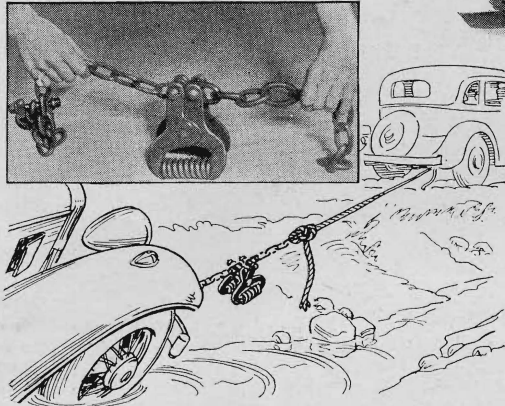


OUR READERS CONTRIBUTE THESE

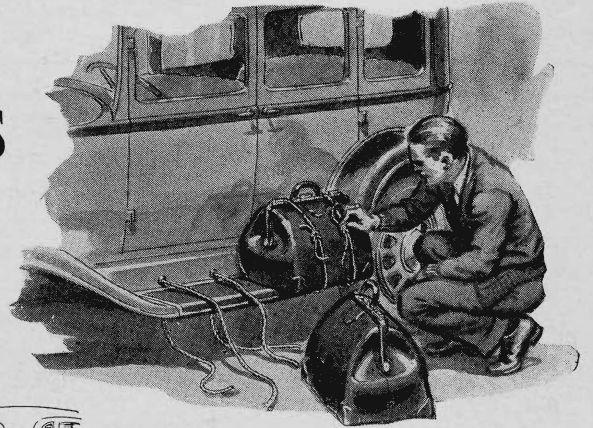
# Timely Hints FOR CAR OWNERS

## Shock Absorbers Save Tow Rope

**A**FTER snapping at least three towing rigs pulling cars out of deep ditches and mud, I decided to find a way to ease the strain of the first hard jerk that invariably broke the rope or cable. The result is shown in the illustrations. It consists simply of two old-style spring shock absorbers bolted together, short lengths of pipe being used as spacers. Lengths of chain then were fastened to the arms to serve as connections to the car and tow



Shock absorber on tow rope keeps first jerk from breaking it



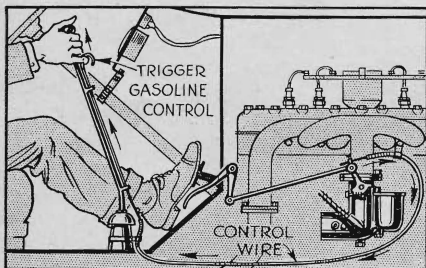
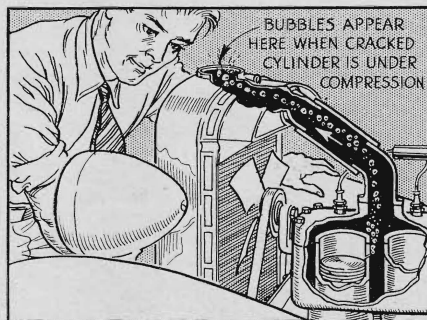
How valises can be fastened to running board of car

## Luggage Carrier

**F**OUR holes placed in the metal splash apron along the side of your car will provide a handy means for fastening luggage, camping equipment, or bulky packages to the running board of your car. Strong cotton rope looped through the holes and under the running board will hold any sort of baggage in place. To prevent the rope from chafing on the sharp edges of the metal, each hole should be fitted with a metal awning grommet. The holes do not mar the appearance.—E.A.K.

## Tracing Cylinder Cracks

**W**HEN a motor develops a casting crack or a gasket leak and water seeps through into a cylinder, it is often difficult to determine which cylinder is at fault. To trace the leak without removing the head, fill the radiator with water and run your motor to bring it up to driving temperature. Then remove the radiator cap, shut your motor off, and turn it over slowly by hand. As the cylinder with the leak comes under compression, telltale bubbles will appear at the radiator opening.—E. J. N.



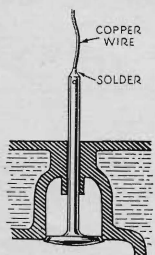
Gear-shift gas feed simplifies starting on hill

## Throttle on Gear Shift

**F**OR starting a car on a hill without slipping backwards, few tricks are more effective than the homemade gear-shift gas-throttle illustrated. It allows you to use both feet on the pedals and yet leaves your hands free to guide the wheel and work the shift lever. The throttle is simply a trigger rod salvaged from a truck shift lever. It is mounted on the gear shift and linked to the carburetor throttle lever through a flexible cable. The hand that shifts gears can feed the gas.—C. G.

## Replacing a Valve Spring

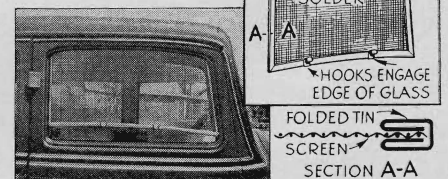
**W**HEN a valve spring breaks in an overhead motor, it can be replaced easily without removing the head. First remove or loosen the rocker arm. Solder a length of wire to the valve stem and loop it over the radiator rod. With the wire to prevent the valve from falling into the cylinder, the locking pin and washer then can be loosened and the broken spring removed. The new spring is then attached.—N. E.



## Jack Extension Arm for Low-Slung Cars

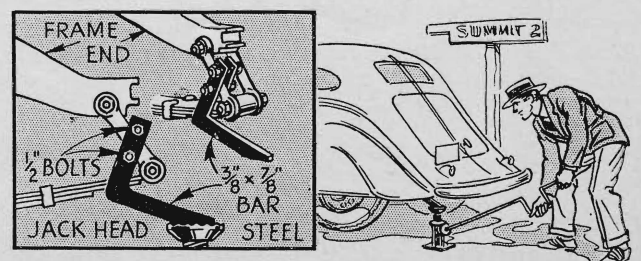
**T**O MAKE it easier to jack up the rear wheels on my new streamlined car, I devised the permanent spring extension arms shown. Consisting of a right angle of three-eighths-by-seven-eighths-inch steel bolted to the shackle on each rear spring, it provides a handy projection to take the head of the jack. The jack is simply placed under the extension and raised. As it moves up, it first pulls the spring out flat

Door screens for your car will keep insects out



## Screens for Your Car

**Y**OU can make your car as mosquito-proof as your home by fitting it with the easily made door screens illustrated. Each screen frame is made up of four pieces of sheet tin folded U-shape and soldered to form a rectangle that is a tight fit inside the window opening. The screening, pushed into the open channels formed in the frame, is put in place before the parts are assembled. Two hooks, soldered to the bottom edge of the frame, rest on the top edge of the partly raised window to hold the screen securely in place.—E. E. H.



Extension arm clamps on spring so jack can lift low car