

No. 706

A Science Service Feature

Aug. 15

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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HOT ROADS BAD FOR TIRES

Street surfaces are usually dark in color and likely to be dry, hence they heat very readily in the sun. On bright summer days pavement temperatures are usually over 120 degrees Fahrenheit. Asphalt gets hotter than dust, but even a dusty parade ground may reach a temperature of 140 degrees and beach sand and rocks often exceed 100 degrees.

Hot road surfaces are probably responsible for much of the tire trouble experienced by motorists. Suppose a tire is inflated to a pressure of about 60 pounds in the morning when the temperature is 60 degrees. Later in the day, the air in the tire is heated, perhaps even to 140 degrees, in the course of driving over hot pavements. A rise in temperature from 60 to 140 would cause the air pressure to increase by nearly ^{one-sixth} or to change from 60 to 70 pounds. At this point an ordinary tire is likely to blow out at any weak spot and the luckless driver camps for a while on the hot road which made the trouble.

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