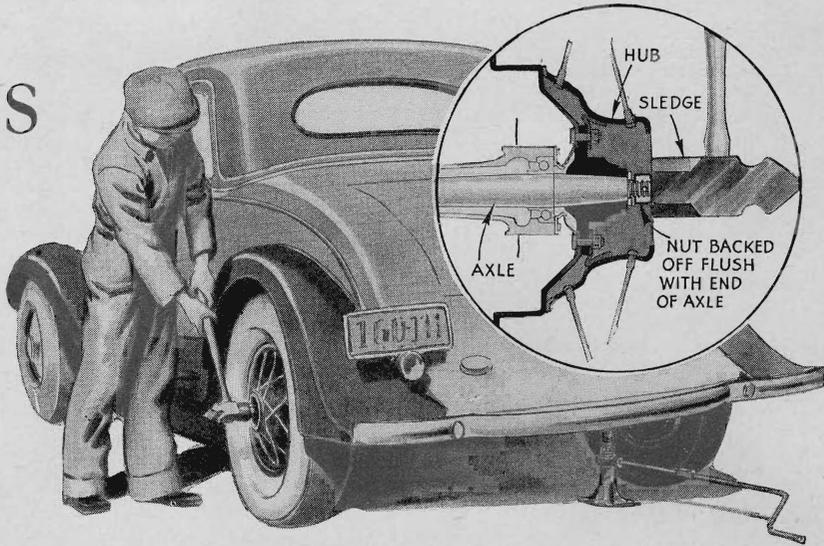


THE MONTH'S BEST Auto Ideas

*Time-Saving Suggestions
for Car Owners Made by
Our Experienced Readers*

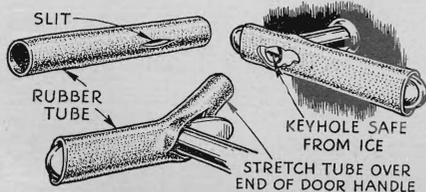


A wheel that sticks can be loosened by raising opposite side of car and striking axle with hammer

WHEN a wheel which must be removed sticks so badly that it resists all of the usual wheel-pulling methods, I have found that the following procedure invariably works: First, I jack up the wheel on the opposite side of the car. This places a large proportion of the car's weight on the wheel to be removed. Then, after unscrewing the hub nut just enough to bring it out flush with the threaded end of the axle, I strike the axle end several sharp blows with a heavy hammer. I have yet to find a sticking wheel that won't yield to the pressure and jarring.—A. D. H.

Door Handle Cover

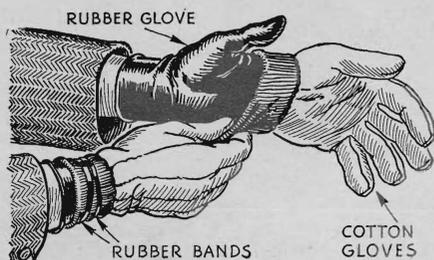
AFTER rain had twice frozen inside of the door-handle lock on my car, I hit on the idea shown in the drawing below. Cutting a four-inch length from a piece of half-inch diameter flexible rubber hose, I placed a one-inch slit in one side, locating it to coincide with the door-handle shaft. In cold weather, when there is the chance that snow or rain will freeze in the lock, I simply stretch the tubing to open the slit and slip it on.—B. S.



Rubber tube, slit and stretched over car's door handle, keeps rain from freezing in the keyhole

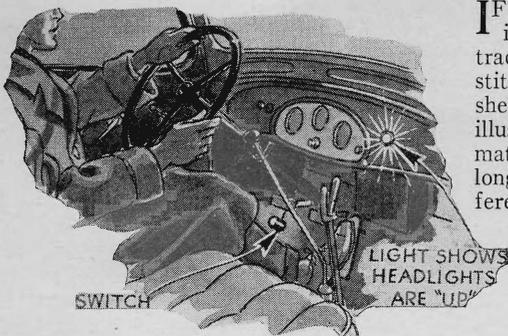
Winter Car Washing

IF YOU have ever washed your car in cold weather, you are familiar with the chapped hands that usually result. After trying rubber gloves and finding them cold and much too fragile, the writer hit on the idea of wearing a pair of cheap cotton gloves over the rubber ones. The rubber still prevents the water from chapping the hands but the cotton adds the necessary warmth and protects the rubber.—F.V.A.



Headlight Pilot

WHEN driving a car equipped with a foot-operated dimmer switch it is often difficult to tell whether your headlights are up or down. To warn me when my headlights are up, I bought an ordinary radio pilot light for fifty cents and mounted it on my instrument panel. The electrical connections necessary were particularly simple, consisting of one wire from the pilot light to the up terminal on the headlight side of the switch.—G. M.



This easily installed pilot light on dashboard tells the driver whether lights are up or down

Home Vulcanizer That Is Easily Made

NEAT hot patches with ordinary cold cement can be obtained with an inexpensive home tire vulcanizer made from a discarded electric iron, a two-inch square block of wood, a C-clamp, and a two-foot length of iron pipe. First of all, the handle is removed from the iron and the section of pipe bolted in place. Clamps made from strips of iron can be used in mounting the pipe. The assembly then is bolted to the bench with U-bolts in such a way that the bottom of the iron faces up and is about one foot from the bench top. To repair a tire, simply apply the cold patch in the usual way, place the patch face down on the iron, and clamp it firmly with the block of wood and the C-clamp. Turn on the current for three to five minutes and a hot patch will result.—C. A. P.

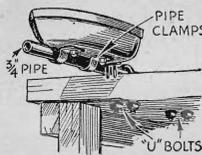


Illustration above shows how to make a home vulcanizer and, left, method of using it is clearly shown

Piston Ring Tool

IF YOU plan to replace the piston rings in your car and haven't a ring contractor, an efficient and inexpensive substitute can be made from a flat strip of sheet iron or brass. As shown in the illustration above, the strip is cut approximately one-half-inch wide and slightly longer than the total compressed circumference of the piston rings. When the two shoulders, formed at the ends of the strip, are pushed together with a large pair of pliers, the loop contracts, compressing the piston ring just enough to allow it to slip into the cylinder. With a little practice, this tool can be used as conveniently as one bought for the purpose.—F.B.

