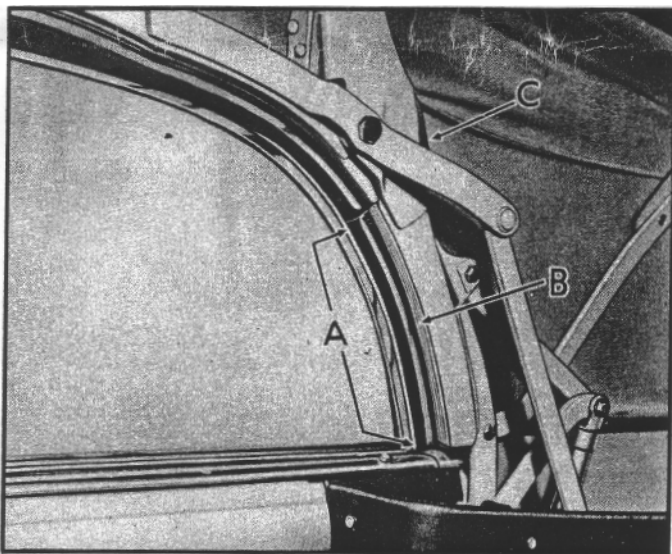


## Operation No. 42 Convertible Coupe Top Fabric and Back Curtain Assembly

The removal and replacement of a convertible coupe outer top fabric and back curtain assembly is not a difficult trim operation and dealer's trim men will find in the following step by step procedure of top covering removal and replacement, much information that will enable them to do a satisfactory job.

Along with the fabric top which is supplied ready to install, less fasteners, leaded chrome finish moldings should also be ordered. In addition, the proper tacks should be used, preferably lace tacks 4 oz., 6 oz., and 8 oz., depending on the tacking thickness of material. Back curtains are supplied separately,

### REMOVAL:

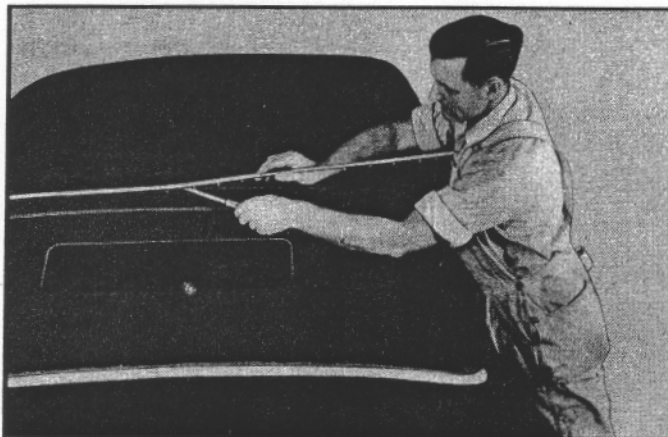


1

With rear quarter window lowered, remove the roof rail side weatherstrip "A" and retainer "B" and untack the roof covering directly beneath these parts. In addition, remove the drive nails from the top deck reinforcement at "C". On the outside, at the lower quarter window opening remove the little trim finishing plate which is attached with two screws. Release the top from the fasteners along the side roof rail.

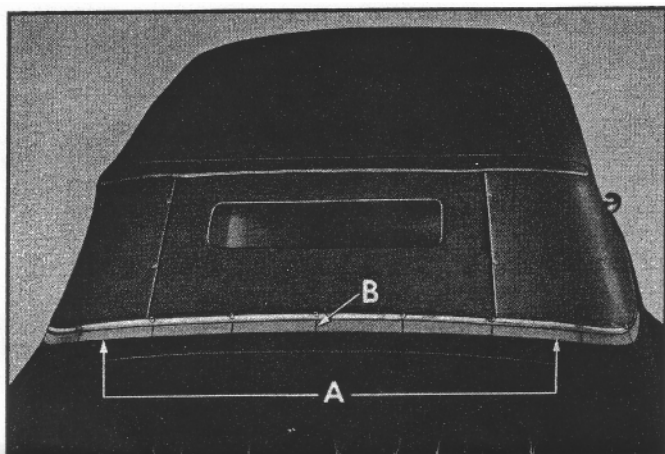
Starting at the front of the car, remove the end screws from the front roof rail molding as shown at "A" in this illustration. Then, starting at one end, carefully pry the molding loose and remove. Save the molding as a pattern for new molding installation. Note: On some convertible styles "Hide-em" binding is used in place of solid moldings.

