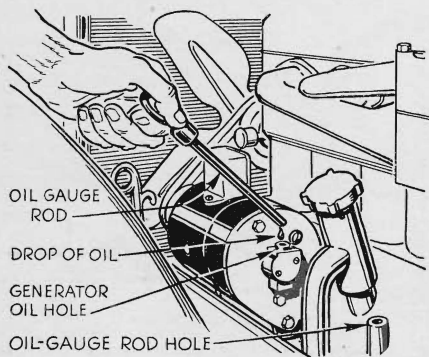


# Helpful Hints *for* Your Car

*Motor-Wise Readers Pass Along Some Handy Kinks They Have Worked Out*

## Handy Emergency Oiler

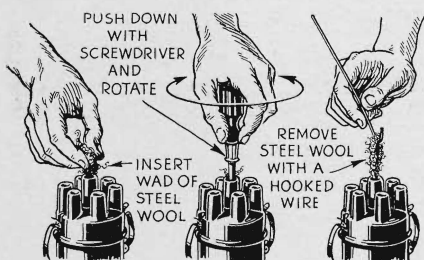
**A**LTHOUGH not recommended for regular use, a handy emergency oiler is present in every car fitted with an oil-level indicator rod. If you find that your generator, starter, or door hinges are in need of lubrication and you are minus an oil can, pull the oil rod from its hole in the crankcase wall. The drop that forms at its end can be applied in many places not readily accessible even with an oil can.—P. M.



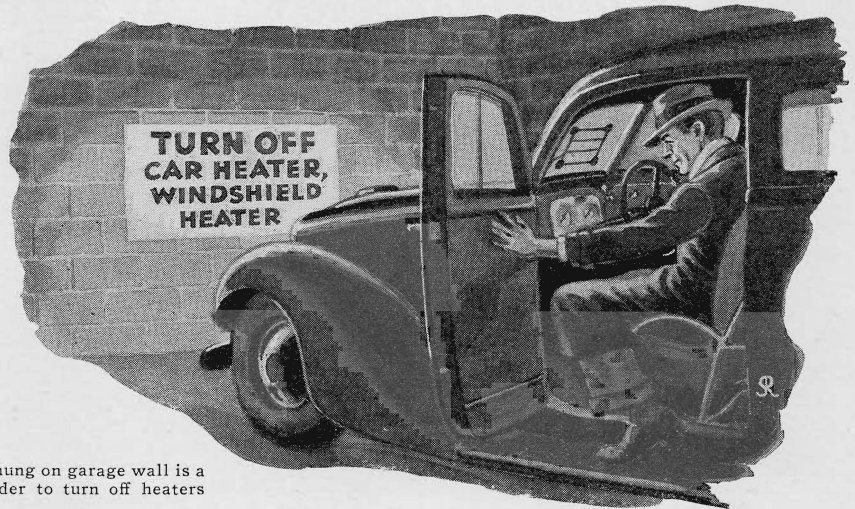
How oil gauge rod is used for emergency lubrication of generator, starter, and other parts

## Cleaning Distributor Cap Terminals

**B**ECAUSE it is hard to see and even harder to get at, the corrosion that forms inside the terminal caps at the top of the distributor can cause many ignition troubles. To remove this dirt and clean the metal surfaces, stuff a wad of steel wool into the hole and, pushing it down with a screw driver as far as it will go, turn it back and forth with a grinding motion. After several minutes, a hooked wire can be used to retrieve the wad. Incidentally, steel wool has many other uses around the garage. It is fine for cleaning valve stems and carburetor parts and can be used in many instances where the abrasive dust from either emery cloth or sandpaper might cause a great deal of trouble.—W. G. L.



Drawing shows use of steel wool and screw driver to clean distributor cap terminals



Sign hung on garage wall is a reminder to turn off heaters

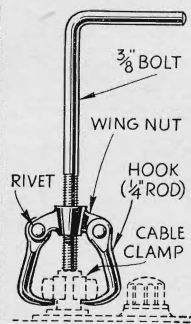
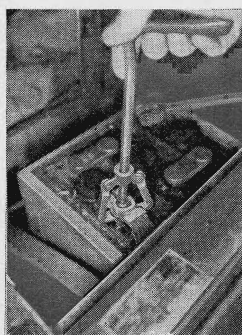
## Reminder Sign Saves Storage Battery

**A**S A check against forgetfulness, a large sign now hangs on the rear wall of my garage. Printed in bold black letters on a white background, it reads, "Turn

Off Car Heater and Windshield Heater." I can't help seeing it when I drive in and heading the warning has made forgotten switches a thing of the past.—P. A. E.

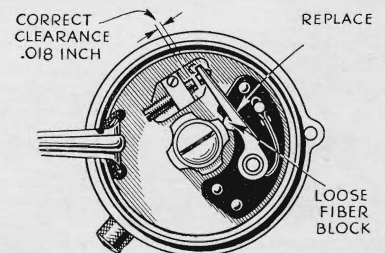
## Cleaning Garage Floors

**K**EROSENE and ashes form an effective mixture for cleaning greas-spotted cement garage floors. When the surface dirt has been loosened with a shovel or hoe, sprinkle a cupful of kerosene on the floor, rubbing it into the spots with an old broom. Then work several shovelfuls of fine furnace ash into the kerosene and grease. After a good scrubbing, sweeping up the mess will leave the floors clean and white. Although with stubborn spots, a small amount of gasoline can be used, it must be applied sparingly and carefully, and only when the garage is well ventilated.—G. H. M.



## Cable Clamp Puller

**C**ORRODED cable clamps that stick fast to the battery terminals always are a source of trouble to both the garageman and the amateur mechanic. A convenient puller for these clamps can be made from a few scrap parts as shown in the illustration. All that is required is a length of threaded rod, a wing nut to fit, two short lengths of small-diameter rod, and a few rivets. Turning the center rod pulls the clamp loose, applying the pressure without marring either the clamp or the terminal.—E. P.



## Cure for Hard Starting

**H**ARD starting on small cars often can be traced to loosening of the rivets that hold the breaker arm fast to the fiber block in the distributor head. This allows the block to shift when hit by the cam and slows up the break; at cranking speed it is bound to cause trouble. Usually, the only lasting remedy is an entirely new breaker assembly.—E. T. G., Jr.

## Homemade Grease Gun

**I**N AN old tire pump, you have the makings of a grease gun for your transmission or differential. Cut the barrel down to the desired length. Then, whittle a wooden plug to fit the pump barrel, drill it, insert a short length of brass tubing, and force it into place. The internal suction of the pump plunger will allow it to be filled with grease.—D. J.

