

MOTORISTS' PROBLEMS Solved for Readers of The News-Times

By William H. Stewart, Jr.

Motor Department:—Will you kindly advise me in your next issue the following: I got a new Ford in December and the cylinder toward the radiator has leaked oil from the first day I got it. I took it up to the salesman from whom I got it and they took it in the repair shop and made the spark plug hole bigger, but that only stops the oil from leaking through the plug. I can only run about half a mile, then I have to get out and clean the engine. I don't know what to do. C. S.

The piston rings in number one cylinder do not prevent the oil from passing the piston. There may be several causes for this: (a) Cylinder may be out of true or scored. (b) Piston too small or out of true. (c) Piston rings dead or badly fitted. Since the other cylinders cause no trouble you can hardly blame the oil. The sooner you eliminate the cause the better. A missing engine will sooner or later work serious injury to other units of the chassis. If you find the cylinder true then a new oversize piston with rings properly fitted should remedy the trouble.

Motor Department:—Can you tell me how to get my engine to start? I have a 40-horsepower four-cylinder. I have timed it and ground in all the valves. My spark works finely. I have adjusted my carburetor, but cannot get my engine to start. I got two explosions after priming the engine. My intake valves work by suction and my exhaust works from the cam shaft. The factory that made this car is out of business. If you can advise me of my trouble I would appreciate it.

Motor Department:—I have a

Chevrolet with Connecticut ignition and Autolite starting and lighting systems. The lights in my car are very dim when engine is still or when the engine is running slow, but are good when the engine is speeded up. Have examined the battery connections and find them good. Have nearly new Columbia battery, which is pretty well charged and will at all times easily start motor. I will appreciate your telling me through the columns where to locate the trouble.

Motor Department:—What is the best way to strengthen a pair of springs? The front springs of my car seem to be too weak and bump when going over rough roads. Is it best to buy new ones? E. L.

If the springs have been in service for a long time it would be advisable to have them reset. If you think the load is too heavy for the springs to carry without bumping it would be best to add another leaf and also reset the springs.

Motor Department:—I have trouble with my steering wheel in a

way that I have never heard expressed by any one. My car, nearly new, responded to the wheels easily until this morning, when it suddenly refused to turn in either direction an inch. It was frozen in the steering wheel. The steering wheel and after much work would decide to turn, but much too stiff. Can you advise me as to the cause and a possible remedy against getting in like fix again, for it would be a source of some danger. Thanking you in advance, I am, D. S.

The steering gear needs careful attention at frequent intervals. It must be kept well lubricated. The bearing in question seized, due to lack of proper lubrication. This is very apt to happen with any bearing where there is any amount of clearance. Under the circumstances it would be advisable to remove the bushing or bearing and refit it. You may be able to ease it by applying oil freely and working it considerably. If it is worked free and kept lubricated there will be no danger of its seizing again. It might be well to install an oil cup at this point.

Motor Department:—I have a

Most self-starting systems have a fuse box installed at an accessible point. The purchaser of a new car should acquaint himself with this as quickly as possible. Very often considerable trouble can be eliminated by the installation of a new fuse. This is a simple matter, but if not known may cause a lot of trouble and unnecessary expense.

When the self-starting device fails to start the engine after reasonable trial the trouble should be located without delay. One cannot expect too much from a small battery. The self-starter is not supposed to crank the engine indefinitely. Bear this in mind and you will prolong the life of your battery.

GOLFER HITS BALL AND KILLS A ROBIN

WINSTED, Conn., April 24.—A freak accident of the golf links that has aroused the interest of local golfers resulted when Eddie Fitzgerald drove a ball that decapitated a robin. The bird was about 199 yards from the tee, and the ball, which skinned the fairway, took off the robin's head as cleanly as with a knife.

DRINKS EMBALMING FLUID FOR LIQUOR

ROCKFORD, Ill., April 24.—Craying for drink led Harry Gustafson to try a concoction of embalming fluid. The potion, consisting of alcohol and formaldehyde, left Gustafson with "no pulse" for several minutes, physicians who attended him said. Nevertheless Gustafson is recovering.

The housing situation is so acute in England that discarded busses are being utilized for housekeeping by small families.

A small but accurate machine has been invented for recording the collection of the war tax sales in retail establishments.



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