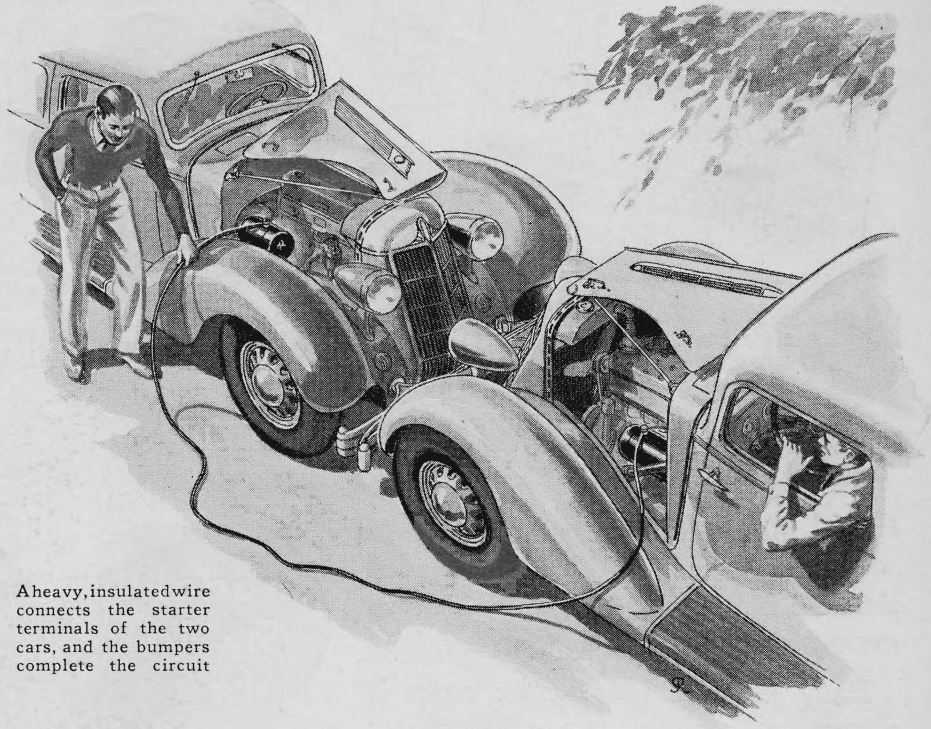


# Short Cuts for Car Owners

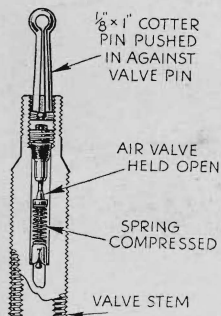
## Using Borrowed Current To Start Your Car

A CAR with a dead battery generally can be started easily by making use of the simple kink illustrated. The contact at the bumpers provides a mutual grounding connection, while the heavy, insulated wire connecting the two starter terminals completes the circuit. Whether it will be necessary to push one or both starter pedals to close the circuit will depend on the electrical hook-ups in the cars. As soon as the motor of the stalled car starts, the hook-up wire should be immediately jerked loose to break the connection between the two cars.—M. J. H.



A heavy, insulated wire connects the starter terminals of the two cars, and the bumpers complete the circuit

## Cotter-Pin Opens Valve



Spreading legs of a cotter pin hold the air valve wide open

INSTEAD of removing the valve the next time you want to deflate an inner tube, just spread the legs of a one eighth by one-inch cotter pin slightly and push it into the valve stem. The ends of the prongs will push down the valve, while their springiness will hold the cotter pin in place.—D. S.

## Protects New Radiators

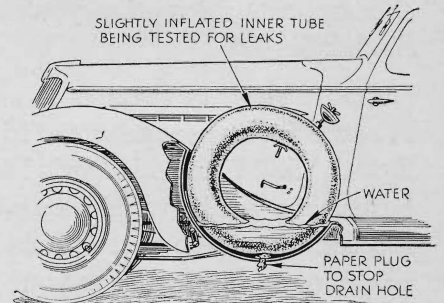
NEW radiators can be protected from corrosion with a homemade solution of potassium chromate and distilled water—two teaspoonfuls of the chemical to five and one half gallons of water. When the radiator has been filled, boil the solution for a minute or so by holding a newspaper in front of the radiator while the motor is running.—E. F. S.



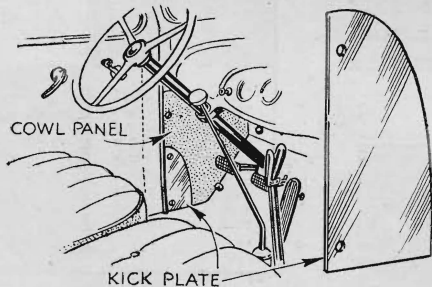
A solution of potassium chromate in distilled water guards new radiators against corrosion

## Emergency Water Trough for Tube Testing

IN AN emergency, a spare-tire fender well can be used as a handy water trough for testing leaky inner tubes. Simply plug the drain hole in the bottom of the well with a wad of cloth or paper and fill with water. The partially inflated tube then can be submerged as shown at the right and rotated slowly until air bubbles appear to indicate the leak. If no water is available where the inner-tube repair job is being done, enough for the test can be drained from the radiator without greatly impairing the efficiency of the cooling system—at least, until the withdrawn water can be replaced.—E. N.



Spare-tire fender well filled with water for use in testing a leaky tube. Drain hole is plugged

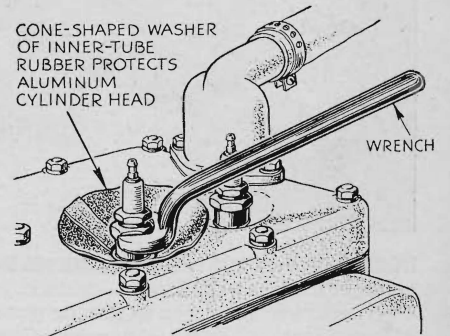


## Metal Kick Plates For Cowl Panels

AFTER several years of continual scuffing and kicking, the forward edges of the cowl panels on most small cars are badly worn. To cover up the worn spots and prevent any further wear, I recently installed a metal plate at the lower front corner of each panel on my car. I cut the "scuffers" from sheet aluminum and fastened them in place with the same screws that hold the paneling. If desired, sheet fiber covered with leather could be used in place of the metal.—D. J.

## Cylinder-Head Guard

WHEN removing or replacing spark plugs on a car fitted with an aluminum cylinder head, it is difficult to prevent the wrench from digging into the soft metal. To protect the cylinder head on my car, I cut a large rubber washer from a piece of inner tubing to fit the recess.—E. E. S.



This simple trick protects soft aluminum cylinder heads from being scratched by the wrench