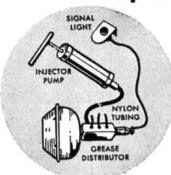
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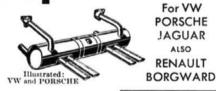
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## letters

#### SINGER FAN

Dear Editor:

Got a question. In your article entitled "40 Easy Horses" (October '56), you list a number of Detroit "Dinosaurs." Among these you include OHV and plain Chevrolets, Excuse me, but what's a plain Chevrolet?? Am I missing something?

Secondly, much congrats on your very fine article, "The Bob-Tailed Bomb and the 1440 Minutes." It's one of the best race coverages I have ever read. More of this type, huh?

Next question-why doesn't anybody write articles about the poor little Singer. I am the proud owner of a 1500 Roadster and I am very well pleased with it, although it is only the single carb model.

Also, how about Singer's new DOHC engine?-same cubes but nearly 50% more hp. It's available only in the sedan, I believe, but how about a special?

Sincerely, Ralph B. Neil Tacoma, Washington

The symbol V8 was inadvertently left off the end of "OHV" - sorry. We'll have a Singer story one of these days; the editor owns a 1500-c on which considerable preliminary research has been done. There'll be quite a bit more before we're ready to go but to give you an idea-we have the full dope on Kelly Buchanan's OSCA-dusting Singer. The DOHC engine has unfortunately been shelved by Rootes and is unavailable at the moment.-Ed.

#### **RACING TWO-STROKE?**

Dear Sir:

Having read the article on the Offenhauser engine in the October issue of your fine magazine, I have come up with this question: Why hasn't a twostroke cycle gasoline engine been built and run in competition? (A two-stroke cycle engine would develop approximately 75% more power than a fourstroke engine of the same cubic inches.)

Would you give some information on this subject in your next issue?

Your truly, Ion Gilmor. Nashville, Tennessee

It's been done-see the November, '56 Sports Cars Illustrated in which there is a story on the SAAB Sonnet, a real going two-stroke.-Ed.

#### **END PLUG TROUBLE**

Sir:

Re the letter from reader Raymond Dunlap, titled "Plug Trouble" in the October issue of Sports Cars Illustrated -I had the same type of trouble in my 1500 Porsche at 5000 miles. I went entirely through the fuel system, then electrical and ignition system with no luck. I could run anywhere from 2 to 100 miles and the miss would come back, especially on steep hills or under hard acceleration. I was already running "Lodge" CNP 14 spark-plugs.

Finally, I replaced the spark wires from distributor to plugs with "Belden" wiring-and have had no more trouble since then. Slitting the old leads open, I found the wires were corroded and coated; evidently the resistance set up within the wiring itself had caused the current to jump through the insulation and ground to the engine-causing the plug to miss. After several misses the plugs were too fouled to fire.

Since then, I've run across another Porsche and four VW's with the same trouble; re-wiring with a good quality wire has cured the trouble. The wife and I have just returned from a camping trip from Washington to Connecticut, then back out here. It was 7,135 hard miles in temperatures running from 50° to 100°, but we had no trouble, and we've put over 10,000 miles in since re-wiring.

Hope the above information may be of some help to others. Keep up the high standards and quality of Sports Cars Illustrated.

> Sincerely, Howard F. Miles Northwest Regional Representative, Porsche Club of America Tacoma, Washington

#### **OPERATION BOOTSTRAP**

Dear Sir:

I have been told that the less unsprung weight a car has the better it rides and holds the road. I would like to know how a car would handle and ride if the unsprung weight was reduced to zero or less. I am sure that I have a way to accomplish this and also to prevent body lean to a fantastic degree.

I would very much appreciate your answer.

> Sincerely. L. Carlton Thomas

Your question invokes another, to wit: What are you going to do with wheels, tires, etc? If unsprung weight could be reduced to zero you'd probably have to steer with a rudder. If you ever come up with less than zero weight, let us know first; we'd love to scoop AMAZ-ING on the first antigravity device.-Ed

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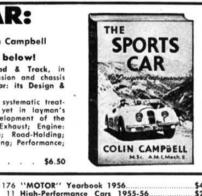
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The Technical Correspondence Editor, January issue, Road & Track, in answer to a request for a good reference book on suspension and chassis design says: ". . . by far the best book is The Sports Car: its Design & Performance, by Colin Campbell . . "

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