SKINNED SKINNED

INDEX - VOLUME 13

In the following index, which covers Volume 13 of Skinned Knuckles, each subject listing is followed by three numbers (for a single listing) or a series of three numbers (for multiple listings). In every case the first number is the Roman numeral XIII, which designates volume number 13; the second number indicates issue number; and the third number is page number. Example: DILLON TORCH, XIII-9-4. The subject or topic is the Dillon Torch, and information on this subject can be found in volume 13, issue 9, on page 4. Subjects listed include major topics covered in various columns such as "Restoration Forum," "Shop Ideas," etc., in addition to feature articles.

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"TORQUING ANTIQUE ENGINES, HANDLING ENGINE GASKETS" - Continued from page 26

very well! Make sure that both surfaces being joined are clean and smooth - plane the block or manifold if necessary. Not only will the gaskets seal better, but you will not risk breaking manifolds by asking them to stretch! Torque as follows using auto maker's pattern: tighten the studs or bolts to one-third final torque; Re-torque to two thirds of final torque using same pattern; Re-torque to almost final torque using same pattern; Then re-torque to final torque using same pattern. Leave overnight, allowing the gasket (especially Thermotorque) to "creep" into a perfect seal. Re-torque again to final torque specification using same pattern. Start engine and run it until warm, retorquing as it warms up. When warm, stop engine and give it a final torquing. If you are not running the motor until later, remember to re-torque before starting up.

Special Note: Please read this! Almost all

gasket failures I have seen over the years had something to do with bad torquing. If the head or manifold is not flat and straight, no gasket ever made can make up for the deficiency! Have them planed if they are not flat. Beware of the bolts or studs — if they are stretched or wrong for the job, it may be impossible to get a good torque reading. If the bolt bottoms out in the hole before you hit the right torque, you may not really press the head with full pressure. I have seen professional restoration shops get caught by this. Beware! Add a stud washer if you have any doubts. We can supply them as well as the studs or nuts if you need them.

- ANSWER TO MYSTERY CAR -

This little gem is none other than a 1931 Standard Swallow.