Do You Know Your Carburetor?

Even a Flapper Masters Its Mysteries When Gus Likens It to a Garden Spray

By MARTIN BUNN

HOW is your wife making out driving the car these days?” Gus Wilson, veteran mechanic of the Model Garage, asked his partner.

Joe Clark, bookkeeping member of the firm, laughed disgustedly. “That woman will never learn anything,” he growled. “Why is it so hard to teach ‘em about cars?”

“Maybe you haven’t found the secret, yet,” suggested Gus.

“What secret?” Joe asked curiously.

“Well,” Gus replied with a twinkle in his eye, “it’s the same as teaching tricks to a dog—first you’ve got to know more than the dog!”

“You insulting son-of-a-gun!” grinned Joe as he threw a grimy piece of waste which just missed his partner’s head.

“Seriously, though,” said Gus, “most people don’t know how to explain things about a car to a woman. Now, if I had to do it—”

“Oo-ee! Mr. Wilson!” a lilting feminine voice interrupted Gus’s sage remarks.

Joe looked out, and turned to his partner with a sly smile.

“It’s Judge Bond’s daughter,” he reported. “She has a brand-new roadster. Do your stuff now if you know so much about teaching the flappers!”

Marianne Bond was babbling over with excitement when she entered the garage. “What do you think of it?” she demanded, indicating her new car.

“Daddy just gave it to me and I thought I’d ask you to tell me all about how it works so if anything went wrong I’d know what to do.”

“That’s rather a large order, young woman,” Gus smiled, while Joe almost choked stifling a guffaw.

Gus stood in thoughtful silence for a moment while Marianne surveyed him expectantly.

“You know what the carburetor is, of course?” the veteran mechanic asked suddenly.

“Why, yes, of course,” responded the girl brightly. “Hasn’t that got something to do with putting gasoline in the motor?”

“Something,” admitted Gus gravely. “By the way,” he added after a moment, “didn’t I see you spraying some plants in your garden the other day?”

“Yes—rose bushes,” replied Marianne, puzzled by the apparent irrelevance of the question.

“Know how the spray works?” Gus asked.

“Surely, Mr. Wilson. The air just rushes out the end of the pipe so fast it sucks the liquid out of the little pipe as it goes by. But what has that got to do with carburetors?”

The carburetor works the same way,” Gus explained. “Inside the carburetor is a little pipe like the one on your spray, and when the air rushes past it pulls the gas out in a fine spray that mixes with the air so you get a mixture that will explode when a spark hits it.

YOU know what happens to the garden spray when you have it too full?” Gus questioned.

“You get an awful thick spray,” Marianne replied.

“Same thing with the carburetor,” Gus stated. “If you open the adjustment too far you let the spray get so thick it doesn’t explode right. When the garden spray is nearly empty you have to pump harder to get any spray at all. It’s the same in the carburetor. If you close the adjustment too far, you get a thin mixture that won’t burn.”

“Why that’s just too simple for anything,” exclaimed Marianne. “Is that all there is to the carburetor?”

“That’s all there would be if the motor always ran at the (Continued on page 147)
Do You Know Your Carburator?

(Continued from page 87)

same speed," Gus told her. "But you know how sometimes the motor just barely turns over while you are waiting in traffic, and the next minute you're scooting down the road with the motor humming like a hummer?"

And suddenly it starts to work fine. If the carburetor worked like that the motor would stop every time you took your foot off the throttle. The throttle, of course, is just a valve that regulates the amount of air rushing through the carburetor. Most all of the complications in a carburetor are to make it spray the right amount of gasoline into the air no matter how fast the air goes by. One way they get that result is to make the air pass through the jet real small. Then they fit it so all the air goes through that small passage when the throttle is nearly shut. As the throttle is opened, more air comes through another valve that opens in proportion to the amount of suction. In some carburetors they use two jets. All works the same way except one of the other jets only opens when the throttle is open and lots of air is rushing through the carburetor. That's the way the carburetor on this car is made.

