

1931 SUPPLEMENT

TO THE BOOK OF THE A.J.S.

FOUR new models have just been added to the range of machines, three of which (namely, SA 5, SB 6 and SA 12) come within the 30s. taxation limit, and these, together with the new motoring laws, will be described in the following pages. It may be as well to state here that the following items are standard on models S 4, S 6, S 8 and S 9. The rear mudguard is now hinged, and the carrier is quickly detachable, whilst low lift central stands are provided, and the saddle is adjustable for position longitudinally. "Clean" handlebars are fitted throughout the range, and provision has been made for easy adjustment of the magneto. Finger adjustment is provided for the clutch, brake, and exhaust valve lifter controls.

The 3.49 h.p. O.H.V. Model (SB 6). This model (Fig. 1) is perhaps the most outstanding of the new models. The engine is a single cylinder overhead valve type, and has a bore and stroke of 74 by 81 mm. respectively, the rated horse-power being 3.50. The cylinder head, which of course is detachable, has the famous A.J.S. big exhaust port, and the valve gear and rockers are entirely enclosed. An improved system of mechanical lubrication is employed on this and the other three new models. Roller bearings are fitted to the big end of the connecting rod, while the mainshaft runs in ball bearings. A three-speed countershaft gear-box is fitted, and the kick-starter mechanism is enclosed within the box. The ratios are 5.30, 8.20, and 14.59 to 1. When a four-speed box is fitted the weight brings the machine above the 30s. tax. The handlebars have the controls brazed on, and the carburettor, which is a Bowden, has the throttle operated by a twist-grip. Taper roller bearings are used in the hubs, which are fitted with internal expanding front and rear brakes, each brake being quickly adjustable.

The primary chain is enclosed, while the rear one is protected by an efficient metal guard. A transmission shock absorber is fitted on the engine shaft.

The 4.98 h.p. O.H.V. Model (SB 8). The specification for this model (Fig. 3) is practically the same as that for the SB 6, except for the following. The engine is mounted in a semi-cradle frame which has torque stays passing from the rear wheel beneath the gear-box and to the rear of the engine. The bore and stroke are 84 by 90 mm. respectively, giving a total capacity of 498 c.c. The rear brake is 7½ in. in diameter, and the front one 7 in.;

