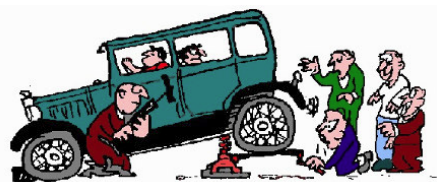




From the Garage -

by Paul Hunter



Starter Maintenance By Lynn Sondenaa

Model A starters do not require a lot of maintenance, but at least once a year the contacts should be cleaned and lubricated with dielectric grease. Figure 1. shows the starter contact button (A-11102) and the starter switch contact with its button (A-11450). The two contact buttons are made from copper and have a tendency to pit and corrode.

Disconnect the battery; then disconnect the battery cable to the starter switch and any other wires that connect to the starter switch. Remove the starter switch and you are now ready to clean. If the starter button is pitted, file it smooth using a single cut mill bastard file (Fig.2). This picture also shows emery paper, Scotch-Brite and dielectric grease. Use either emery paper or Scotch-Brite to clean the copper surfaces so they are bright (Fig.3). The next step is to coat the copper surfaces with dielectric grease (Fig.4). This grease promotes electrical contact and helps to eliminate corrosion. The last step is to clean and coat the copper terminal and nut on the starter switch (Fig.5) and reassemble everything. **Note** if your Model A uses a fiber gasket (A-11450) between the starter housing and starter switch check its condition for wear. These were correct for 1928 to early 1930 Model A's, but they can be used on all years. It is a good idea to use them because they help prevent shorts.

