

Hints for Car Owners

Striker Plate Adapts Latch to Overhead Garage Door

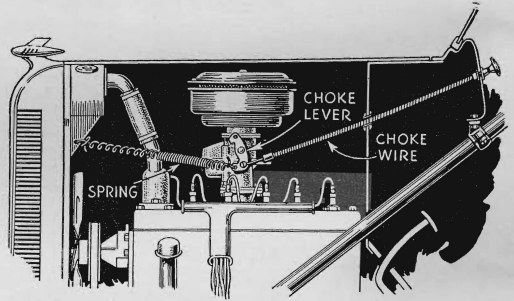
A REGULATION door latch may be adapted for use on an overhead-type garage door by the simple expedient pictured in the photographs at the right. The metal section of the lock into which the latch fits is fastened to the door jamb, and above this an easily made, curved striker plate shaped from $1\frac{1}{2}$ " by $\frac{1}{8}$ " steel is installed endwise, as pictured. The latch case is then positioned on the door itself. As the door descends, the latch will contact the edge of the steel striker and be forced inward to clear the top side of the metal receptacle into which it slides. When the door has been pulled down all the way, the latch bolt is then free to slide into place as on an ordinary swinging door.—W. O. W.



How the striker plate works. Easily shaped from steel, it depresses the latch as the overhead garage door is lowered

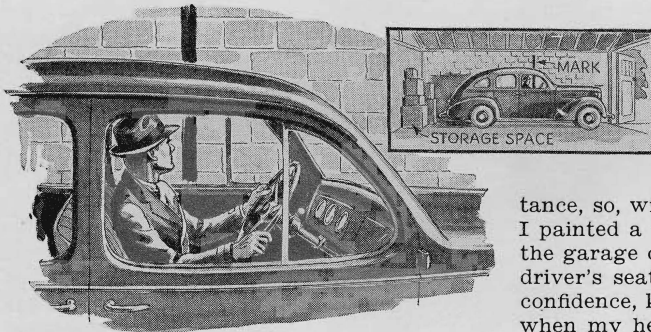
Choke-Rod Return Spring Aids Forgetful Drivers

IF YOU find that you sometimes run your car with the choke button partially out, forgetting to push it in after a cold-weather start, try attaching a spiral spring between the carburetor choke arm and a convenient spot on the radiator shell. Then adjust the spring tension so that the car vibration will joggle the spring and cause it to reopen the choke.—C. R. H.



Spring tension returns the choke if you forget it

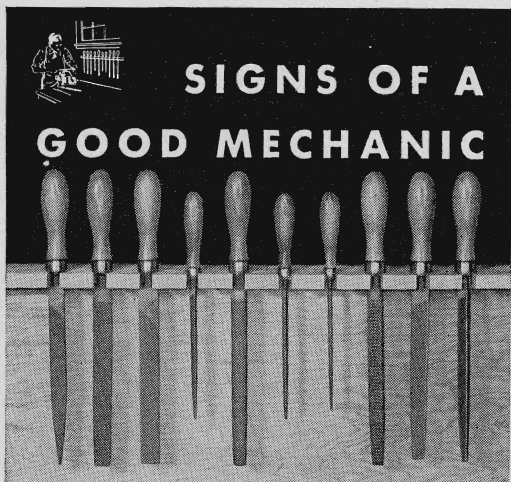
Garage-Wall Mark Shows Backing Limit



The line shows the driver he has backed far enough

BECAUSE I use the extra space in the rear of my garage for storing things, I have to know exactly where to stop my car when I back it in. A few rear-end bumps convinced me that I could not trust my sense of distance, so, with the car in the right position,

I painted a vertical line on the side wall of the garage opposite my head as I sat in the driver's seat. Now I back the car in with confidence, knowing that I have only to stop when my head comes even with the line.—L. H.



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*Special-type serrations (left) give Nicholson and Black Diamond File teeth successive new cutting edges—assuring longer cutting efficiency. Ordinary file teeth shown at right.