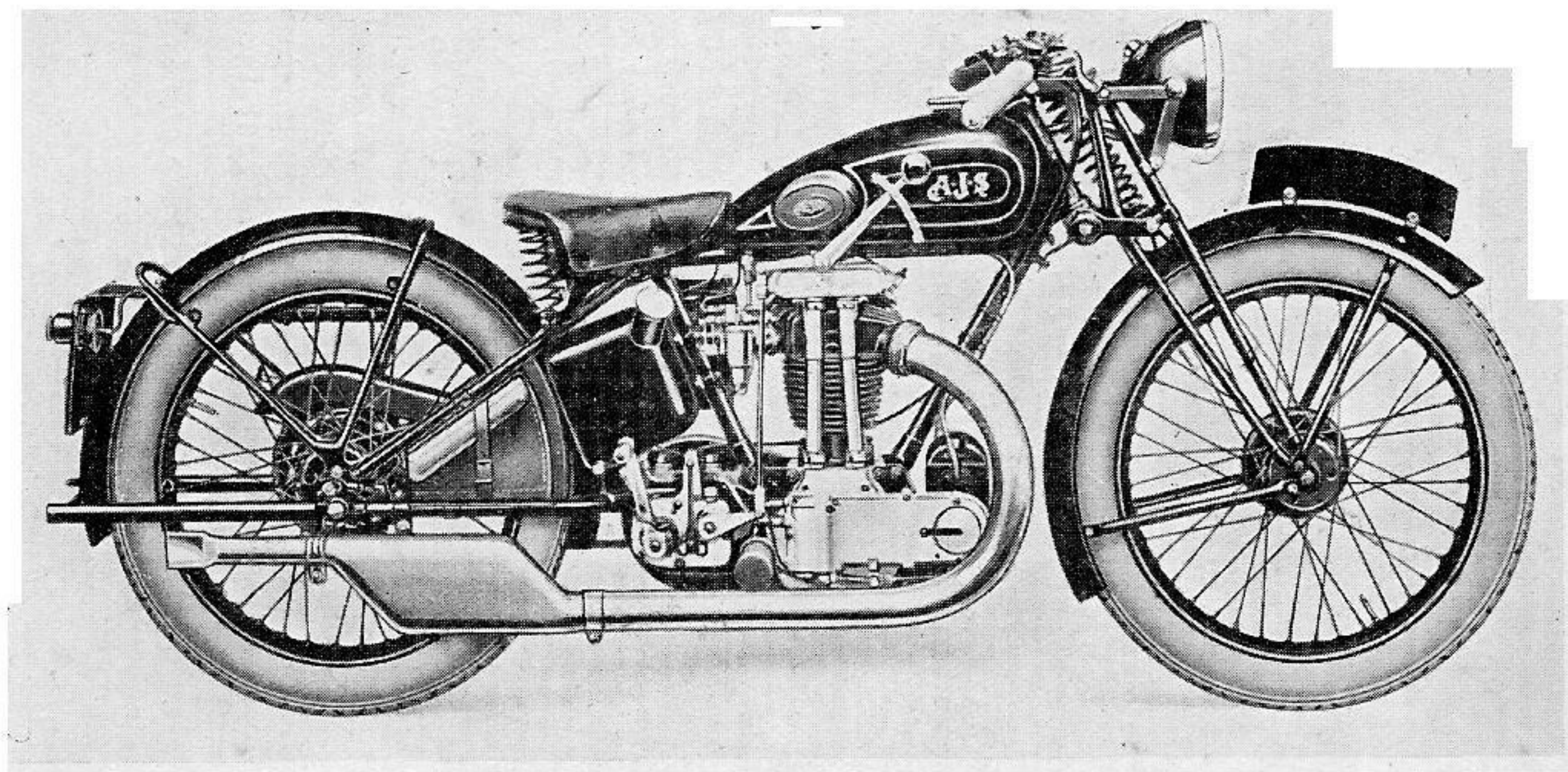


FIG. 1. THE 3.49 H.P. O.H.V. MODEL (SB6)

both are quickly adjustable. The Lucas magneto or magdyno is mounted behind the engine and is consequently protected from any foreign matter thrown up by the front wheel.

The 3.49 h.p. S.V. Model (SA 5). This model (Fig. 2) is identical with the SB 6 except for the following. Side-by-side valves are employed, and the valves are enclosed in a neat cover. An Amal carburettor is fitted, and this has twist-grip control. The handle-bars are of a new type in which a steering damper is incorporated.

