

# AUTO SPEED DEMONS RACE AT FAIR TODAY

## Wilcox and Duray to Meet in Feature Event of Program— Other Stars Entered.

Ending the reign of the harness horses who have held the limelight for the past week, the gasoline jockeys and their steel steeds will invade the state fair grounds today for a series of sprint events. "Howdy" Wilcox will move his Peugeot from the brick to the dirt course for the day and engage Leon Duray, erstwhile king of the dirt track auto demons, in a speed duel for the Barney Oldfield Diamond medal. Duray will pilot the Frontenac with which Tommy Milton won the 1921 500-mile race at the local Speedway.

Wilcox and Duray will not have the stage to themselves, for there are several other pilots of note who will participate in the program. Ralph Mulford, of the winning smile and heavy foot, Orin Halbe, Van Ranst, Treyvoux, the French pilot; Curtner and Franck are others who will go the limit of daring in sending their cars around the un-banked turns of the dirt track in five events, ranging in distance from five to fifteen miles.

### Battle Royal Race.

An Australian pursuit race, a sort of battle royal, is on the card. Four cars will be started at intervals so that each will be the same distance ahead and behind other cars. As a car is overtaken the pilot drops out until only one survives. Thus the victor is determined. A limit of thirty miles will be put on this race. Immediately after the last trotting race was finished yesterday afternoon work was begun to condition the track for the auto racers. The surface was dragged, rolled, wet down and then sprinkled with a heavy coat of calcium chloride, the dust-laying preparation.

Barney Oldfield, veteran racing driver, who drove over the fair grounds track in 1903 the first mile ever covered in better than one minute by an automobile on a dirt track, will pace the initial lap of the free-for-all.

Chester Ricker will represent the A. A. Ed Reiser will referee the events and Seth Klein will act as starter. The first race will be called at 2 o'clock.

Following this afternoon's races many of the drivers will leave for Kansas City to participate, next Saturday, in the 200-mile race on the new board track in that city.