

SECTION 10-C

BATTERY AND CABLES

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10-14 GENERAL BATTERY INFORMATION

Delco-Remy 12-volt storage battery model 562 or Cat. No. 562 is used in all models. This battery has 6 cells with 11 plates per cell, a capacity of 70 ampere-hours at a 20 hour rate, and a rating of 840 watt-hours.

The battery is mounted on the left front fender skirt under the hood. The battery negative (-) post is grounded to the engine cylinder head by a flexible copper cable. The positive (+) post is connected by an insulated copper cable to a junction block on the fender skirt. The cable terminal at the battery and junction block are protected by rubber boots.

a. Registration of Battery

Delco-Remy Battery dealers and distributors are prepared to carry out terms of the manufacturer's warranty on Delco-Remy batteries. In order that Buick owners shall have the protection and benefit of this warranty, it is necessary for the dealer or car owner to register his battery with the local Delco-Remy Battery dealer or distributor on all new car deliveries, and on all deliveries of new replacement Delco-Remy batteries.

b. Care of Wet Batteries in Storage

Batteries in stored new cars, as well as batteries in stock, must be given regular attention to prevent sulphation of plates that may result from inactivity and self-discharge. All automotive wet batteries will slowly discharge on standing idle, whether in stored vehicles or in stock, and will self-discharge much faster when warm than when cold. *Batteries in stock should be rotated and the older ones used first.*

To minimize the extent of self-discharge always store batteries fully charged and in the coolest possible place. At frequent intervals check the level of electrolyte and add water as required; also check the specific gravity with a hydrometer (par. 10-16). A boosting charge at

a moderate rate (par. 10-19) without excessive overcharge, must be given batteries in storage whenever the specific gravity falls to 1.215, corrected for temperature. Batteries used for display purposes or standing in cars in storage must be treated in the same manner as batteries in stock.

When a new car, or a new replacement battery is delivered, make certain that it is fully charged and the electrolyte is at proper level. This is extremely important because the delivery of a partially discharged battery may not only lead to its return for charging but may also result in shortened life of battery.

c. Importance of Maintaining Electrolyte at Proper Level

Water is the only component of the battery which is lost as the result of charging and discharging, and it must be replaced before the electrolyte level falls to the tops of the separators. If the water is not replaced and the plates become exposed, they may become permanently sulphated, which would impair the performance of the plates. Also, the plates cannot take full part in the battery action unless they are completely covered by the electrolyte.

d. Importance of Keeping Battery Properly Charged

The battery has three major functions: (1) It provides a source of energy for cranking the engine. (2) It acts as a stabilizer to the voltage in the electrical system. (3) It can for a limited time furnish energy when the demands of the electrical units in operation exceed the output of the generator.

In order for the battery to continue to function, it is necessary that current withdrawal from the battery be balanced by current input from the generator so that the battery is maintained in a properly charged condition. If the outgo exceeds the input the battery will become discharged so that it cannot supply sufficient energy.

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Charged

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Proper Level

c. Importance of Maintaining Electrolyte at Proper Level

When a new car, or a new replacement battery is delivered, make certain that it is fully charged and the electrolyte is at proper level. This is extremely important because the density of a partially discharged battery may not only lead to its return for charging but may also result in shortened life of battery.

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BATTERY AND CABLES

SECTION 10-C

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a. Registration of Battery

The front fender skirt is mounted on the left front fender skirt under the hood. The battery negative terminal is located at the battery and junction block are protected by rubber boots. The cable to a junction block on the fender copper cable (+) post is connected by an insulated five (-) post is grounded to the engine cylinder head by a flexible copper cable. The positive (+) post is grounded to the battery negative terminal block. The front fender is mounted on the left front

and a rating of 840 watt-hours.

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10-14 GENERAL BATTERY INFORMATION

attempt to remove the plastic bag from the container. The bag is sealed to the container and any attempt to remove the bag may cause a rupture in the bag.

3. With the electrolyte container right side up, remove the lid by pulling on the rip cord.

2. Remove the vent plugs.

The extreme edge of the original carton.