2



3

At the rear of car, pry the rear roof bow molding loose as shown in this illustration. This molding should likewise be saved as a pattern for new' molding installation.

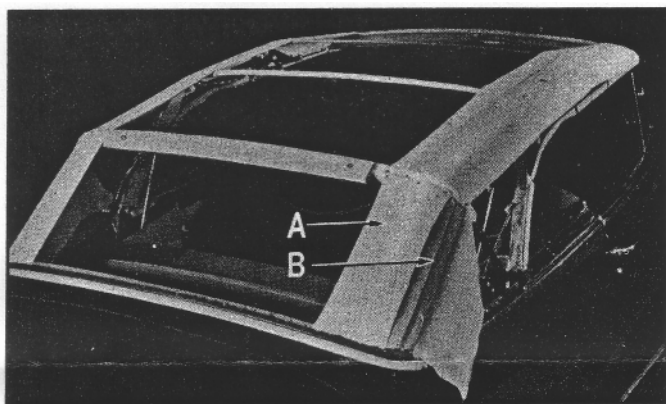
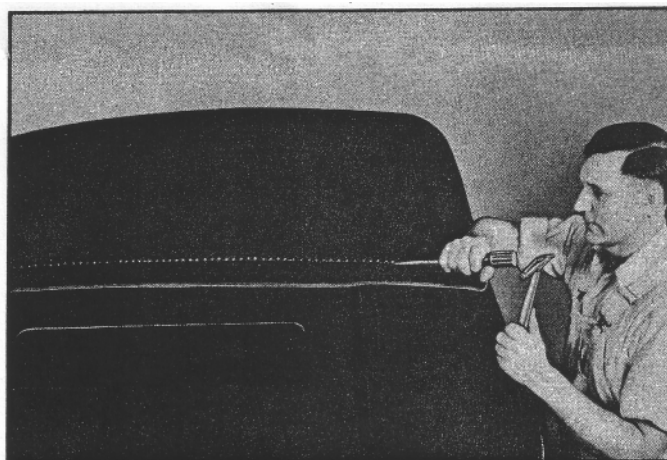


4

Next, as shown along VA", put a strip of masking tape over the belt molding, covering its entire length across the belt. Then mark on this tape the exact location of all fasteners on the lead filled molding as shown at "B". Remove the fasteners and pry the molding loose and remove.

As shown in this illustration, remove all tacks which attach the outer top deck, quarter deck and back curtain material to the top frame. Do not untack the inner webbing or padding. At the front of the car, untack the top material from the front roof rail in a similar manner. Complete outer top covering may now be removed. Inasmuch as top replacement in the majority of cases involves only the outer covering, it is not necessary to remove the inner padding and webbing of the top.

5



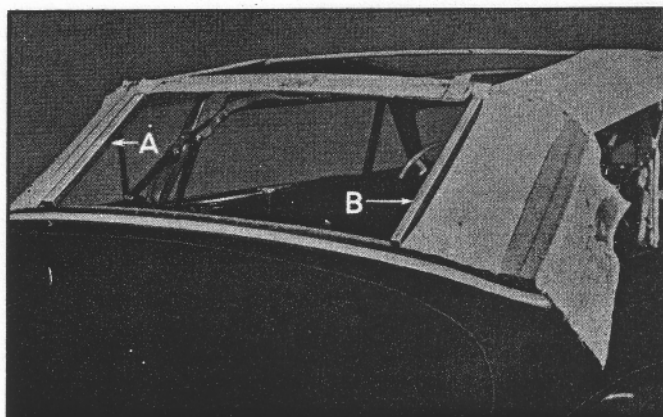
6

With top covering removed, check to see that the back-stay lining "A" and webbing "B" is tight. If the lining or webbing is loose, remove the tacks at the roof or belt, stretch it tight and re-tack using 4 oz. lace tacks.

