

Handy Kinks for Car Owners

A Convenient Place for the Road Map—How to Stop Tire Rim Creaks—Other Ingenious Ideas You May Find Useful

NOWADAYS nearly every car is built with the top so low that every time you go over a severe bump, your hat brushes against the ceiling. This results in soiled spots, unless special precautions are taken. The simplest of these is shown in Fig. 1. Pin a piece of cloth, matching the top material as closely as possible, at the point where your hat strikes. When soiled it can be removed and washed.

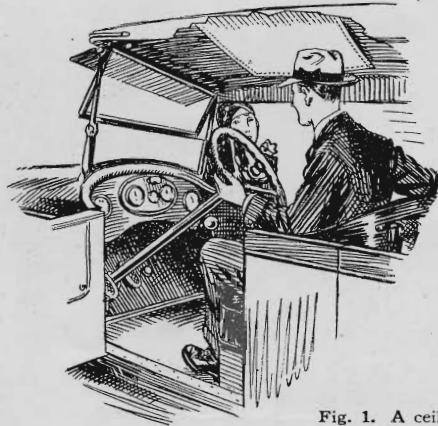


Fig. 1. A ceiling cloth protects the hat.

A Ground for the Timer

ONE of the most baffling ignition troubles is a poor ground on the timer housing, caused by the loosening of the bearing between the breaker cam shaft and the housing. A varying resistance

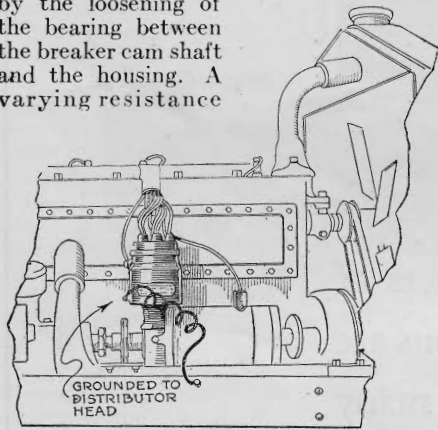


Fig. 2. Effective ground for timer housing.

thus is introduced into the path of the current.

You can eliminate trouble from this source by the method shown in Fig. 2. Fasten one end of a piece of stranded insulated wire under any convenient screw on the metal part of the timer housing. Connect the other end to any screw on the nearest fixed metal part, such as the frame of the car. This wire will provide the necessary path for the current.

To Stop Rim Creaks

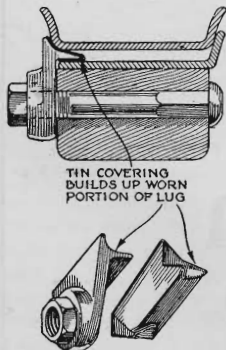


Fig. 5. Sheet tin covering renews worn lugs.

WHEN the lugs wear so much that they no longer can be clamped solidly against the rim, a disagreeable creaking noise is produced. You can remedy the trouble by oversize lugs or by fitting a piece of sheet tin over each lug, as shown in Fig. 5, at the left.

Novel Place for Licenses

AUTO owners' and drivers' licenses often become misplaced, and then you are out of luck when a traffic cop demands that you produce them. However, if there are pull curtains at the windows of your closed car, you have an

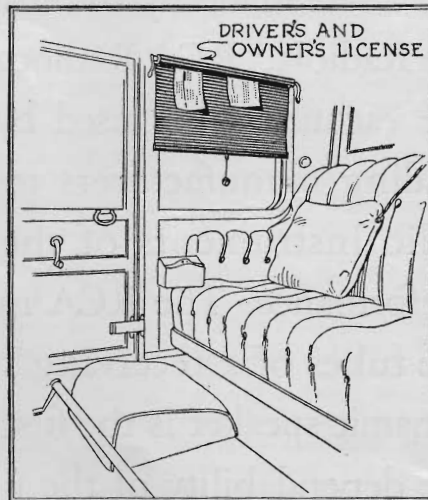


Fig. 3. Rolled in a curtain for safe keeping.

excellent place to keep them. Pull the curtain down, tuck them in the roll, as shown in Fig. 3, then let the curtain roll up again. They will remain where you

Ten Dollars for an Idea!

P. D. Villwock, of Edwardsport, Ind., wins this month's \$10 prize for his suggestion of a curtain road map (Fig. 4). Each month POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY awards \$10, in addition to regular space rates, for the best idea sent in for motorists. Other contributions used are paid for at the usual rates.

can always find them. After being in the curtain a while the cards will become set in the rolled form and when the curtain is lowered will curl about the roller instead of dangling.

A Handy Curtain Road Map

ORDINARILY, when you want to consult a road map, you have to unfold a large and hard-to-handle sheet of paper. A convenient way to carry the map is to fit a roller curtain just above your windshield so that it can be pulled down, as shown in Fig. 4. Glue or otherwise fasten the map to this curtain. The

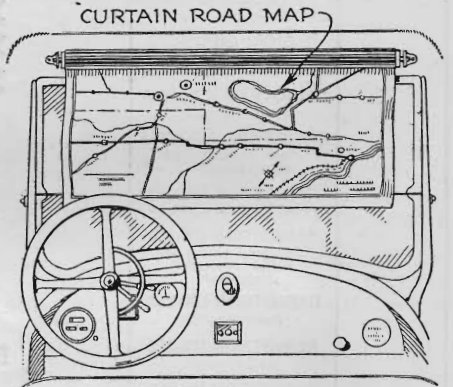


Fig. 4. Glued on a curtain above windshield.

map will cover the windshield and make driving impossible, but you would have to stop the car to study a map anyway.

A Useful Electromagnet

THERE are many times, in auto repair work, when electricity can be made to save a lot of work. For instance, if a steel ball that operates as a check valve in the oil line is in such a position that it will not roll out by gravity, you may have to turn the part upside down to let it roll out.

A homemade electromagnet, shown in Fig. 6, will do the trick. All you need is a small quantity of bell wire and an iron rod small enough to go in the hole. Wind a coil of the wire around one end of the rod, attach the ends to a storage battery, and you will find that the other end of the rod will act in the same way as an electromagnet and pick up any small steel or iron object.

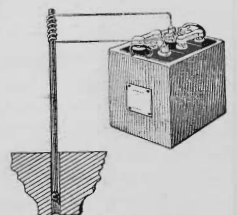


Fig. 6. A simple magnet works from battery.