The electronic file occurs.

It is strongly recommended that a person
hilling batteries with electrolyte wear
(preferably safety glasses) to prevent possible
damage to the eyes should any spattering of
the electrolyte occur.

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Electrolyte should be added to dry charged batteries in an area where water is readily available for flushing in case the electrolyte comes into contact with the body. Refer to instructions on side of electrolyte container for antidotes to use if electrolyte comes into contact with the body.

To prepare "dry charge" batteries for service use approved battery-grade acid electrolyte (1.265 sp. gr. at 80° F.). Electrolyte is available in three individual containers of one carton. The contents of one carton is sufficient for one battery. Care should be exercised in its use to prevent bodily injury or damage to clothing or other material resulting from actual contact with the electrolyte.

for Service

After electrolyte has been added to a dry charged battery, it is then a "wet" battery and should be maintained in the same way as any other "wet" battery (suppar. b). It may be put into service without an additional charge if it has been properly stored. If one or more cells has been damaged during storage, the entire battery should be replaced. The electrolyte should be charged before putting into service. For points within 10 minutes, the battery should be charged for filling dry batteries, see sub-paragraph f.

The weight of the upper batteries should not be supported directly by the batteries on the lower level. Simple racks can be improvised using wood platforms supported from layer to layer by boards or other means.

1.220	-35° F.	Freezing Point	Specific Gravity
1.200	-20° F.		
1.160	0° F.		

In extremely cold climates it is important to keep batteries in a nearly full charged condition to avoid the possibility of freezing, which will damage any battery. The following table shows the temperatures at which freezing will occur in electrolytes of different densities, with specific gravity corrected to 80° F.

State of Charge	Specific Gravity	Efficiency	Approx.	Fully Charged (1.260-1.280 @ 80° F.)	80°	65%	100%	Half Charged (1.195-1.220 @ 80° F.)	80°	46%	40%	Half Charged (1.130-1.150 @ 80° F.)	80°	25%	21%	Nearly Discharged (In danger of freezing)	0°	32°	32°	16%	9%		
Charging	1.40	90%	100%	Charging	1.280	80%	100%	Charging	1.220	80%	46%	40%	Charging	1.150	80%	25%	Charging	1.10	0°	32°	32°	16%	9%
Discharging	1.20	80%	90%	Discharging	1.150	80%	90%	Discharging	1.100	80%	46%	40%	Discharging	1.050	80%	25%	Discharging	1.00	0°	32°	32°	16%	9%

The following comparison shows how states of charge at temperatures of 80°, 32°, and 0° F. affect efficiency and cracking power, with efficiency in the fully charged state at 80° F. equal to 100%.

The state of charge of the battery as well as the temperature of the electrolyte has an important bearing on its capacity for supplying energy. Battery efficiency is greatly reduced by decreased electrolyte temperature as it has a decided numbing effect on its electrochemical action. Under high discharge such as cranking, battery voltage drops to lower values in cold temperatures than in warm temperatures.

It the top of battery is dirty or the hold down strap is corroded, clean thoroughly with a brush dipped in ammonia or soda solution. Tighten vent plugs to prevent any solution from getting into battery cells. After the foam- ing of solution stops, flush off with clean water and dry thoroughly. If hold down strap is cor- roded it should be painted with acid-resistant paint after cleaning.

battery case.

Check the battery hold down bolts to make certain that battery is securely held in place. The wing nuts should be drawn up finger tight; excessive tightening may distort or crack the

Check outside of battery for damage or signs of serious abuse such as broken case or broken covers. Check inside of battery by removing the vent caps and inspecting for signs of abuse such as electrolyte level too low to see, or bad or unusual odors. If battery shows signs of serious damage or abuse, it should be replaced.