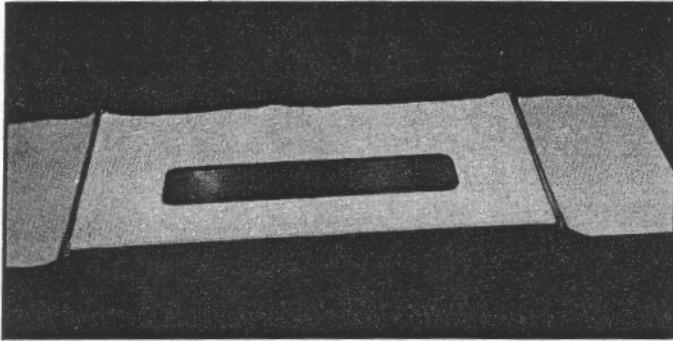
**CAUTION:** In the event the inner lining, padding and webbing of the top must also be removed, it is imperative before untacking this trim that the correct distance and alignment be maintained between the rear roof bow and the rear belt rail.

To this end, measure accurately the distance between the rear roof bow, (not the metal valance plate) and the rear belt rail at each side of the back curtain. With measurements obtained and using 1" x 1-1/2" stock, cut two pieces of wood the required length and place them in position as shown at "A" and "B". These wood templates which can be temporarily held in position will hold the rear roof bow in correct alignment while the new inner lining and webbing are being installed. **NOTE:** Be sure measurements in this operation are accurate.

7



## REPLACEMENT :



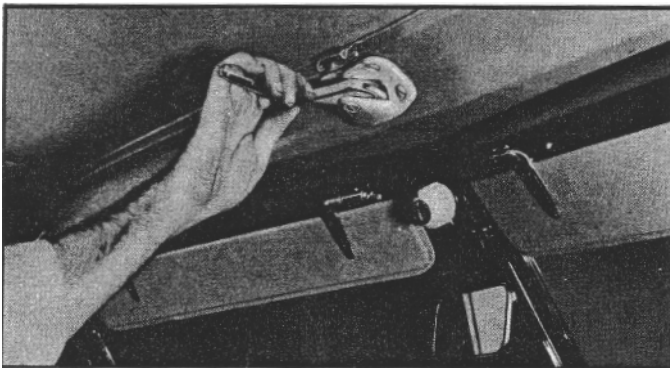
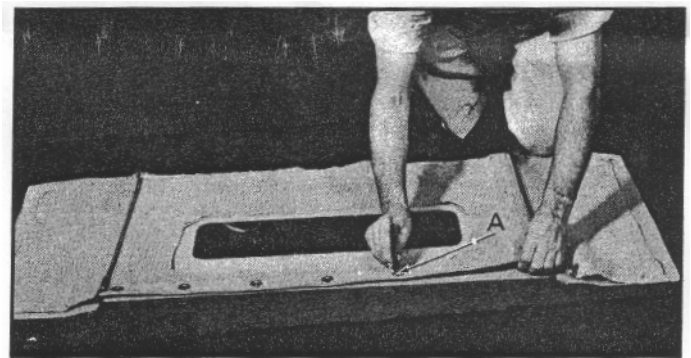
1

The installation of the back curtain is the first step in the replacement of a convertible top. The fastener eyelets and eyelet washers however are not assembled to the top edge of the curtain until installation.

To install the fastener eyelets at top edge of back curtain:

1. Lay the new curtain on a clean bench and accurately position the old curtain over it as shown.
2. With a pencil, scribe the hole locations onto the new curtain as shown in this illustration.
3. Assemble the fastener eyelets and eyelet washers to the new curtain in the locations marked.

2

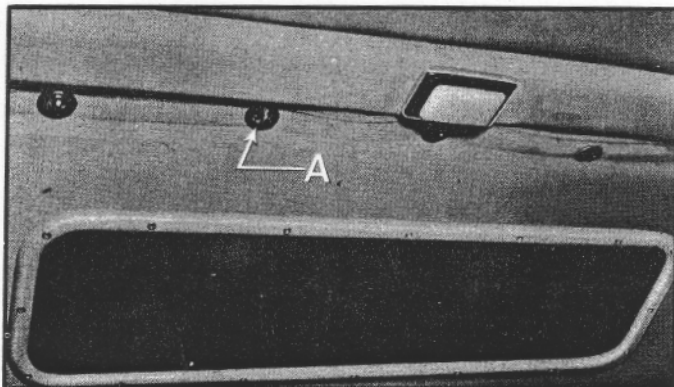
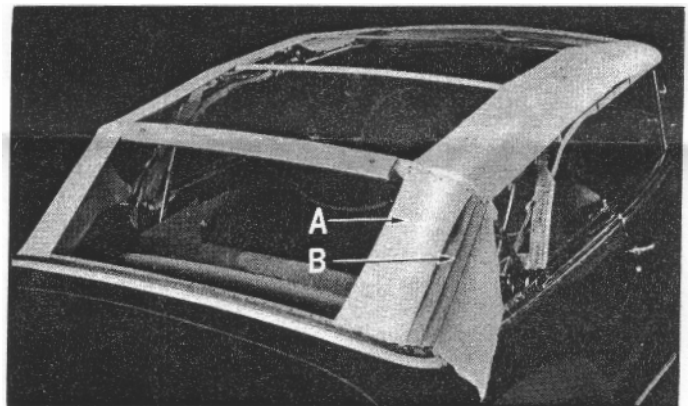


