

**"Faking" an Engine
to Foil Thieves.****BEST METHODS OF NONPLUSSING
CAR PERILOUS.**

In view of the extraordinary number of thefts of motor cars which are being daily being committed, a brief review of the various ways in which a thief may make things difficult for the owner is not without interest.

A method of foiling the car thief is to install three requirements: (a) the car must be capable of being quickly started; (b) the car must be capable of being quickly started; (c) the car must be capable of being quickly started.

**WITHDRAWING THE MAGNETO
BRUSH.**

Perhaps the commonest tip of all is the withdrawal of the magneto brush or of the spark plug. A car thief who has been told of this condition cannot be started up, but the thief is so common that the car thief is at once and will probably be replaced by a new one from a number of spares he may carry for the purpose. A very much better tip is that of the "dud" brush. A brush made of obsolete hard rubber, which is not up to look like a brush and made to fit where the real brush is located, will stump nine out of ten mechanical thieves who are used to time. When they fail to get an explosion out of the engine, they will promptly look for missing parts and, seeing a brush which is apparently all right, they will never dream of looking into it more closely but will pass on to another suspected source of trouble.

PLUGGING THE EXHAUST.

A very effective way of putting a car out of action is by plugging up the exhaust. This is an extremely simple thing to do when working against time for carburator and magneto will respond to every test. The thief will not be able to start the engine. A cylindrical wooden plug, with a hole driven into the centre (for the exhaust), is turned down for a tight fit for the exhaust pipe and carried in the car. When the car is left, the owner has merely to plug up the exhaust pipe out of sight. To get it out again, it has to be pulled out by the centre hole or by a rod provided for the purpose with a short iron rod with a hook at the end.

**MAKING THE ENGINE THIEF-
PROOF.**

Of course if the would-be thief is a good mechanic and has plenty of time at his disposal, the car can be made thief-proof. The only chance the car owner has is where the thief works against time and has no time available. He can then, with a little ingenuity, "fake" his engine in a way that the thief will feel, after a few hours' incoherent blather over an obscure fault, that he's only wasting his time over the mangled car. I may here say, for the encouragement of others, that I had recently to leave my car for two days and two days in a garage with a reputation for hiring out their "dummy" cars. When I arrived with the car, I was not a minute and a half fixing my "fake." Sometime afterwards I learnt that the mechanic had spent hours each night to get the engine started up and that they eventually had to give up. So it can be done!

**"DUDS" THAT WILL NOT OP-
ERATE.**

Each one of us will find his own "fake" and he will no doubt keep it close nature buried within his breast, at least, I do! But the effective dodges, I may say, lie in the "dud" line. Beautiful imitations of the real thing, brushes which do not brush, compensators which do not compensate, insulators which

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SIDE TALKS.

By Ruth Cameron.

ON FACES AND GRACES.

Those 1 i n e s flashed into my mind the other day in a connection which would certainly have surprised Tennyson.

A n d, perhaps, annoyed h i m. Now all these points, except the big feet, are things that a girl can make good on if she will. And yet so few of them do!

Over and over again the movie scout discarded a girl who had a pretty face because she had some defect that was entirely unnecessary. One girl was barred by a gawky walk. Another, with a perfect carriage, was discarded when she showed a crooked smile. Still another talked all over her face.

Half of Beauty. There never lived a girl who didn't want to be beautiful. Half of beauty is God given, but only half. The rest is made up of details like these. And that half any girl can cultivate. How strange that so few of them do. Perhaps it is partly because they think of grace and poise and personality as qualities that appeal to fussy old people, whereas prettiness and style and pep are the real thing. They now have the word of the movie scout for the opposite. And I am sure no one in the world could have more influence than she with the world of happen-dom. If 40 ministers preached 40 sermons to 40,000 people against bobbed hair, they couldn't hope to have the influence that the movie scout has when she prints in a daily paper the fact that bobbed hair, unless it happens to be individually becoming, takes away from a girl's charm and reduces her chance of being selected as a movie possibility.

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