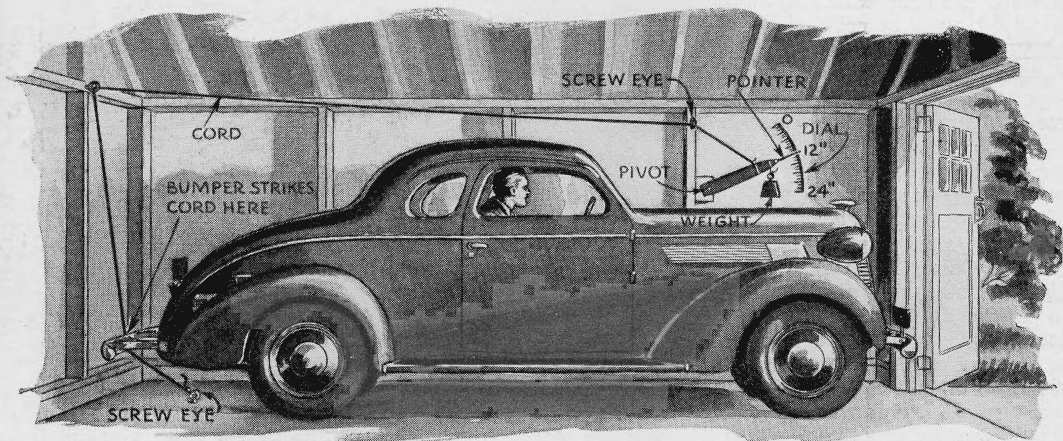


# Stunts for Car Owners



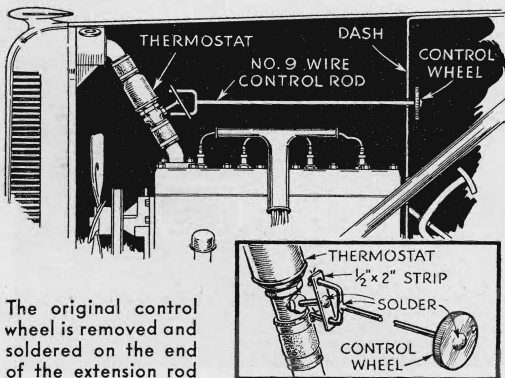
## Wall Dial Helps Back Car into Garage

BACKING into a short garage without hitting the back wall was a problem I met by rigging up the simple indicator pictured above. As the car is backed, the bumper hits a strong cord attached to a floor screw eye and leading through other screw eyes to a

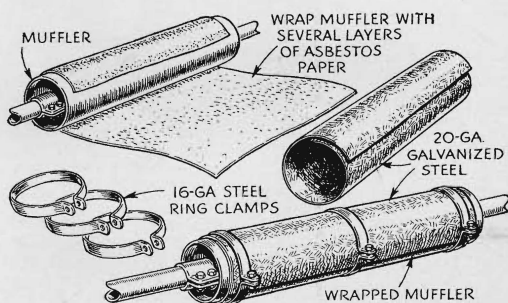
pivoted, weighted, wooden pointer on the side wall near the door. As the bumper pushes the cord, the pointer moves to indicate on a wall dial within view of the driver the distance in inches between the bumper and the back garage wall.—W. A.

## Dashboard Regulator for Adjustable Thermostat

TO MAKE it possible to control the water thermostat on my car from the dashboard, I removed the regular control wheel and replaced it with a flat metal strip. A wire yoke, engaging holes in the strip, was soldered to a wire control rod leading through a hole in the dashboard, as shown below. Finally, the original wheel was soldered to the wire end protruding through the dash.—H. L. W.