3

Before starting back curtain installation make sure the top frame is locked in position above windshield and that the padding along the side roof rail is smooth and taut.

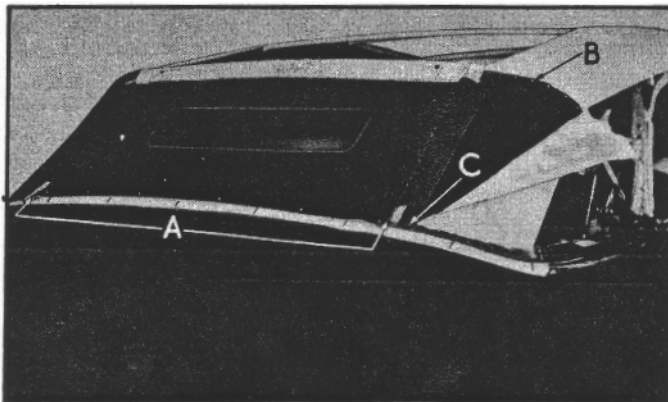
Check to see that the back stay lining "A" and webbing "B" is tight. If the lining or webbing is loose, remove the tacks at the roof and belt, stretch it tight and re-tack using 4 oz. lace tacks as already explained.

4



5

Place back curtain in position and on the inside, at the top, fasten it to the metal valance plate by means of the swivel fasteners as shown at "A" in this illustration.

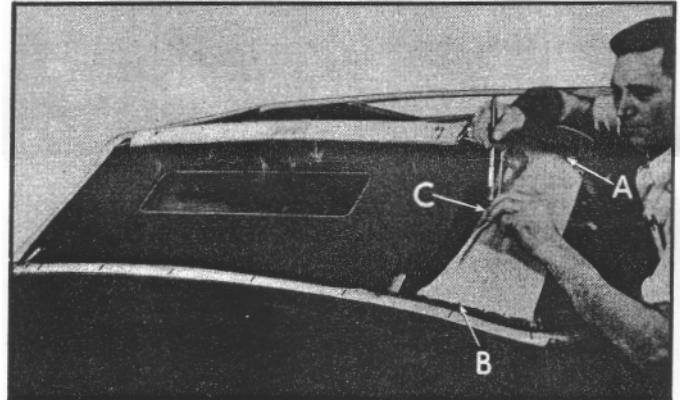


6

On the outside of the car, temporarily stay tack the lower end of the curtain to the rear belt rail, shown along "A". Then, permanently tack each zipper end of curtain along the rear roof bow at "B" and along the rear belt rail at "C". Use 4 and 8 oz. tacks depending of material thickness. Space tacks approximately 3/4" apart. Along tacking area "B" and "C" trim off surplus top material.

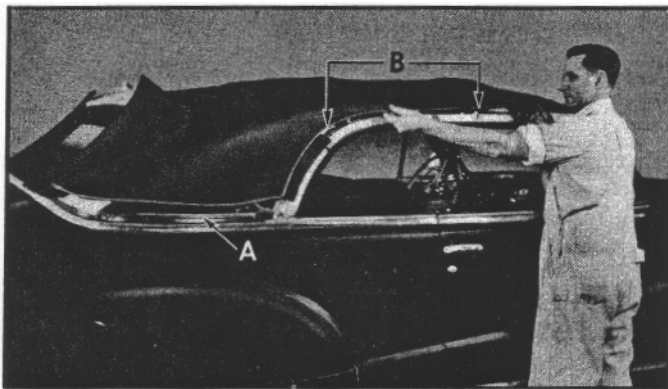
Next, at each end of curtain, fold over the loose back-stay lining material as shown in this illustration and tack it also to the rear roof bow at "A" and rear belt rail at "B". In addition, pull edge of top lining out of position as shown and cement it to zipper end of back curtain along area "C". Use "3-M Trim Cement".

