

Curing The Common Cold (and life's other little difficulties)

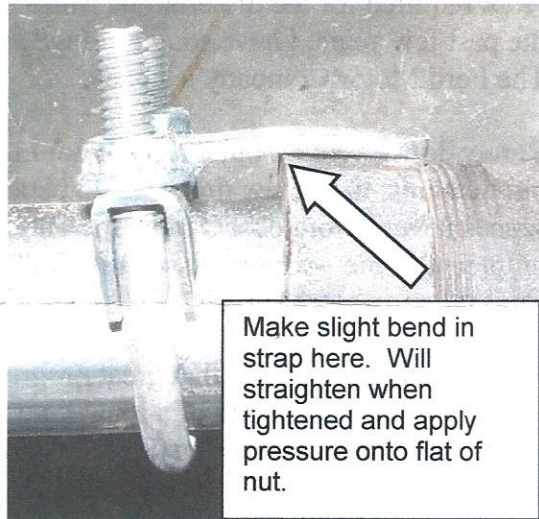
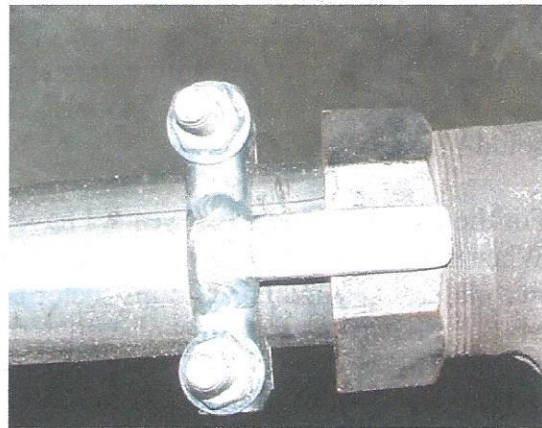
There have been certain things that have plagued mankind since the beginning of time. As fall approaches the chances are high that we will each catch a cold this year. I have always found there are two ways to be done with such misery. The first way is to go to the doctor and after about a week, your cold will be gone. The second way is to avoid going to the doctor at all cost and your cold will be gone in roughly seven days.

Not all problems are so easily solved. I'm still trying to figure out the "missing sock" phenomena that most men have in their dresser drawer. You know, when the socks are all paired up there always seems to be an extra with no mate. The only solution (not cure mind you) is to buy all the same color socks (no stripes, checks, etc.). This approach, while it doesn't fix the issue, at least allows one to usually find a matching pair.

One item that plagues many T's is the inability to keep the exhaust pack nut tight. Many grab a wrench to fit and tighten like there is no tomorrow. Ralph and I witnessed one being tightened in Wisconsin a couple of years ago and it was pulled on so hard that you could see the manifold actually twist. I suspect this only serves to start an exhaust leak where the manifold meets the block as the crush rings become slightly deformed on one side. Later that day, the same pack nut was again loose.

I am not sure why some T's can't keep that nut on but it is a fact of life that some just won't stay tight.

The nut can be stopped from turning fairly easily. I bought a muffler clamp and welded a small piece of strap to it. The scrap will need to be bent slightly so as to provide interference onto the nut when tightened. For \$1.50 you can stop the nut from turning. It just looks better to me than the hose clamp you see on so many cars (which also seems to work by the way).



This isn't a new approach. I saw a NOS accessory on ebay and basically just copied it (for a lot less than it sold for).

While many of life's problems go unsolved, we can put this one to rest. *Gary*