SECTION I

THE REAR ROAD SPRINGS

General Description.

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The semi-elliptic leaf springs provided for the rear suspension are secured beneath the rear axle by "U" bolts.

The front ends of the springs are anchored in flexing rubber bushes, while the rear ends are mounted in similar bushes in swinging shackles.

Rubber pads are fitted between the spring and the axle, and moulded rubber packing pads are inserted round the leaves and the spring clips, while rubber insertions are also fitted at the ends of the spring leaves. It is essential that no lubricant be used on the spring leaves or shackles.

Section I.1

REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT OF THE REAR SPRINGS

Raise the rear of the car and block up under the chassis forward of the rear springs.

Remove the nuts holding the "U" bolts to the axle casing and allow the axle to hang from the rebound straps.

Remove the spring anchorage bolts and shackle bolts, when the springs may be lifted away.

Section I.2

DISMANTLING AND REASSEMBLING THE SPRINGS

Slacken off and remove the spring clip bolts, distance-pieces, and rubber packings.

Release the locknut and nut from the spring centre bolt and remove the distance-piece and bolt.

The leaves may now be separated, releasing the twelve interleaf rubber pads.

Inspection

Clean each leaf, and examine for cracks or breakage. Check the centre bolt for wear or distortion (this bolt forms the location for the spring on its axle pad and should be in good condition).

Important.—When fitting new leaves it is important that they are of the correct length and thickness, and have the same curvature as the remaining leaves.

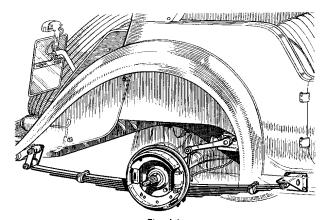


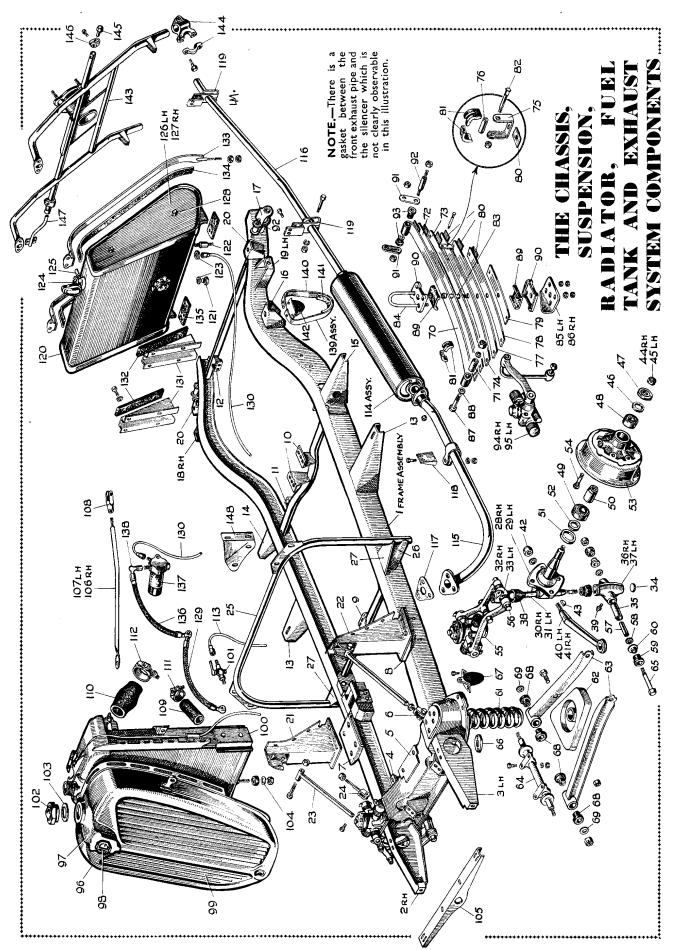
Fig. I.I.

The semi-elliptic rear springs are mounted in flexing rubber bushes with rubber interleaving between the spring leaves.

It is advisable, even when no leaves are broken, to fit replacement springs when the originals have lost their camber due to settling.

Reassembling

The springs should be assembled clean, dry and free from any lubricant.



KEY TO CHASSIS AND SUSPENSION COMPONENTS

THE REAR ROAD SPRINGS

Place the leaves together in their correct order, locating them with the centre bolt and positioning the interleaf rubber packings between the ends of the leaves before the bolt is tightened.

The dowel head of the bolt must be on top of the spring.

Replace the spring clip rubber packings, clips, distance-pieces, and bolts.

Before replacing the shackle bolts, bushes and shackle plates they must be inspected for wear and, if necessary, replaced by new components.

Before tightening the spring bolts it is absolutely essential that the normal working load be applied to the springs so that the flexing rubber

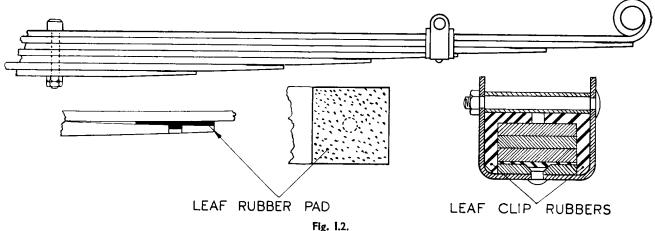
bushes are deflected to an equal extent in both directions during service. Failure to take this precaution will inevitably lead to early deterioration of the bushes.

Section I.3

MAINTENANCE OF THE REAR SPRINGS

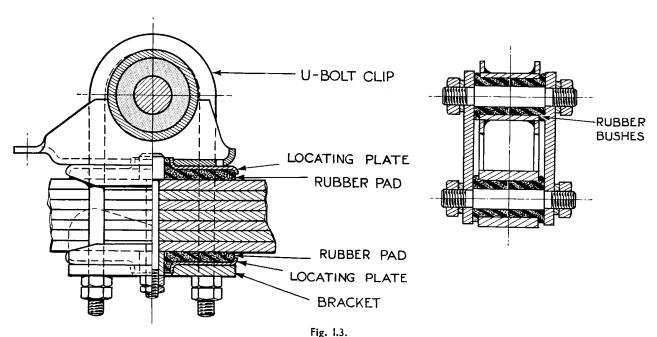
As the rear springs are mounted in rubber, spraying with oil should be strictly avoided.

The only attention required is an occasional tightening of the spring seat bolts to make sure they are quite tight.



The rubber interleaving and rubber mounting for the spring clips on the rear springs.

On some models the leaf rubber pad is circular and not square in shape as shown.



The rubber mounting of the rear springs on the axle.