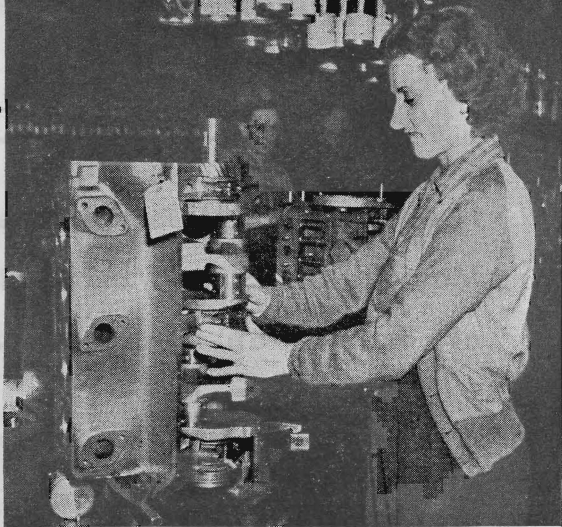


AUTO IDEAS

LONGER LIFE is in prospect for engines equipped with new "tri-alloy" bearings developed for military needs by the Ford Motor Company. Instead of cadmium, a metal in widespread use for bearings before the war, the new material consists of about 35 to 40 percent lead, 4.5 to 5 percent silver, .5 percent iron, and the rest copper. Tests have indicated the new bearings last three times as long as regular ones—even under the most trying conditions. When used on heavy-duty trucks, some showed no measurable wear after more than 50,000 miles. At the right, one of the bearings is being fitted to an engine at a Ford plant.



NO TOILSOME POLISHING is needed to give an automobile new luster when you use a cleansing solution produced by Parks Associates, of Glendale, Calif. After the car has been washed, the cleanser is applied with a cloth, an area about 3' square being cleaned at a time until the job is completed. Then it is rinsed off with water and allowed to dry. The makers assert that by using this cleaner it also is possible to renew the brightness of chrome or other highly-polished metals pitted with salt water. The manufacturer recommends it for furniture, tile, walls, and linoleum.



CHECKING A PISTON RING for trueness of periphery and width of gap requires only five seconds with an electronic gauge produced by the Sheffield Corporation, of Dayton, Ohio. After the ring to be tested has been inserted in a master ring of correct dimensions, the entire assembly rotates between scanning beams of light directed on photoelectric cells. The latter operate three signal lights, red, yellow, and green, indicating whether the ring meets specifications.

WIPER ARMS designed by the Anderson Company, of Gary, Ind., for use on military aircraft are said to hold blades securely under all conditions until a release lever is touched. The stainless-steel arms, currently available to civilian autoists, are adjustable for length and wiping pressure, and can be lifted out of the way when the windshield is cleaned. They will fit different types of wiper-motor shafts, a set of adapters being provided with each arm.

