

August 2014

Dear Clients and Friends:

I use Wintergardens Smog and Tune in Lakeside for all my auto repairs. They have an old postcard on the wall, simply addressed to Chester Bjorngaard, Maxbass, North Dakota. The one cent stamp is postmarked June 29, 1928.

“Dear Sir: We’re writing this letter to you today because we want to help you get your money out of your Model T. It’s still as good a car as it was the day the new Model A Ford was announced and there’s no need to sacrifice it. The Model T Ford is still used by more people than any other automobile. Eight million are in active service right now and many of them can be driven one, two, three and five years and even longer.

Bring your car to us and let us look it over. You’ll be surprised to see how little it costs to put it in tip-top shape. New fenders, for instance, cost from \$3.50 to \$5.00 each, with a labor charge of \$1.00 to \$2.50. Tuning up the motor and replacing commutator case, brush and vibrator points costs only \$1.00, with a small charge for material. Brake shoes can be installed and emergency brakes equalized for a labor charge of only \$1.25. A labor charge of \$4.00 to \$5.00 will cover the overhauling of the front axle, rebushing springs and spring perches, and straightening, aligning and adjusting wheels.

The labor charge for overhauling the average rear axle runs from \$5.75 to \$7.00. Grinding valves and cleaning carbon can be done for \$3.00 to \$4.00. A set of four new pistons and rings cost only \$7.00. For a labor charge of \$20 to \$25.00 you can have your motor and transmission completely overhauled. Parts are extra.

Very truly yours, C. R. GLEASON CO., Bottineau N. Dak.”

Those were the days! The original Model T sold for \$980 in 1908 and had a top speed of 45 miles per hour.

Regards,



Charles M. Shackelford