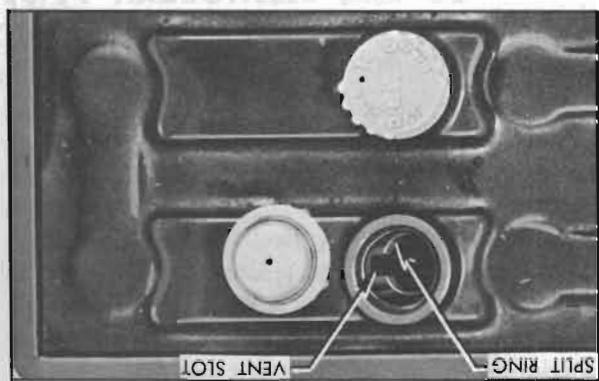
b. Inspect Battery, Mounting and Cables

If it is found necessary to add water to the battery more frequently than about every 1,000 miles and the quantity of water added per cell is great, check setting of voltage regulator and water loss is an indication that the battery is adjusted, if necessary (par. 10-26). An abnormal loss is an indication that the battery is being overcharged.

In freezing weather the water should be added just before using the car or otherwise mixed with the battery so that the water will be charged with the battery before it is allowed to stand in freezing temperatures.

If distilled water is not available, it is better to add clean, mineral-free tap water than to allow the electrolyte level to remain below the top of the plates.

Figure 10-1—Battery Filter Well



CAUTION: The gas which is produced in the battery cells during charging is dangerously explosive. Extreme care must be taken to avoid exploding. Burning open flames, lighted matches, etc., near a battery which is or has been recently on charge, and which is or has been gassing. Like-sparks near a battery a battery must be taken to avoid causing any wise care must be taken to avoid causing any sparks near a battery, since this can also set off an explosion of the gases. Before making contact with battery it is advisable to establish metallic contact between car bumper and ground to discharge any static charge in the car.

a. Maintain Electrolyte Level

Add distilled water as required to maintain the electrolyte level at the split ring at bottom of filler well. See figure 10-1. **CAUTION:** Do not overfill, as electrolyte may be sprayed out by gassing or may overflow due to heat expansion.

The battery requires very little attention, but periodic inspection is essential to secure maximum efficiency and life. The following services are essential to maintain the battery at maximum efficiency:

INSPECTION AND SERVICE

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8. Before discarding an electrolyte container, empty and rinse thoroughly with water to remove any electrolyte remaining in the container. Discarded packages containing electrolyte may prove to be dangerous or harmful to persons who are unfamiliar with the poisonous characteristics of sulfuric acid electrolyte.

1. After filling cells, wait five to ten minutes and add additional electrolyte, if necessary, to bring the electrolyte to the proper level.

- Cut a small opening in the corner of the double-walled bag. Do not make the opening any larger than required since a larger opening will increase the tendency of the electrolyte to spatter as it is emptied from the container.
- Using a glass or acid-proof plastic funnel, fill each battery cell with electrolyte. Do not use a metal funnel for filling the battery. The cell is properly filled when the electrolyte level rises to the split ring at the bottom of the vent well. Do not overfill. In most cases some electrolyte will remain in the electrolyte container after the battery has been completely filled.

4. Hold hydrometer vertically and draw in just enough liquid from battery cell so that float is free floating, and with bulb fully released. Hold hydrometer at eye level so that float is vertical and free of outer tube, then take reading at surface of liquid. Disregard the curve due to surface tension.

3. If hydrometer has built-in thermometer, draw liquid into it several times to insure correct temperature before taking a reading.

2. Hydrometer readings must never be taken immediately after water has been added. The water must be thoroughly mixed with the electrolyte by charging for at least 30 minutes before hydrometer values are reliable.