7



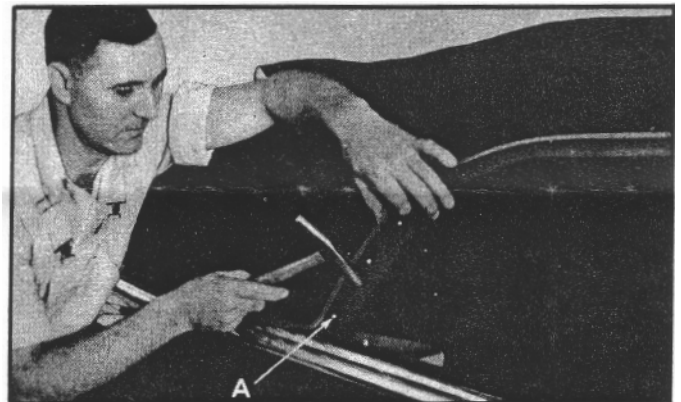
8

After this stage of back curtain installation, place new top covering in position over the top frame assembly as shown and adjust so that it is in the proper position. At the lower rear quarter section, slip the side valance of the top under the chrome trim retainer "A" on each side of the body. Likewise, the binding edge "B" along side edge of the top should be flush with the under surface of the side roof rails.



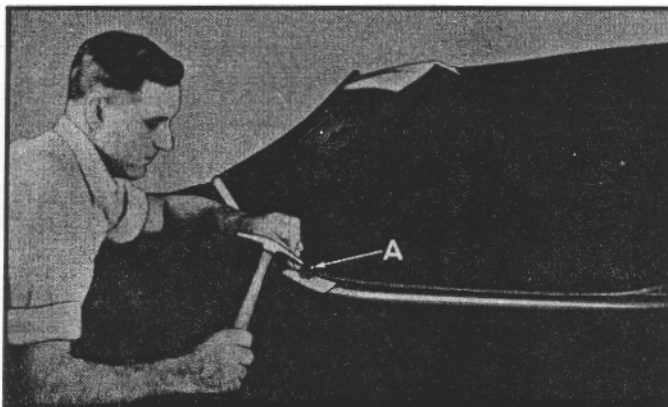
With top covering in proper alignment, next tack temporarily the top covering extension to the curved portion of the side roof rail at the quarter window opening as shown in this illustration at "A".

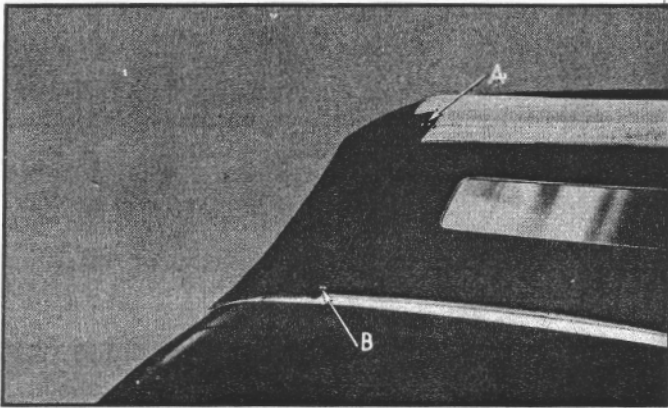
9



10

Next, open the end of the cord welt which extends across the back of the body at the belt rail and lay the binding edge of the top inside this welt and tack with 4 oz. lace tacks as shown at "A". Both sides of body.