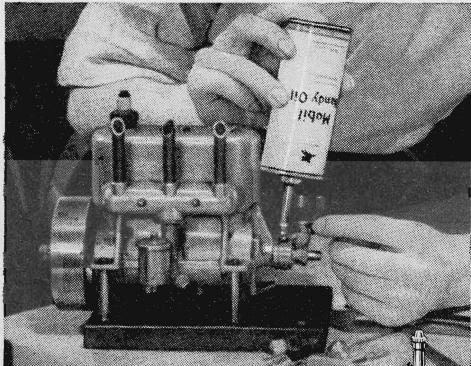
The original control wheel is removed and soldered on the end of the extension rod



## Asbestos-and-Metal Cover Protects Muffler Shell

MUFFLERS of automobiles can be made to give longer service by protecting them with an asbestos-and-metal covering. Wrap the muffler with several layers of asbestos paper, cut to fit, and then cover this with a layer of 20-gauge galvanized steel. The latter can be held in place either with wire lashings or with 16-gauge-steel ring clamps. Not only does this prolong the muffler's life, but it eliminates practically all rind and other noise caused by exhaust gas hitting the outer muffler shell.—E. L. D.

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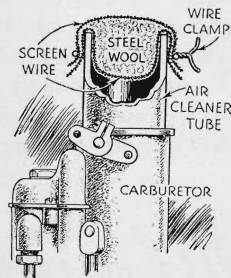
## Homemade Battery Tool Keeps Terminals Clean

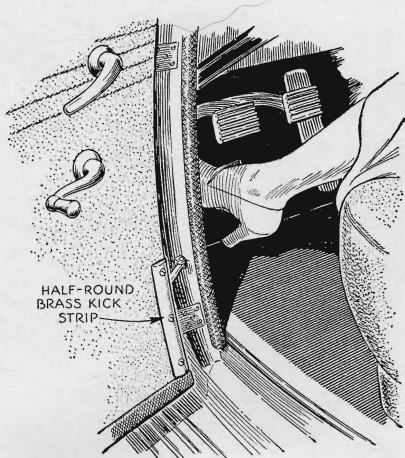


TO MAKE a handy car-battery tool, flatten out one end of a piece of metal pipe or tubing, and solder in a number of short, stiff wires. Then saw the other end of the pipe into sections, as shown in the illustration above. Spread the sections outward with a taper plug to the dimensions of the battery posts on your car, and file the section edges sharp. This end of the tool can then be used to scrape corrosion from the posts, while the other is employed to brush it away, and for other general battery-cleaning purposes.—C.H.W.

## Improved Air Cleaner Made with Steel Wool

A TEMPORARY air cleaner for an automobile motor can easily be made from wire window screening and steel wool. Cut out a section of screening and place it over the open end of the cleaner pipe leading to the carburetor, pressing it down into the pipe to form a pocket, which is then filled with steel wool. Place another piece of screening across the top, and bind the overhanging edges to the pipe with a wire clamp, as shown in the illustration at the left, to prevent the improvised cleaner from being drawn into the pipe. This arrangement will serve satisfactorily until a regular cleaner can be installed.—F.N.

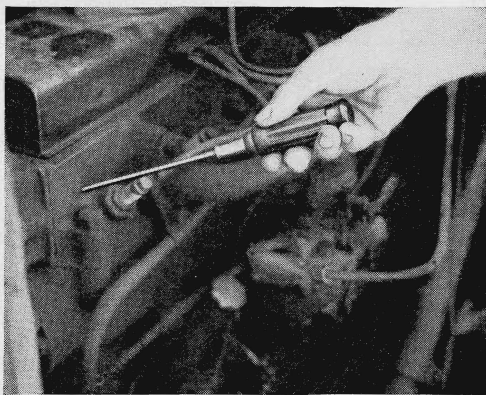




## Kick Strip on Door Edge Protects Car Upholstery

UPHOLSTERY on the inside edge of the automobile door next to the driver's feet, I've found, soon wears out. To protect this wear spot, I attached a piece of  $\frac{1}{2}$ " half-round brass, six inches long, to the edge at the spot where the wear began to show. This improvised kick strip ended the trouble.—J.M.M.

## Spark-Plug Tester Made from Old Screw Driver



AN EFFICIENT, insulated tool for use on such jobs as testing car spark plugs, can be made from an old screw driver that has been discarded. Obtain a common rubber grip of the type used on bicycle handlebars, coat it on the inside with gasket shellac, and then fit it over the screw-driver handle. It may be found necessary to trim the handle a little in order to obtain a good fit.—F.H.

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