The 2.48 h.p. O.H.V. Model (SA 12). Although this model

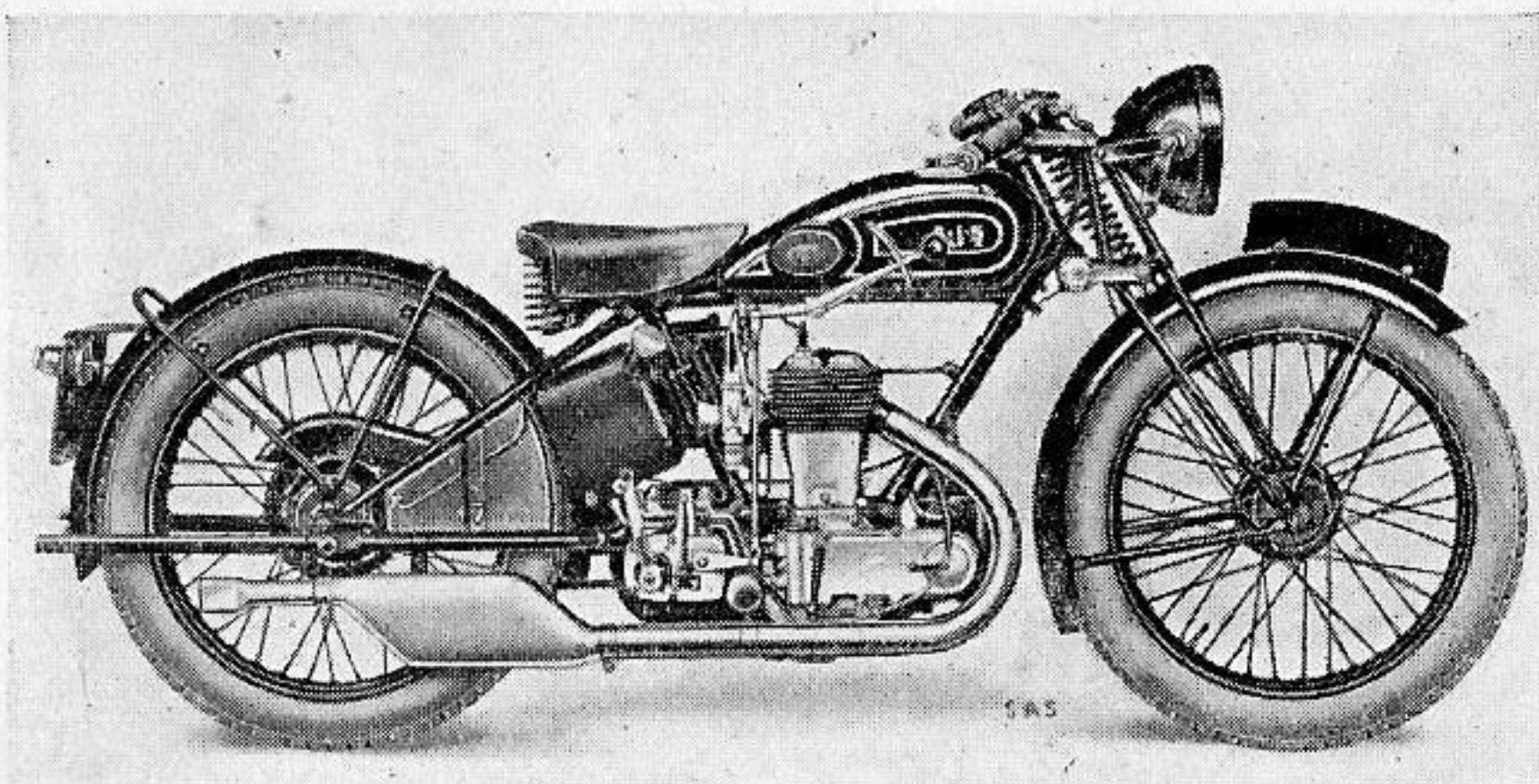


FIG. 2. THE 3.49 H.P. S.V. MODEL (SA5)

(Fig. 4) is the smallest in the range, its specification is very similar to that already given for the SB 6, therefore only the differing points are mentioned.

This machine has an overhead-valve engine, carrying a two-port head, the bore and stroke being 65 by 75 mm. respectively. As on the SA 5, an Amal carburettor with twist grip control is fitted, and the gear-box has ratios similar to those of the SA 5. No carrier is fitted on this model, but a lifting handle is provided.

NEW MOTOR LAWS

In order to bring this book right up to date, considerable data has been extracted from the Road Traffic Act, 1930, and it is hoped that this information will be of value to readers of this book.

Accidents (What to do). Stop immediately. Give name and address, and registration number of vehicle, if requested. Failing this, the accident must be reported within 24 hours at a police station or to a police constable.

The Ministry of Transport may direct an inquiry to be made into the cause of any accident involving a motor vehicle. A person authorized by the Minister may inspect the vehicle, and at a reasonable time enter premises where vehicle is situated. Obstruction of that person is an offence. The report of an inquiry shall