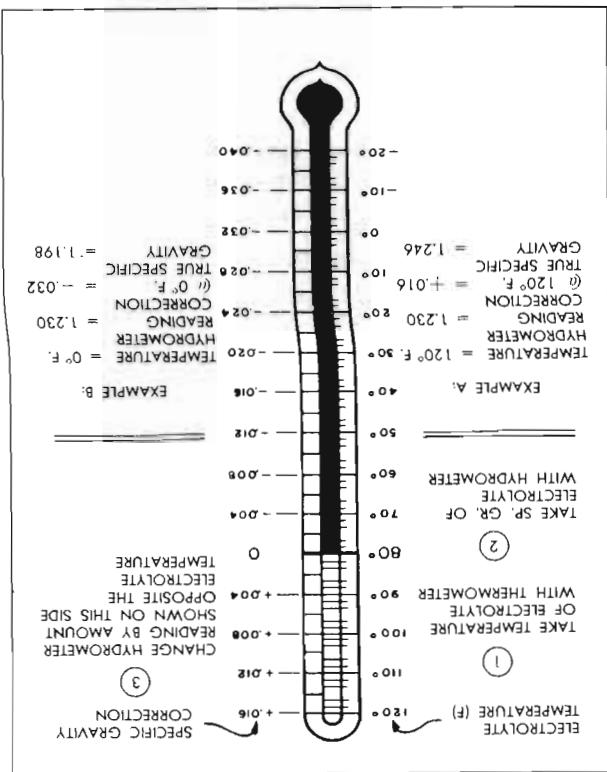
1. Hydrometer must be clean, inside and out, to insure an accurate reading.

When using a hydrometer, observe the following points:

c. Using Hydrometer

able which have a built-in thermometer and temperature correction scale similar to figure 10-2. This type of hydrometer simulates the operation of obtaining a true specific gravity reading.

Figure 10-2—Specific Gravity Temperature Correction Scale



If the electrolyte temperature is not too far from the 80° F. standard, or if only an approximate idea of specific gravity reading is required, it will not be necessary to make the temperature correction. Hydrometers are available.

Correctation can be made for temperature by adding .004, usually referred to as 4 „points of gravity,“ to the hydrometer reading for every 10° F. that the electrolyte is above 80° F. or subtracting .004 for every 10° F. that electrolyte is below 80° F. Figure 10-2 shows the exact correction figure to use for any temperature above or below 80° F., the three steps used in obtaining the corrected or true specific gravity, and two examples showing how it is

b. Correction for Temperature

The specific gravity of the electrolyte varies not only with the percentage of acid in the liquid, it also varies with temperature. As temperature increases, the electrolyte expands so that the specific gravity is reduced. As temperature drops, the electrolyte contracts so that the specific gravity is increased. A temperature increase of acid in the electrolyte increases, the electrolyte expands so that the specific gravity is reduced. As temperature decreases, the electrolyte contracts so that the specific gravity is increased. Unless these variations in specific gravity are taken into account, the specific gravity obtained by the hydrometer may not give a true indication of the concentration of acid in the electrolyte.

The hydrometer measures the percentage of sulphuric acid in the battery electrolyte in terms of specific gravity. As a battery drops from a charged to a discharged condition, the specific gravity of the electrolyte decreases. Sulphuric acid in the battery electrolyte in terms of specific gravity. As a battery drops from a charged to a discharged condition, the specific gravity of the electrolyte decreases.

Temperature and Effects of Gravity

10-16 HYDROMETER TEST OF BATTERY

Check battery cables to make certain they are tight at battery posts, engine mounting bracket and junction block. If a connection is found loose it should be cleaned before being tightened. Check connection of cables and terminals on frame. See paragraph 10-18 for instructions on cleaning and tightening cable terminals and repacement of cables.

3. Attach prods to voltmeter leads using care to obtain clean metal contact between prods and clips on leads. Apply prod of positive post to center of positive battery post and apply prod of negative post to center of negative (-) battery post. CAUTION: Do not apply prod of negative (-) lead to center of positive post and apply prod of positive post to center of negative (-) lead.

2. Connect ammeter positive (+) lead to battery positive (+) post, and negative (-) lead to one side of rheostat. Connect other side of rheostat to battery negative (-) post. If lead to one side of rheostat connects to negative (-) post, and negative (-) lead connects to one side of rheostat. Connect other side of rheostat to battery negative (-) post. If battery is installed, connect ammeter so that battery is not covered.

