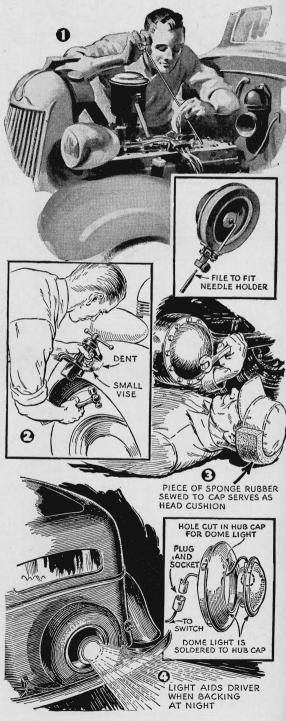
EIGHT CAR TIPS FOR

1 A HOMEMADE STETHOSCOPE for diagnosing motor ills is easily assembled from the reproducer head of an old phonograph arm and a length of ½" steel rod 18" long. File one end of the rod, as shown in the inset at right, to fit the needle holder. Holding the reproducer up to the ear and moving the other end of the rod around on the engine block will quickly locate most engine noises.—C.O.M.

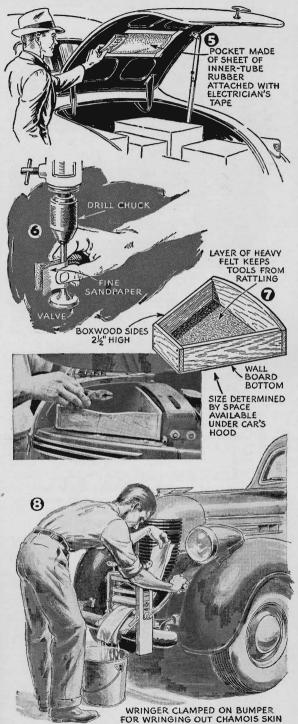
2 REPAIRS TO DENTED FENDERS are facilitated with an ordinary small bench vise used as illustrated at the right. First the vise jaws are opened wide and placed against the top of the fender so that the dent is between them, if small, and along their edges, if large. Tap the underside of the fender with a hammer to bring it back to shape. Shifting the jaws of the vise around the dent improves the job. By turning the vise in various positions, its rounded jaws can be made to conform to the fender curves.—R.J.W.

3 FOR WORKING UNDER A CAR, a piece of sponge rubber about 1" by 3" by 8" in size sewed onto the back of a mechanic's cap provides a soft cushion wherever he rests his head. Besides providing comfort, the cushion will eliminate any possibility of bruises and cuts should a slipping tool or dropped part cause the worker to jerk his head backward and downward against the floor.—N.B.

4 BUILT INTO THE HUB CAP OF a rearmounted spare wheel, an old dome light obtained from a junk yard can be a serviceable and decorative backing light for your car. Cut a circle in the hub cap large enough to take the fixture, to which a single-wire lead and plug are attached. Then solder the fixture to the cap to hold it and provide a "ground." Connect a wire from the socket by means of a plug and long wire to a switch on the dash, and thence to one ammeter terminal. When you change a tire, switch the hub caps. too, so as to keep the light on the rear of the car.—S.A.T.



AMATEUR MECHANICS



5 SALES RECORDS AND OTHER data are stored close to a salesman's samples under the deck of his business coupe if the device shown in the accompanying sketch is used. A sheet of inner-tube rubber fastened to the underside of the compartment lid with strips of electrician's rubber adhesive tape, as indicated, will keep all papers clean, handy, and dry. Motorists other than salesmen will find such a pocket useful for storing booklets, spare maps, and other papers not needed continuously in the front seat.—G.E.H.

6 RIDDING VALVE STEMS OF carbon and oil "varnish" can be accomplished speedily by simply inserting each valve stem in turn in the chuck of a drill press, turning on the drill, and holding a strip of fine sandpaper lightly against the stem as it spins. Do not let the sandpaper touch the faces of the valves.—H.J.

7 SET UNDER THE HOOD IN THE unused space up ahead of the radiator in many cars, a tool box made as shown at the left is extremely handy. I made one for my car out of box wood, with a bottom of ordinary wall board. A felt lining in the bottom keeps the tools from rattling. Naturally, the shape and dimensions of the box are determined by the space available in your car.—A.E.O.

8 DRYING A CHAMOIS QUICKLY and often while putting the finishing touches on a car wash is a tedious operation when it must be done by hand. I found that an old clothes wringer could be used to cut the work down consider-Whenever I wash my car, I clamp the old wringer on the end of the front bumper and set my rinsing pail in front of it. As often as necessary I souse the chamois in the water and run it through the wringer. At some spot on the rear or front bumper of nearly any car, space can be found where the wringer can be clamped. Otherwise, any convenient support located near the scene of operations can be utilized.-L.J.E.