

EASTBOURNE — HO!

R.A.C. RALLY ENTRIES CLOSE AT 308

—FULL DETAILS OF THE ARRANGEMENTS—

THE Regulations for the R.A.C. Rally and Coachwork Competition, which is to be held on 26th-30th March, provide that the finishing point of the Rally will be Eastbourne, cars will be parked in the Corporation Coach Station and Prince's Park, and the headquarters of the Rally will be the Grand Hotel.

Nine starting points will be employed, and the route from each one to Eastbourne will be approximately 1000 miles. The intermediate controls on each route are as follows:—

Buxton (start), Newcastle-on-Tyne, Llandudno, Tenby, Skegness, Eastbourne.

Edinburgh (start), Harrogate, King's Lynn, Llandudno, Tenby, Eastbourne.

Harrogate (start), Edinburgh, Scarborough, Llandudno, Tenby, Eastbourne.

Leamington (start), Newcastle-on-Tyne, Llandudno, Tenby, King's Lynn, Eastbourne.

Liverpool (start), Newcastle-on-Tyne, Skegness, Llandudno, Tenby, Eastbourne.

Llandrindod Wells (start), King's Lynn, Scarborough, Llandudno, Tenby, Eastbourne.

London (start), Truro, Leamington, Llandudno, King's Lynn, Eastbourne.

Torquay (start), Leamington, Scarborough, Llandudno, Tenby, Eastbourne.

Great Yarmouth (start), Cheltenham, Skegness, Llandudno, Tenby, Eastbourne.

Of these, three starting points are new, viz.: Llandrindod Wells, Torquay and Great Yarmouth. The routes also are mainly of a cross-country nature, calling for a knowledge of map reading, and, with the exception of the competitors starting from London, all cars in the Rally will have to cover the road between Llandudno and Tenby, from the extreme north to the extreme south of

Wales.

The start will be on Tuesday, 26th March, and competitors may select their own starting point, but not more than 100 competitors will be accepted from any one Starting Control. The total number of entries in the Rally will be limited to 400, the numbers received in previous years being 362 in 1932, 353 in 1933, and 400 in 1934.

The Road Section of the Rally will include the 1000 miles on the road, the examination for condition at the end of this run and the starting from cold test. For the Road Section there will be only one class, and all cars, irrespective of size, will be required to average 26 miles per hour throughout the 1000 miles, including all stops. Competitors are not required to run to an exact schedule between the intermediate Controls, which are kept open for sufficient periods to enable drivers to take such rest and refreshment as they require.

Every car must carry a minimum of two drivers, neither of whom shall drive for more than seven hundred of the thousand miles. No bonus marks will be given for additional passengers, although any number may be carried up to the capacity of the car.

All of the cars completing the Road Section of the Rally will arrive at Eastbourne during the morning of Thursday, 29th March, after having spent two days and nights on the road. On arrival they will be examined and marks deducted for breakages or damage. The cars will be parked in the open until the following morning, and may be covered, providing any material used is carried on the car throughout the Road Section.

On Friday morning cars must be started from cold and driven away within five minutes, prior to taking part in the Eliminating

Tests. The nature of these Tests will not be revealed until competitors have arrived at Eastbourne, in order to prevent practising or special tuning. For the Eliminating Tests the Rally will be divided into four groups by horse-power, each of which will be further sub-divided into open and closed cars.

The R.A.C. has viewed with considerable concern the tendency to enter cars in the Rally which have been very specially prepared, with the object of gaining the premier awards which have hitherto been offered. To remove the incentive for such special preparation, the R.A.C. proposes to award no prizes for best performances either in classes or from starting points, neither, obviously, will there be any team awards. The Awards for the Rally will therefore be Class Awards only. First Class Awards will be given to the 33½ per cent. of entrants in each Group who make the best performance in the Eliminating Tests and who have completed the Road Section, passed the Final Inspection for condition and passed the Starting Test without loss of marks.

Second Class Awards will be given to the 33½ per cent. who make the next best performances and who comply with the above conditions.

Third Class Awards will be given to the remaining competitors who complete the Road Section, which includes the Final Inspection, Starting Test and Eliminating Tests.

The final day, Saturday, 30th March, will be devoted to the Coachwork Competition for cars that have completed the Road Section and the Eliminating Tests of the Rally. It will be divided into open cars, two-door closed cars and four-door closed cars, and each of these classes will be sub-divided into seven further classes on a price basis.