1. Adjust rheostat to provide maximum resistance (OFF position).

CAUTION: Gas formed in battery during charging is dangerous explosive. Sparks produced by test equipment may set off an explosion. Turn on headlights (low beam). After 1 minute, with lights still on, read individual cell voltages of batteries of both battery posts. If any cell reads 1.95 volts or more, remove filter plugs before performing high discharge tests.

A high discharge test of battery may be conducted on engine. See figure 10-3. Turn on headlights either installed or removed, and without the ammeter. This test may be made with battery of 300 amperes connected in series with carbon-pile rheostat having a minimum capacity of 300 or more amperes comprising a voltmeter, and a meter of 70-90°F. made at a battery temperature of 70-90°F.

If the battery specific gravity is above 1.215 it should not be made until after battery has been recharged. If the high discharge test of any battery specific gravity is below 1.215 the high discharge test may be made. If specific gravity is below 1.215 the high discharge test of battery may be made until after battery has been recharged.

b. High Discharge Test

3. After testing, close openings in sealing compound above cell connector straps.

(c) Nonuniform Readings. If any cell reads 1.95 volts or more, and there is a difference of .05 volts or more between the highest and lowest cell, battery should be replaced.

NOTE: Failure of the meter to register on all cells does not indicate a defective battery.

(b) Low Readings. If all cells read less than 1.95 volts, battery is too low to test properly. Quick-charge battery and repeat light load test. See Paragraph 10-19 (b).

(a) Uniform Readings. If any cell reads 1.95 volts or more, and difference between the highest and lowest cell is less than .05 volt, compare readings with the following:

2. Turn on headlights (low beam). After 1 minute, with lights still on, read individual cell voltages of batteries of both battery posts. If any cell voltage is good, battery is good.

Figure 10-3-Light Load Test



a. Light Load Test

The light load battery test is an in-the-car test designed to quickly determine the serviceability of any lead-acid battery. Nonuniformity of specific gravity of any cell indicates replacement is required. This test is simple and more conclusive than the hydrometer test; however, a cell voltage switch for 3 seconds. It makes no difference whether starter turns engine or not. However, if engine starts, turn off ignition immediately. Place load on battery by closing starter switch for 3 seconds. If it makes no difference by closing starter switch as follows:

1. Check condition of battery cells as follows:

- 1. Place load on battery by closing starter switch for 3 seconds. If it makes no difference by closing starter switch as follows:**
- 2. Turn off ignition immediately. Place load on battery by closing starter switch for 3 seconds. If it makes no difference by closing starter switch as follows:**
- 3. Turn off ignition immediately. Place load on battery by closing starter switch for 3 seconds. If it makes no difference by closing starter switch as follows:**

10-17 VOLTAGE TESTS OF BATTERY

5. Avoid dropping liquid on car or clothing as it is extremely corrosive. Any liquid that drops should be washed off immediately with soda solution.

5. Connect voltmeter positive (+) lead to ground on engine. Attach prod to voltmeter negative (-) lead and apply prod to center of

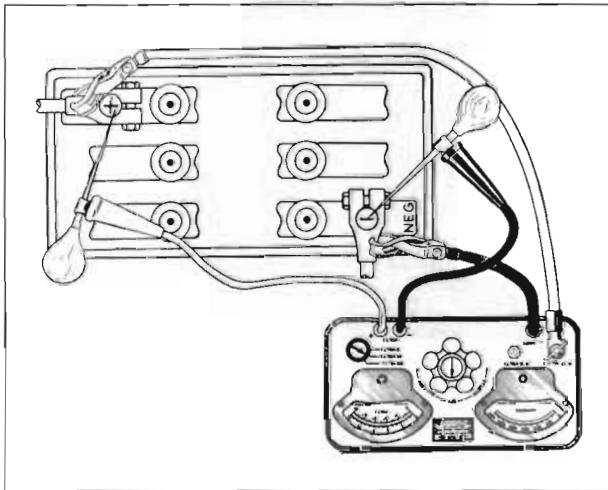
should not exceed 2/10 volt.