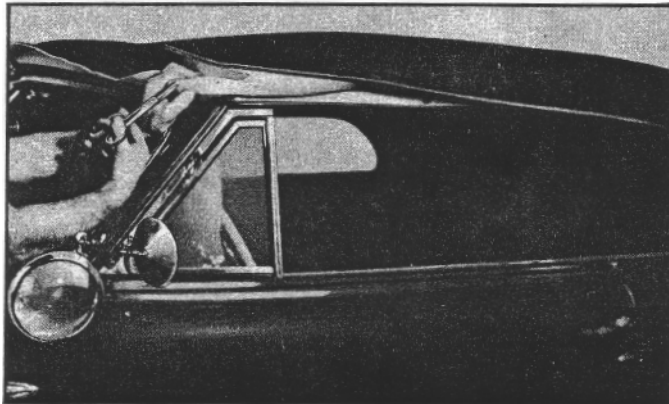
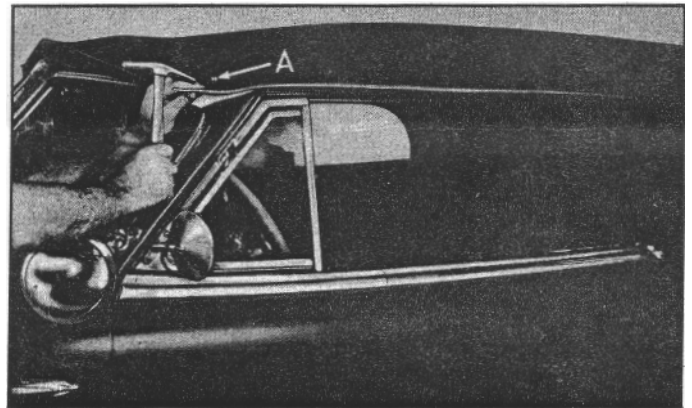


11

At the rear of the body, each side, adjacent to the back curtain, smooth out and temporarily tack the top material to the rear roof bow at "A" and the rear belt rail at "B". Use 4 oz. lace tacks.

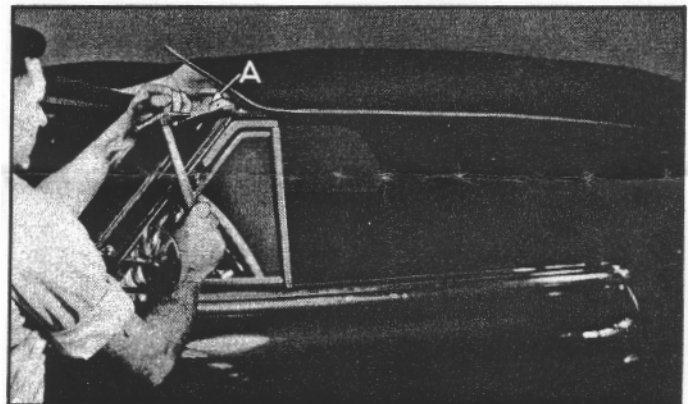
Next, at the front of the body, pull top material forward and at the seams temporarily tack the left and right front corners to the front roof rail. Shown at "A". Use 4 ounce lace tacks. Make sure top covering is in alignment with side roof rail before tacking.

12



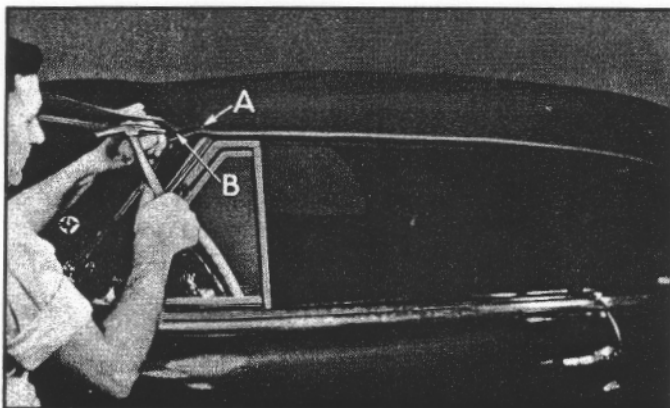
13

At completion of tacking operation, turn up side front corner of top and slit the top deck inner lining re-enforcement as shown in this illustration.



