

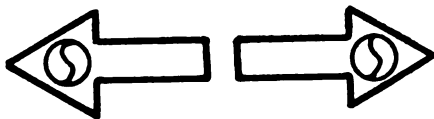
Traffic Direction Indication

"On panel-type interlocking and C.T.C. machines, what color or specially-marked lamps do you use to indicate traffic direction, to make them distinctive from other indication lamps on the machines? We have used blue in the past, and found visibility thereof to be very difficult at times, especially during the daylight hours."

Arrows with Lamps

By C. W. LESTER
Signal Supervisor
Baltimore & Ohio
Cumberland, Md.

We use open arrows with white lamps as shown herewith. When



one or the other of the lamps is illuminated, it indicates the direction in which traffic is set.

Pink and Green

By W. P. MINK
Signal Engineer
Union Pacific
Salt Lake City, Utah

Relative to the color or specially-marked lamps that we use to indicate traffic direction on our C.T.C. machines, we use pink and green, which has worked out very satisfactorily. These lamps are located above the track diagram, and I do not believe there is any possibility of confusing these lights with other lights on the machine.

wax. This makes for a clean, neat and attractive-looking cell. However, the other exposed metal parts, such as terminals, filler cap, connectors, etc., still accumulate salts. While maintaining in Sacramento, Cal., about a year ago, I started an unofficial experiment with various means of keeping the cells clean, thus lightening the burdens of my job. The result was that I found that by keeping the parts well painted with clear mineral oil, such as is used for medicinal purposes, the cells stayed quite free of salts. My successor at Sacramento kept up the experiment, and has informed me that a year's trial has worked very satisfactorily. Also, the heavy grade of mineral oil works better than the light grade.

Marking Crayon Container

By A SIGNALMAN

Crayons used for marking lumber, iron and steel are carried in a pocket, and cause the inside of the pocket, or anything carried in the pocket, to become discolored; the crayons also wear and become smaller. To prevent this trouble, I have taken a metal lip stick container, which will hold a piece of crayon about 2 3/4 in. long and 1/2 in. thick, and fitted the crayon into the cup at the bottom of the container. The container has an adjustment on the bottom, so the crayon can be fed out as it is used. When the crayon is used up, another piece can be inserted. A metal cap fits over the end of the container, and no crayon comes in contact with the inside of the pocket or objects being carried in it.

Bootleg Connections

By L. BERIAULT
Signal Helper
Canadian Pacific
Montreal, Que.

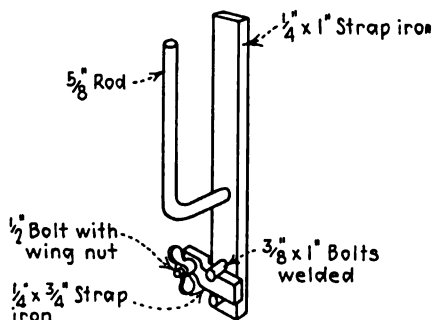
ON some types of bootlegs, the plain end of a plug-type cable bond and the end of the underground track cable are bent around a bolt. When tightening the nut on this bolt, the track cable is forced to twist more around the bolt, thus weakening it a great deal, and often resulting in a break soon after installation. To prevent such trouble, I would like to suggest the use of a 38-in. plug-type cable bond with a lug at the bootleg end to fit the bolt on the bootleg pedestal, instead of the plain-end bond.

KINKS

Motor Car Crossarm Carrier

By CHARLES HALE
Blackfoot, Mont.

I have a gadget which I have used to great advantage—a detachable carrier for crossarms and other long items on a motor car. The



The carrier is detachable

lineman on this district also likes the idea, which is illustrated by the sketch herewith, very much, and I have just helped him install a set on his car. One of these carriers is installed on each of the right-hand fenders of the motor car. They are easy to put on and remove, and simple to carry when not in use. The carriers can be made any size to meet the needs of the one using them. I use mine to haul trunking.

Soldering Iron Cleaner

By A RAILROAD RADIOMAN

I DO a considerable amount of soldering on radio and other electronic wiring work with an electric iron. This is clean soldering work, and does not require sal ammoniac, etc., to keep the iron clean, as is the case in some work. However, some flux and excess solder does cake on the tip of the iron from time to time. For this reason, I have bolted two household copper scouring pads on top of one another to the base of the soldering-iron stand. The pads are bolted at one edge, using a small strip of heavy metal as a washer to hold them down, grip them firmly and prevent tearing. The tip of the iron is just brushed over the pads occasionally to keep it clean, the pads picking up any foreign matter or excess solder. It is an effective gadget.

Eliminating Salt Accumulation

By L. W. CAMPBELL
Signal Draftsman
Western Pacific
San Francisco, Cal.

Here is an idea which might be useful to maintainers who are having trouble keeping the metal parts of storage cells clean and free of salts that accumulate on the cells:

Our policy is to cover the top of the cell with paraffin wax. This is done by cleaning the top of the cell and pouring melted paraffin into the top until it is completely filled with