4. Adjust rheostat until ammeter reads 200 amperes, immedately read voltmeter, then turn rheostat to starting ("OFF") position to avoid excessive drain on battery. Voltage drop across battery positive cable and terminal connections

leads have clean metal contact with prods.

not connect to the ammeter lead clip. Attach a probe to voltmeter positive (+) lead and apply probe to center of battery positive (+) post (fig. 10-4). Make sure that clips of voltmeter (fig. 10-4).

Figure 10-4—High Discharge Test Connections



2. Connect ammeter positive (+) lead to battery terminal stud on junction block. Connect ammeter negative (-) lead to one side of rheostat and connect other side of rheostat to engine, preferably at point where ground is attached. In the instrument strap is attached. In figure 10-4 the ammeter and rheostat are connected in series inside the case.
3. Connect voltmeter negative (-) lead to battery terminal stud on junction block. Use a prod with voltmeter lead, if necessary, to insure direct contact with the terminal stud. Do

sistance (“Off” position).

1. Adjust rheostat to provide maximum re-

peres connected in series with the ammeter.

stat having a minimum capacity of 300 am-

Wheeler (a Texas hydraulic), chairman of the 2000-01

be tested with equipment comprising a voltmeter (5 volts maximum). A meter of 300 ohms per millimeter will give a reading of 100 ohms per millimeter.

Battery cables and terminal connections may be fastened with caution at temperatures up to 100° F.

[Performance Corrections](#)

a. Testing Resistance of Cables and

Check terminals at both ends of each cable for tight connections. Since loose connections are usually dirty or corroded, any loose connections should be thoroughly cleaned before being tightened. If terminals are tight and cables are apparently in good condition, it is advisable to test them with a low-reading voltmeter to detect any abnormal insulation resistance.

Whenever the battery is tested (par. 10-17) the battery and cranking motor cables should also be inspected for condition and tested for resistance. Resistance in the cables and connections causes voltage drop, and excessive voltage drop is liable to cause starting difficulties. Carefully inspect the battery to junction block, battery to engine (ground) and cranking motor to junction block cables. If cable strands are broken, corroded, or loose in terminals the cable should be replaced with a genuine Búick cable to insure ample capacity.

MOTOR CABLES
BATTERY AND CRANKING
TESTING AND CLEANING

it should be replaced.

6. If test equipment for loading the battery is not available, the cranking motor may be used as a load. Ground the ignition coil terminal connected to the distributor primary as a load. Crank the engine from firing. This prevents the engine motor from firing. When using the cranking motor for this test, the terminal voltage of the battery should be not less than 9.0 volts during initial voltage is less than 9.0 volts during either of these checks, the battery should be removed from service for further checking to determine whether or not a time or motor may be damaged by over-heating. If the terminal voltage is less than 9.0 volts during either of these checks, the cranking motor for more than 30 seconds at a time or motor may be damaged by over-heating.

1. Apply voltmeter leads to cable terminals as any resistance in the connection between terminals and battery posts will affect the test readings.
2. Adjust rheostat until ammeter reads three times the amperere hour rating of the battery or 210 amperes, wait 15 seconds and read voltmeter, then return rheostat to starting position to avoid excessive drain on battery.
3. Voltmeter will read 9 or more volts if battery discharge capacity is satisfactory. If voltmeter reads less than 9 volts, the battery must be completely recharged and tested again.

The slow-charge method, properly applied, may be safely used under all possible conditions of the battery, provided electrolyte is at proper level in all cells. The battery may be fully charged by this method, unless the battery is

a. Slow-Charging

There are two separate methods of recharging batteries which differ basically in the rate of charge. In the slow-charge method, the battery is supplied a relatively small amount of current for a relatively long period of time. In the quick-charge method, the battery is supplied with a high current for a short period of time.

The only way to charge a battery is to connect it to a charging circuit. Use of such material voids all battery warranty. Use of such material voids all battery warranty. Harmful to the battery and must never be used. battery cells. Such chemical substances are "dopes" are offered which their sellers claim will "recharge" the battery when put into the occasional, certain chemical

10-19 BATTERY RECHARGING

The electric clock requires special attention when reconnecting a battery that has been disconnected for any reason. It is very important that the initial connection be made. See paragraph 10-56 for procedure.

