AUTO IDEAS

Time-Saving Suggestions For Car Owners Made By Our Experienced Readers

Funnel Provides Illumination

WHEN my car went dead several nights ago, I discovered that I had left my flash light at home. As I floundered in the dark, my son, deciding to clean a funnel which we had borrowed together with a can of gasoline from a garage, accidentally held it up in front of the headlights. To my surprise, the shiny conical surface reflected a strong beam of light back on the motor. Experimenting, I found that a good deal of illumination could be reflected back in this way for all sorts of repair jobs.-E. C. H.

Shoe Horn Aids In Replacing Hose

THE PROBLEM of forcing the loose end of a new section of radiator hose over the pipe leading to the motor head can be simplified by making use of an ordinary metal shoe horn in the manner illustrated at the right. Push one side of the hose over the pipe end and then use the horn as a lever to ease the opposite edge into place. While the shoe horn is manipulated with the right hand, the left can force the hose over the end of the pipe with a twisting motion. The parts will go to-gether more easily if both the hose and pipe are lubricated with water .- A. W.



FROM an ordinary machine bolt and nut,

a scrap of gas pipe, and a steel ball bear-

ing, the amateur mechanic can provide himself with a powerful midget jack that

will prove valuable for many types of re-pair jobs. As shown in the drawing, the

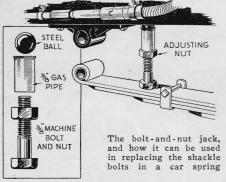
jack is assembled by slipping the pipe

over the end of the bolt and placing the ball bearing in the upper end of the pipe.

To adjust the jack, it is necessary only to turn the nut with a wrench. A considerable

amount of lifting power is obtained.-F. C.

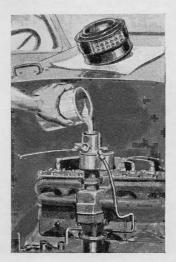
Handy Midget Jack Made From Bolt and Nut



Cotton Finds Tacks In Tires



THE NEXT time you have difficulty locating the tack or nail that caused a punctured tire, rub a large wad of absorbent cotton around on the inner wall of the shoe. No matter how small the point of the nail or piece of metal may be, it will catch in the cotton and pull off a telltale tuft that will indicate its exact position in the inner wall of the shoe.-W. H.

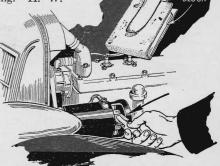


Clothespin Forms Holder for Sandpaper Strips

A HANDY commutator cleaner for generator work can be made from an ordinary wooden clothespin. Simply fold a strip of sandpaper over a thin block of wood cut to the width of the commutator, and force both the block and the paper between the jaws of the pin, as shown be-low. Because of its long, narrow handle,

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the improvised cleaner will fit easilv into the commutator opening in the generator housing.-H. W.



Priming a Stalled Motor Through the Carburetor

WHEN a modern car runs out of gas and the tank has been refilled, it generally takes some time to get the motor started again. This is caused by the fact that the engine must be turned over long enough to allow the fuel pump to draw the gasoline up from the tank. The battery can be saved and the engine started immediately, however, if the cylinders are primed by removing the air cleaner on the down-draft carburetor and pouring a small amount of gasoline directly into the intake opening .--- L. V. H.

