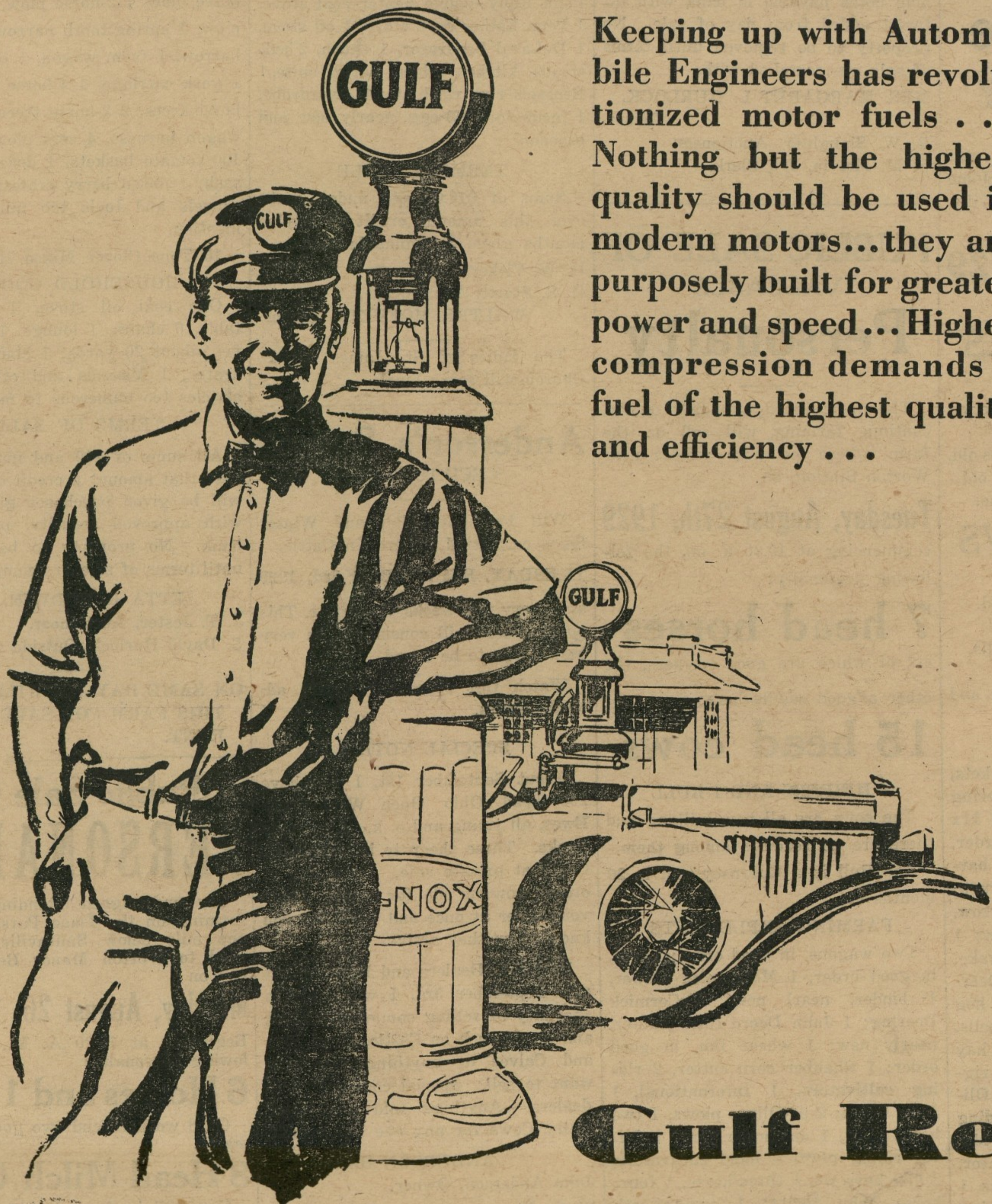


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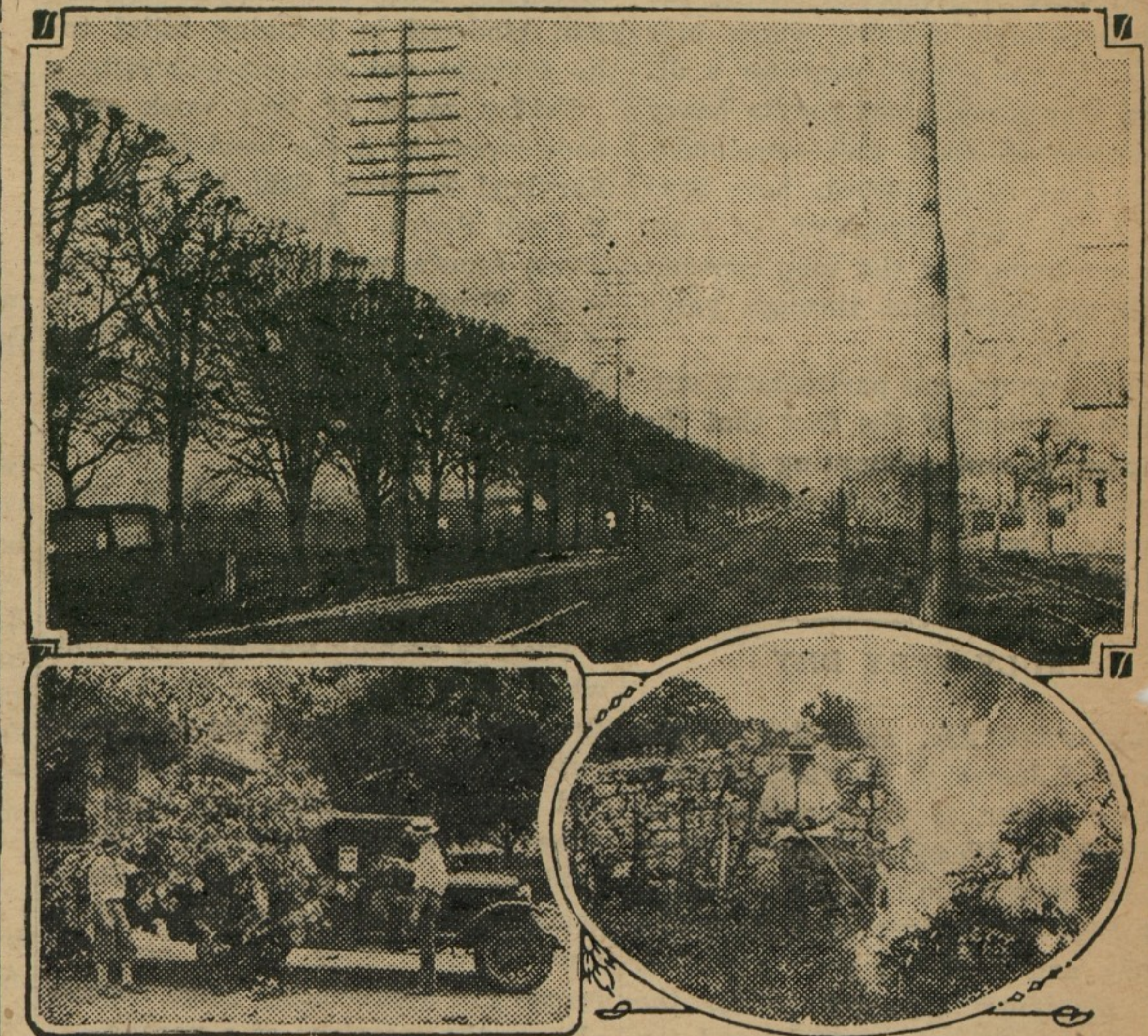
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### TREES TRIMMED ARTFULLY BY TELEPHONE LINE CREWS

Appearance and Welfare of Trees Objectives in Addition to Clearing Wires. Property Owner Consulted Before Work Is Started



Top: Telephone line along highway showing trees symmetrically trimmed by line crew. Bottom, left: Hauling branches and limbs from streets. Right: Burning brush. Groundman watching fire to see that no damage is caused.

In the construction and maintenance of the network of telephone lines serving every section of the country, there are of necessity certain places where trees interfere with the proper operation of the circuits. While the telephone companies always try to construct their lines so as to avoid trees, there are some cases where this is unavoidable, making it necessary to trim the trees so that the circuits may be operated without interference from contact with the trunks or branches.

Where trimming is necessary, the telephone companies' line forces first secure the permission of the property owner and then use every precaution to trim and prune the trees so that as little damage as possible will be done to them. The limbs are removed so as to leave the tree as symmetrical looking as possible.

Telephone officials say there are always two things to consider in pruning or trimming a tree along a telephone line. One is to clear the tele-

phone wires and the other is the appearance and welfare of the tree. Past experience has shown that where pruning has been done with the idea of clearing the wires only without regard for the appearance and welfare of the tree, it is almost impossible to obtain permission to prune trees when it again becomes necessary.

In the spring before the pruning gang or tree trimming crews of the telephone companies start out on this work, a right-of-way man covers the line to secure the necessary authority from the property owner to have the trees trimmed, giving him the assurance that the work will be done carefully by men familiar with this particular kind of work.

In Maryland and other States, all tree trimming is done under the supervision of representatives of the State Board of Forestry, who accompany the line crews and give them the benefit of their judgment as to how the trees should be trimmed.

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