

# New Helpful Hints for Autoists

## Tire Inspection Made Easy—Sewing a Tube—Other Ideas

**I**NSPECTING the inside of an automobile tire for nails or breaks in the fabric is made easier by the simple, homemade device sketched in Fig. 4. Plenty of leverage is supplied for spreading the beads.

All you need to make the device is two boards of the dimensions given in the sketch, a hinge, two eyebolts and two strap iron hooks six inches long. The distance between the hinge and the eyebolt in the base should be about ten inches, and the eyebolt on the lever should be six inches from the hinge. Use standard strap iron for making the hooks.

### Stops Crank-Handle Rattling

**T**HE easiest way to hold the crank handle up out of the way of the license plate and to keep it from swinging back and forth continually and thus causing excessive wear on the bearing, is to cut off a piece about 1 1/4 inches wide from a piece of old inner tube either 29 by 4.40 or 32 by 4 size. After the lamp plug is removed from one of the headlights, the piece of inner tube should be slipped over the headlight and snapped around the crank handle as shown in Fig. 2. The quality of the rubber in auto inner tubes is so good that the band will last for a long time.

### Sewing Up a Blow-Out

**M**ANY motorists are under the impression that a tube is beyond repair if it blows out in a long rip. However, it is possible to save such a tube by sewing up the rip carefully with a needle and silk thread, using an overstitch that will bring the edges of the rent together smoothly. A patch can be applied with rubber cement in the usual way, and it is also possible to vulcanize the tube with a five minute vulcanizer by using the oblong patches and overlapping them until the rip is completely covered. Fig. 7 shows how to sew up the tube and apply the patch.

### Luggage Stored on Top

**A**S SHOWN in Fig. 3, the top of an inclosed auto body can be used as a fine luggage compartment that will hold extra coats, blankets or parcels and preserve them from dirt and rain. It is particularly useful for motor campers and long distance tourists.

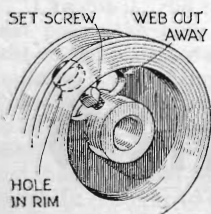
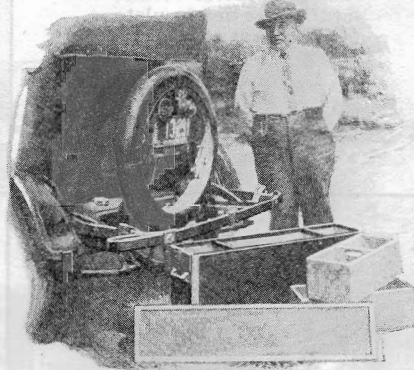
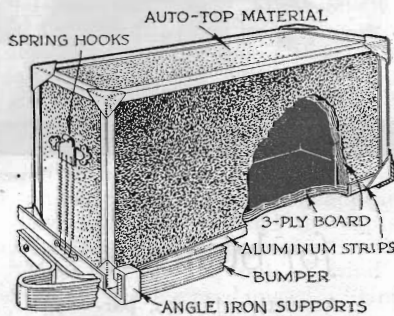


Fig. 6. If your fan pulley slips, hold it with special set screw



Plywood and aluminum make this lunch kit light and strong. Fig. 1 (below) shows how it is fastened in place



### Plywood Lunch Kit Easily Made

**A** SUBSTANTIAL container for picnic lunches or campers' equipment can be made of three-ply wood, glued and nailed and covered with auto top material to render it waterproof. As shown in Fig. 1, it is bound with aluminum binding strips and aluminum corners so that the construction is light and strong. Snaps, handles, loops and springs are of the ten cent store variety. A feature of the container is the springs that hold the case on the special rack built up of angle iron and supported by the rear bumper. No straps are needed and the case can be removed in a second's time.

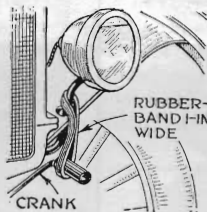


Fig. 2. How the crank handle can be held up out of the way so it will not rattle or hide the license

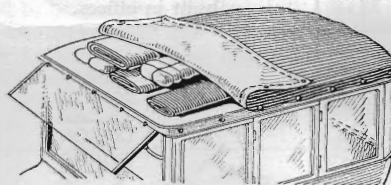


Fig. 3. The top deck of a closed car converted into a fine luggage compartment by fitting with a loose cover provided with snaps

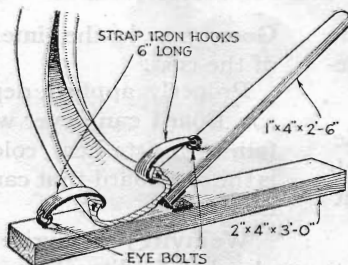


Fig. 4. Plenty of leverage enables you to inspect every part of the inside of an automobile tire with this simple device

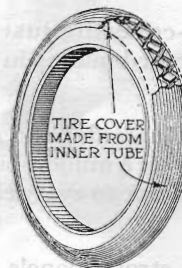


Fig. 5. An old inner tube will disguise your new spare tire so it will look old

### Old Tube Fools Thieves

**A**N OLD inner tube that you may have on hand will make a good cover for the spare tire (Fig. 5). At a distance of a few feet it gives the appearance of an old tire that is worn smooth or has been retreaded, and thieves are likely to pass it by. Cut the stem out of the old tube and slit it all the way around. The tension in stretching it into place over the shoe will make it fit snugly without wrinkles.

### If Your Fan Pulley Slips

**I**F YOU are bothered with a fan pulley that keeps working loose, here is a way to remedy the trouble. Cut away part of the web as shown in Fig. 6 and drill and tap the hub for a hardened set screw. The pulley will stay in

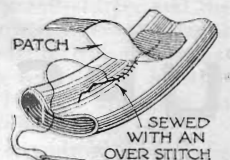


Fig. 7. Careful sewing will often save a blown-out auto tube

A row of snap fasteners should be placed at intervals around the edge of the top. A piece of auto top material can be cut to the proper shape and the socket part of the fasteners attached to it. Be sure to have the cover loose enough so that there will be room for as much baggage as you intend to place under it.

Of course a luggage compartment of

place. It is a good idea to spot the shaft with a drill through the set screw hole when the pulley is in the proper position to insure rigid clamping.