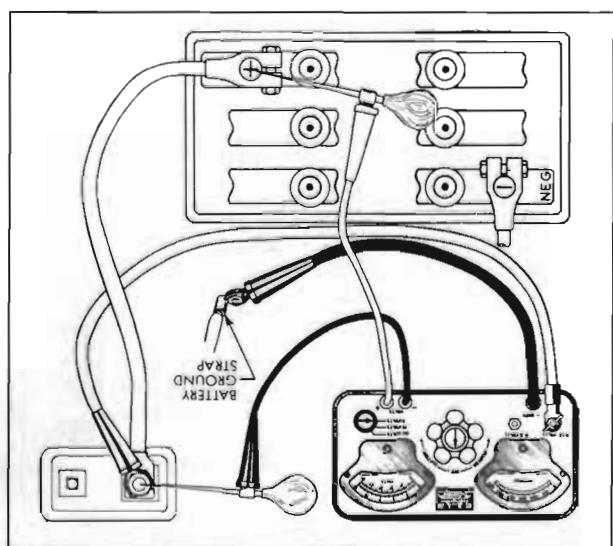
c. Connecting Battery Cables and Windup Clock

To prevent corrosion of battery terminals and connections, apply a coating of petroleum jelly over the battery post and cable terminals. To prevent corrosion of battery terminals and connections, apply a coating of petroleum jelly over the battery post and cable terminals. CAUTION: Animal or vegetable greases will cause rapid corrosion of terminals. Make sure that rubber boots are in place over both terminals of battery to junction block cable.

CAUTION: Soda solution, using strong soda solution into battery cells. It wire brushes are not available, corroded terminals may be cleaned by brushing with a strong soda solution. If wire brushes are not available, use posts, using suitable wire brushes (fig. 10-5). Thoroughly clean all corrosion from disconnected battery cables terminals and terminals.

Battery negative (-) post. Voltage drop across terminals cannot be loosened by hand after clamp bolt is fully loosened.

Figure 10-5-Battery Cable Test Connections



If loose connections are found by inspection, since either practice will result in broken battery case or hammer on terminal to break it terminal from battery post do not pry against test, disconnect the cable for thorough cleaning of terminals. When removing a corroded cable from terminals, or high resistance is found by voltage test, or loose connections are found by inspec-

b. Cleaning Cable Terminals

8. Connect voltmeter negative (-) lead directly to battery terminal stud on solenoid rectifier. With probe of voltmeter positive (+) lead applied directly to battery terminal stud on junction block, repeat step 4 above. The voltage drop across cranking motor cable and terminals should not exceed 2/10 volt at 200 amperes.

7. If cranking is below normal speed, connect the ammeter positive (+) lead to the battery terminal stud on cranking motor solenoid switch, leaving the other lead attached to ground in engine.

6. A reading in excess of 2/10 volt when testing either battery cable indicates excessive resistance in cable or connections. Clean and tighten cable or connections. Clean and test again with a 2/10 volt replaceable cable with a genuine Buick 2/10 volt drop. If voltage drop still exceeds for voltage drop, clean and check cable terminals (suspension, below, below) and tighten cable terminals or connections. Clean and test again with a 2/10 volt replaceable cable with a genuine Buick 2/10 volt drop at 200 amps.

the battery ground cable and terminal connections should not exceed 2/10 volt at 200 amps.

charged condition by the quick-charge method. The battery can be substantially recharged or boosted, but it is better to bring the battery to a full charged condition, the charging cycle must be finished by charging at a low or normal rate. Some quick-chargers have a provision for this. Isching the charging cycle at a low rate so that the battery can be brought up to a fully charged condition.

Charge at 50 amperes for 20 minutes (50 x 20 = 1000 amperes minutes). If charger will not give this rate, charge for an equal number of amperes minutes at the best rate available. For purposes of charging for the light load test, do not boost battery more than the amount indicated. A battery cannot be brought up to a fully charged condition.

b. Quick-Charging