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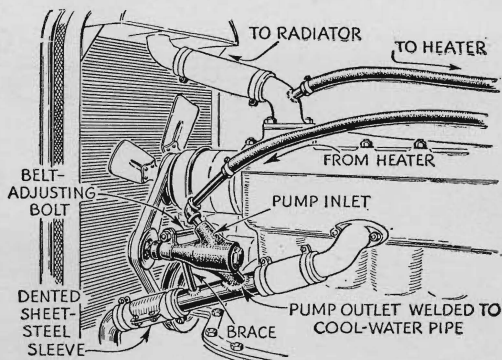
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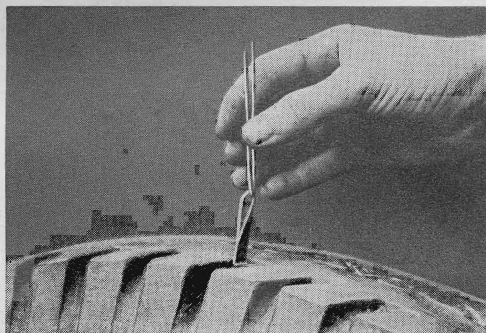
FILES

FOR EVERY PURPOSE



Hot-Water-Heater System Uses Separate Pump

IN SOME cars having a thermosiphon water-cooling system, a hot-water heater can be made to work by installing a water pump as shown above. I purchased a second-hand automobile water pump, removed the outlet and intake extensions, and welded the outlet pipe to the car-radiator intake pipe. A small nipple was then welded to the pump intake and the hose from the car heater attached. A supporting piece of iron was next welded between the pump and the cold-water pipe for the sake of rigidity, and a V-type pulley substituted for the flat-type on the pump, over which the fan belt runs to drive the pump shaft. To increase efficiency, a thermostat was placed in the upper radiator-hose connection.—L. J. L.



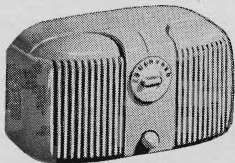
Strips of Rubber Plug Holes in Tire Casings

NAIL holes in a tire casing can be sealed with a strip of inner-tube rubber cut thin at the center and wider than the hole at the ends. Sanded and then saturated with rubber cement, the strip is pulled through the hole with a loop of thin wire, stretching it into place. Trim the projecting ends, and place a patch over the inside.—A. H. V.

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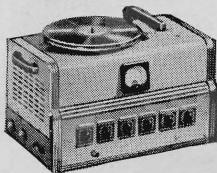
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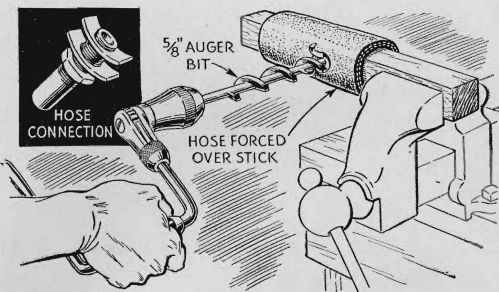
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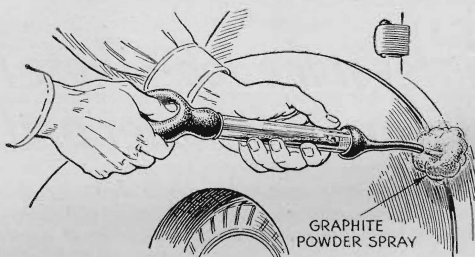
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Wooden Core Simplifies Drilling Hole in Hose

HOLES for hot-water car-heater connections can easily be made in radiator hose by pushing a piece of wood into the hose as shown above, and then drilling with a wood bit of the proper size. The wood should be thick enough that the bit tip will not penetrate the opposite side of the hose.—W. E. L.



Battery Hydrometer Used as Graphite Spray Gun

AN OLD bulb-operated hydrometer, or battery tester, makes a good spray gun to apply graphite for lubricating purposes to metal joints, locks, or hood webbing on a car. Remove the float and clean the battery tester with soda or some other alkaline agent to neutralize any acid that may remain. Rinse it out with clean water, let it dry, then fill it part way with graphite powder.—R. J. H.

Temporary Hose Repair

TO MAKE an emergency repair on a leaking radiator-hose connection, cut a long strip about an inch wide from an old inner tube, and wrap the strip in a spiral around the leaking section, applying some tension as you make the wrapping. Then wrap this spiral with adhesive tape, working back over the section in the opposite direction. The tape itself thus is kept from getting wet and losing its adhesive properties.—S. R.