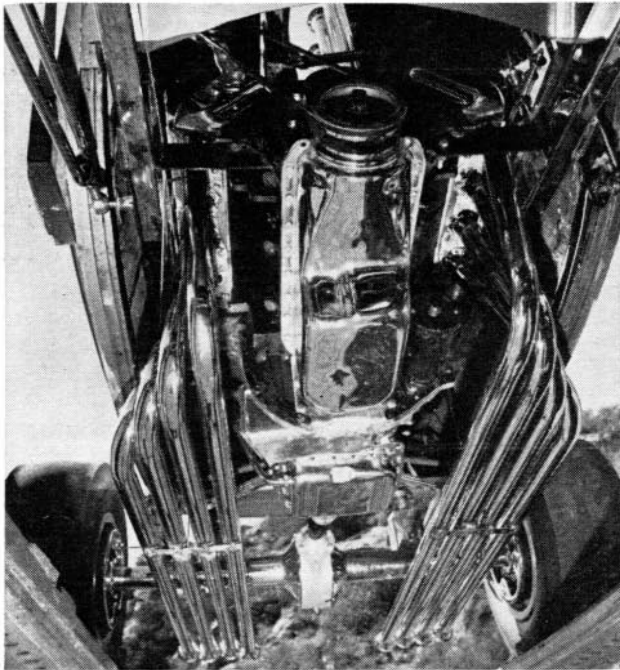
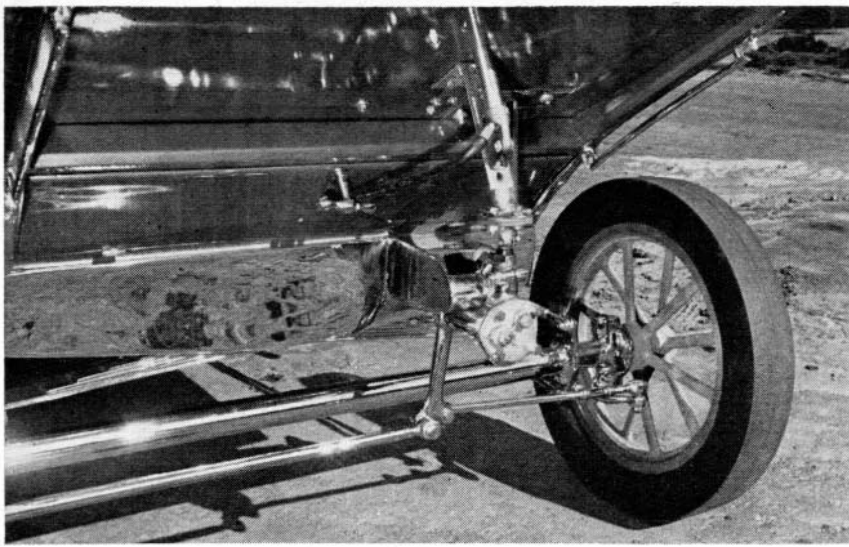


photography: Eric Rickman



BOOT

Ray Farhner has long been noted for building outstanding show cars. This, his latest, has to be about the kookiest thing on wheels



HILL EXPRESS

owner: Ray Farhner & Sons
 Kansas City, Missouri
 car: Show Custom

When impresario Farhner builds a car for his National Custom Auto Show circuit, you can bet it will be something really way-out. The "Boothill Express" is about as offbeat as you can get. Originally a horsedrawn hearse of the mid-1800 era, the "Express" was built by Cunningham of New York over 100 years ago. The engine is a 500-horse Hilborn-injected Chrysler. To solve linkage problems, a push-button transmission is used, along with a Moon hydraulic throttle. A 1952 Ford truck rear end is used to harness the added ponies.

For authenticity, Ray brought the "Express" to the Hope Town Movie Ranch for this photo session. Boot Hill Cemetery in background was used in the Bat Masterson series. Coach body was installed on a 2x4 boxed steel tubing frame; engine, undercarriage and frame were chrome-plated by Acme Chrome of Kansas City. The dashboard is equipped with Stewart-Warner instruments. Wheels are American Mags with Avon drag slicks up front and Good-years in the rear. Novel steering arrangement has the pitman arm pointing straight down. The paint job is a special blend of Mother of Pearl Gold with darker gold shadowing. A total of 30 coats were applied. What a way to go!