"THAT'S about all there is to the theory of carburetors," Gus went on, "except about the float chamber. You know how your garden spray works when you have just the right amount of liquid in it. The carburetor is the same, and to keep just the right amount of gasoline in it, in the time, this float chamber here. The quantity of gasoline always the same no matter how fast or slow the gas comes in, is drawn through the jets. When gasoline is drawn out of the float chamber, it automatically drops a bit and opens the valve again, and more gasoline in it.

"It just too thrilling," said Marianne.

"Now when I get stuck all I've got to do is turn those funny little knobs to get a better adjustment and it'll start again just as easy!" That was a matter of what you must have, Gus commanded. "The first thing you do when you get stuck on the road is to see if you can get any gas to go in the tank. Then you can tickle this float button and if gasoline runs out of the bottom of the carburetor, look for the trouble somewhere. Chances are ten to one it is in the carburetor at all. Lots of people think the carburetor is to blame for most stops on the road and right away they start tinkering with it till they get it all out of which.

ABOUT all that can happen to a carburetor is the jets get clogged or the float spring a leak and sink. Generally you can clear the clogged jets by jamming your foot on the throttle and pulling the choke all the way on for a couple of seconds. The excess suction drags the dirt or water right through.

"There's no way to fix a leaky float except to take it out and solder the hole, but usually the motor will keep ticking along after a fashion so you can get to a service station, anyhow."

Now run along, young lady, and I'll have a few words to say to the young man whose roadster rolled through the doorway, "As I told you before, it's just a matter of knowing more than the dog!"

---

The "Ideal" Lawnmower Sharpener

The "Ideal" Lawnmower Sharpener is a wonderful simple machine that sharpens all makes of mowers perfectly, scientifically, without taking the mowers apart. Just set up the mower, set it in the "Ideal," make a few strokes, then take it out and you have a razor-sharp mower. No training required, and mowers are set up in a few minutes. Plug into light socket and start to sharpen.

Hundred's of dull mowers in your locality are waiting to be turned into fine, sharp mowers. Rush your order into the "Ideal" Lawnmower Sharpener. Each one costs $20.00, but small orders of 5 or more are sent postpaid. Rush your order today.

C. S. Coburn, Little Rock, Ark., says that his machine has brought him $1,500 worth of additional business.

FREE book tells how others do it.

FREE book tells how others do it.

ELECTRICITY

Graduate in Constant Demand at Big Salaries


FINLAY ENGINEERING COLLEGE

1901-19 Indiana Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

STUDY AT HOME

Become a painter, lawyer, beautician, carpenter, stenographer, bookkeeper, dressmaker. Send today for prospectus. No previous training necessary. Lessons by mail. Write for Free Book.

THE FATE-ROOT-BAYLEY CO.

933-956 Bell St., San Francisco, Calif., U.S.A.

A Business of Your Own

High earning opportunities in the important fields of photography and the Allied Arts. A long established artistic institution. Extensive facilities. Many successful graduates.

Learn Photography and AUXILIARY HOME


A. B. STERN

Dept. 130-A, 2921 Michigan Ave.

CHICAGO, U.S.A.

A BUSINESS OF YOUR OWN

GUNMETAL CO.

AVY J. DECATOR, ILL.

WANTED TO BE A STEADY JOB?

RAILWAY POSTAL CLERKS

MAIL CARRIERS

(City and Rural) $1700 to $3000 Year

Men—Boys, 17 Up

SHOULD MAIL COUPON IMMEDIATELY


ADDRESS

FRANKLIN INSTITUTE


Apply to us WITHOUT CASH. Write for information with list of U. S. Government positions open in your part of the country. Tell us the town you wish to go to and we send you the necessary information. No capital or experience required. Simple plan of manufacturing at home starts you in big money making business. Quick return. No Waste. No Cost. No Investment. No experience required.