

No. 2 PISTON STICKING

THE suction piston comprises the piston, forming the choke, the needle and suction disc; into this is inserted the hardened and ground piston rod which reciprocates in the bearing of the suction chamber. The piston rod operating in the bearing is the only part which is in actual contact with any other portion. The suction piston and needle* having clearance fit, normally do not cause sticking. If this does occur, the trouble must be looked for in the piston rod and its bearing. A sticking piston can be detected in a few seconds by inserting a finger in the air intake and lifting the piston, which should come up quite freely and fall right on to its seat with a click when released; if it does not, it will probably

be found that the piston rod is sticky or dry. To free this, remove the oil cap nut from the top of the suction chamber, pour in a few drops of paraffin, and work the piston up and down with the finger until free. A few drops of thin oil such as bicycle or sewing machine oil should then be dropped in, but under no circumstances should a heavy-bodied lubricant such as engine oil be used. No oil must be used on any other part of the suction chamber.

* Sticking will naturally occur if the needle is badly bent or the jet is out of adjustment. The obvious test for this is to remove the needle and see if the piston still sticks. If it is free, then either the needle is bent, necessitating a replacement, or the jet requires centring. Instructions for this operation will appear in the next of this series of talks on adjusting the S.U.



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