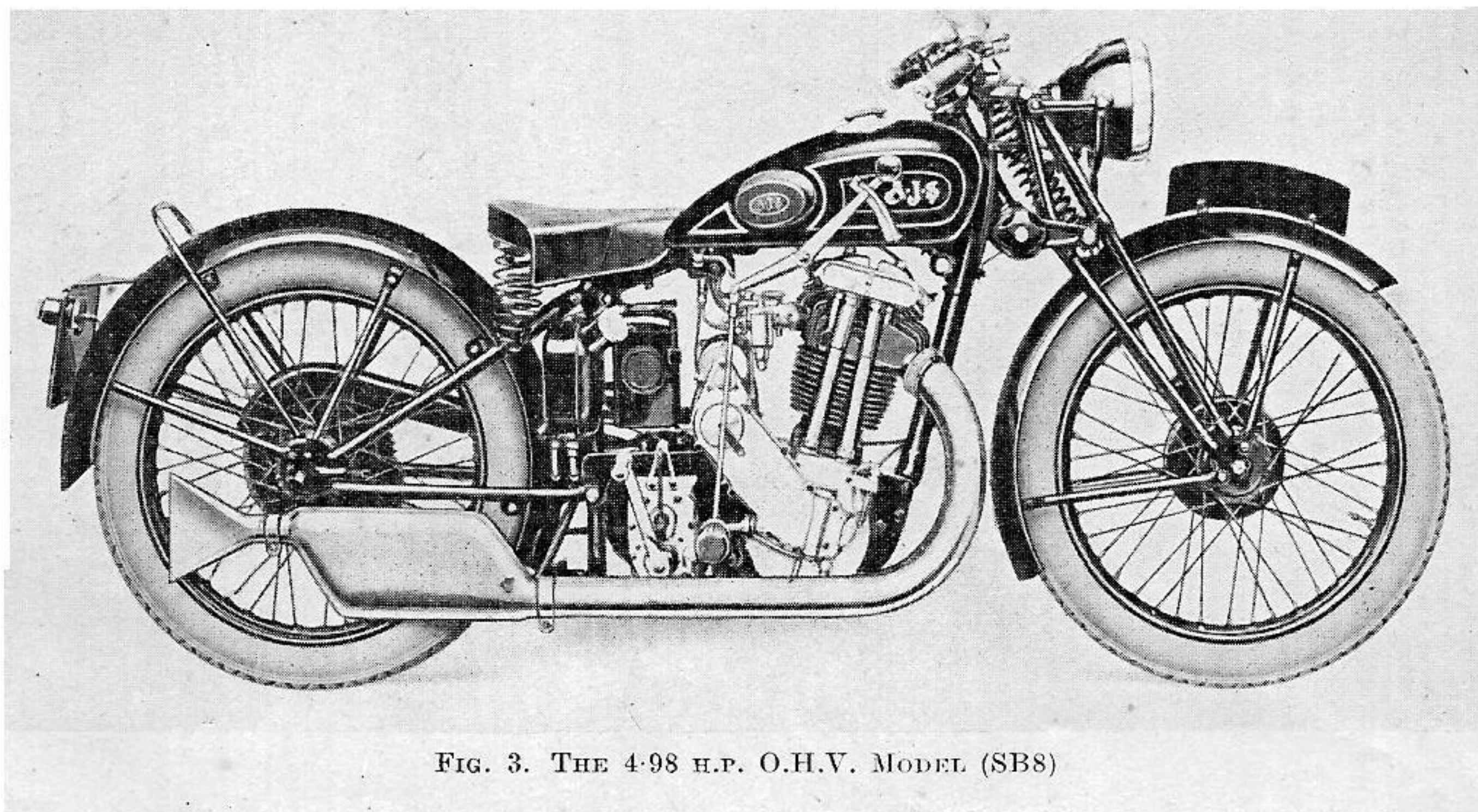


FIG. 3. THE 4.98 H.P. O.H.V. MODEL (SB8)

not be used in legal proceedings instituted in consequence of the accident.

Address. If a motorist is alleged to have driven recklessly, dangerously, or carelessly, he must give his name and address to any person having reasonable ground for requiring the information. If he refuses, or gives a false name and address, he is guilty of an offence.

Careless Driving. A person shall not drive without due care and attention or without reasonable consideration for other road

