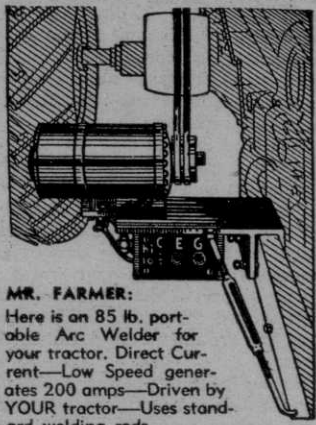


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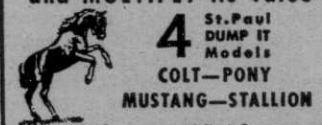


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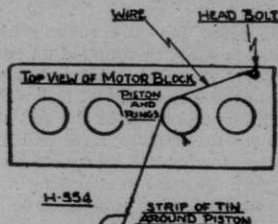
**Montana
Farmer - Stockman**

Farm Mechanics

Handy Farm Ideas By L. W. DICKERSON

PISTON RING COMPRESSOR

A. F. writes: "On a recent over-
haul job I needed a ring compressor,
but had none available. So I used a
length of baling wire as shown and
a straight strip of heavy tin about
two inches wide and long enough to
go around the piston. I then fast-



PISTON RING COMPRESSOR

ened the baling wire to a head bolt
and wrapped it around the tin and
piston, down close to the motorblock.
Tightening the wire compressed the
rings so I could push down the piston
with a hammer handle. It worked
well and just as fast as any ring
compressor you can buy."

Note by L. W. D.—Seems like an
excellent idea, doesn't it?

CLEANING SINK DRAIN

C. J. F. writes: "Do you know of
any product that can be safely used
to keep a farm sink drain open with-
out harm to the bacterial action in
a septic tank?"

It should always be kept in mind
that the bacterial action in a septic
tank is produced by living bacteria,
and that these are more easily de-
stroyed by strong acids or alkalies
than are many disease-producing
ones.

Soaps, drain solvents, and other
mild cleaners and disinfectants in
daily use are not likely to cause
trouble because they are so greatly
diluted in the 500 or more gallons in
the septic tank; but when one heap-
ing tablespoonful (about one-half
ounce) of chloride of lime is given as
a safe disinfectant for 200 gallons of
water, it shows that large amounts
of such must be used with caution
with even a 600 or 700-gallon septic
tank. Sick room disinfectants also
must be watched carefully.

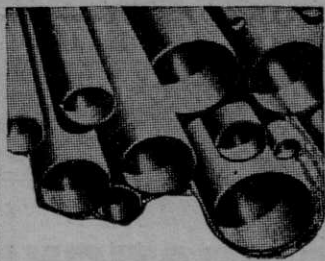
Opening a clogged drain calls for
8 to 16 ounces of strong alkali sol-
vent, which is very likely to cause
damage, and is not so satisfactory
as the proper sized rod plunger. The
best solution to this problem is to
run the sink waste into a grease trap
to keep the grease and hardwater
curds out of the septic tank. Have
the sink drain short with a V-con-
nection so a plunger can be pushed
into it to remove grease collections
without the need of strong solvents.

Because of this danger, it is wise
to save some sludge when cleaning
the septic tank and pour a pint into
the sewage system occasionally,
rather than spending good money
for yeast or other materials for re-
stocking the tank bacteria.

SAFE BATTERY WATER

P. H. writes: "When you need
pure water for your car battery, just
defrost the refrigerator and use this
water. There are no impurities in
it."

Note by L. W. D.—This water
should be safe so long as the coil sur-
faces are clean and bright and the
water is kept in clean glass vessels
until used.



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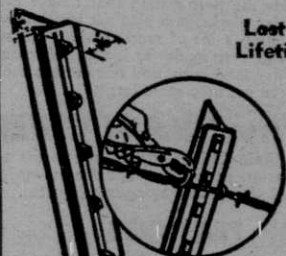


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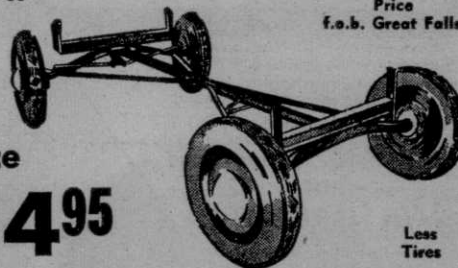


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