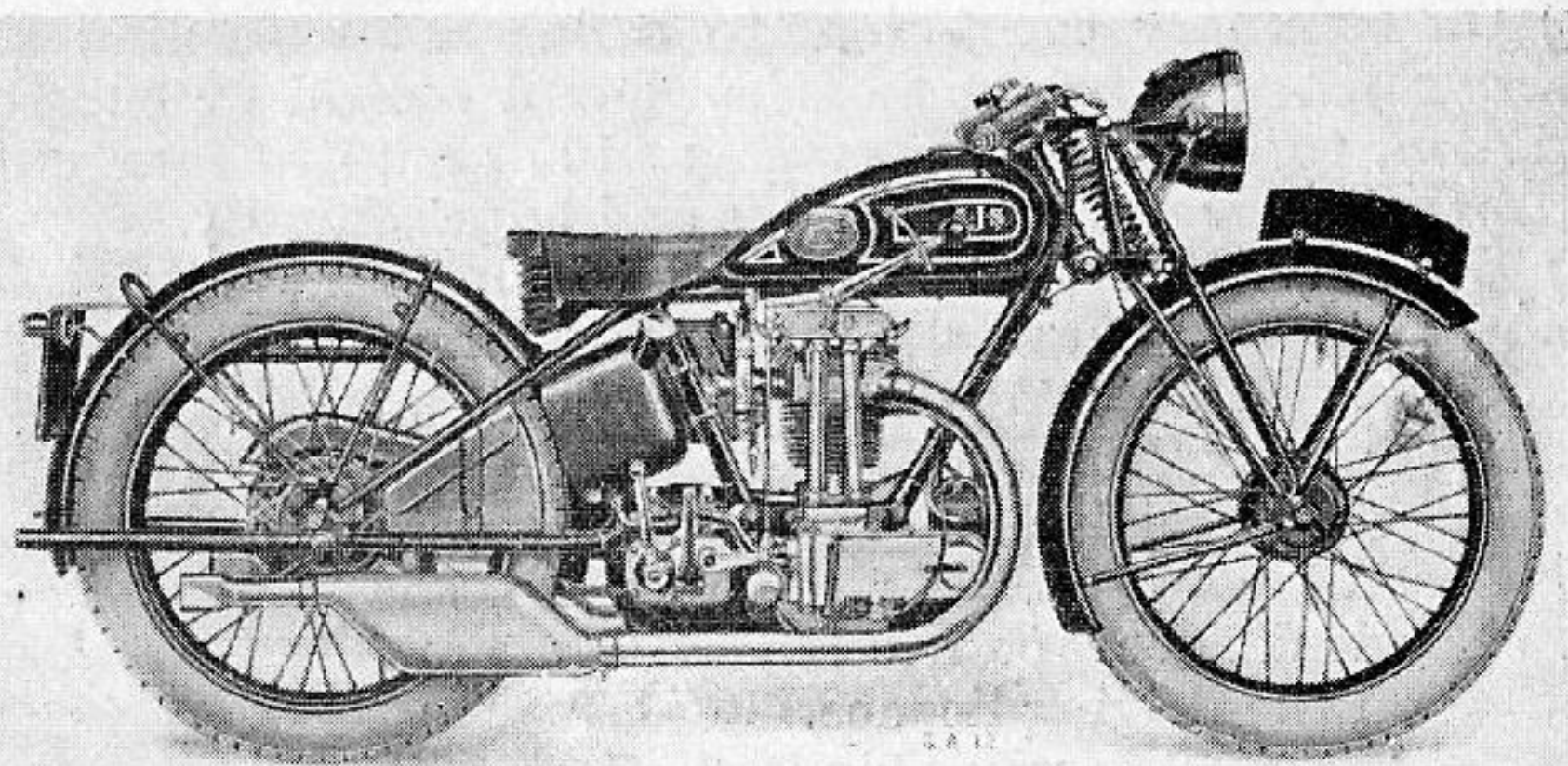


FIG. 4. THE 2.48 H.P. O.H.V. MODEL (SA12)

users. A first or second conviction for this offence does not entail disqualification from holding or obtaining a licence.

Dangerous Driving. A person shall not drive recklessly, or at a speed or in a manner dangerous to the public.

Penalties—

Not exceeding £50, or up to four months' imprisonment, for the first offence.

Not exceeding £100, or up to four months' imprisonment, or to both such fine and imprisonment, for the second or subsequent offence.

Six months' imprisonment or a fine (amount unlimited), or to both such imprisonment and fine, on conviction on indictment.

All convictions to be endorsed on the driving licence, with power to disqualify from holding or obtaining a licence.

Drivers' Licence. Seventeen is the minimum age for a licence to drive a motor-car, and sixteen for a motor-cycle. No person shall allow another to drive who is not properly licensed.

A declaration of physical fitness must be made at the time of application. The applicant must also declare that he is not disqualified by age or otherwise from obtaining a licence.

On the request of a police officer, the driver shall produce his licence for examination, to enable the officer to ascertain the name