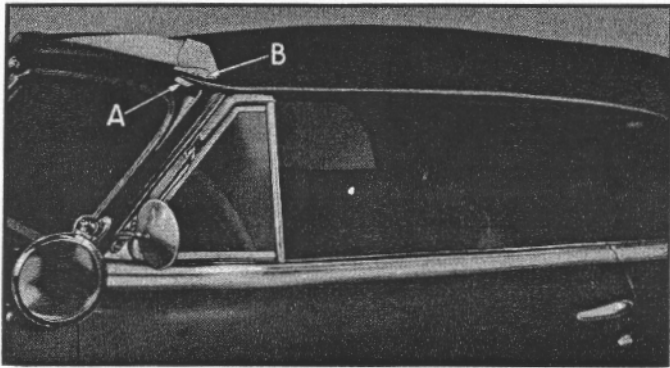
Grasp the cut portion of top deck re-enforcement inner lining firmly, pull taut and tack it to the roof rail front corner along the location as shown at "A". Use 8 oz. lace tacks.

14



15

Turn down the outer cover of top and firmly stretch it around the front roof rail corner and tack it as shown at "A". Next, slit the top material along the binding edge up to the tack as shown at "B".



Temporarily stay tack at intervals the top deck material to the front roof rail prior to sealing operations.

Then, turn up the excess skirt of the top material as shown, and seal the top edge of the cord welt directly underneath. The seal should be applied in a strip approximately 1/2 inch wide clear across the front roof rail. This is important. Use Dolfinite Sealer No. 1480, obtainable from the Dolphin Paint and Varnish Company, Toledo, Ohio.

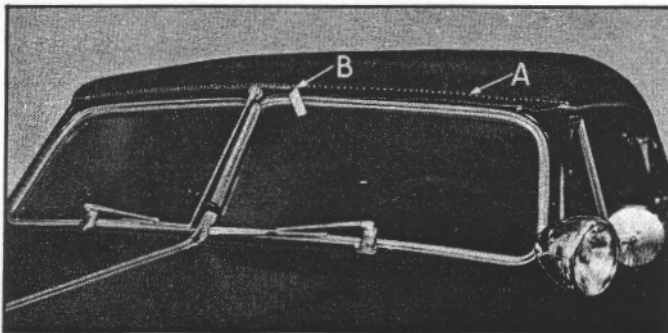
16

Open the end of the front roof rail cord welt shown at "A", then, grasping the cut portion of top material and binding, pull taut and tack to place along "B", using 8 oz. lace tacks. Next, fold the cut tab of the cord welt up over the top binding and tack with 4 oz. lace tacks. This secures the end of the binding.



17

immemaieiy axcec tieaxang, permanently tack the top deck material to the front roof rail and remove the stay tacks. Use 8 oz. lace tacks spaced approximately 3/4 inch apart as shown at "A". NOTE: This sealer dries fast and tacking should be done immediately after application. Trim excess material off top deck as shown at "B". Allow cord section of the welt to be exposed.

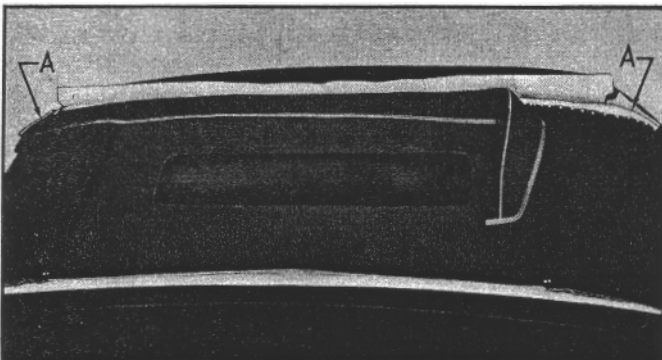
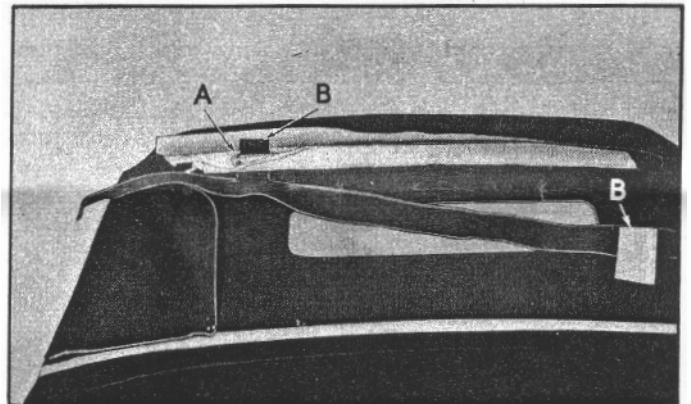


18

Returning to the rear of car, install the rear roof bow trim valance as follows:

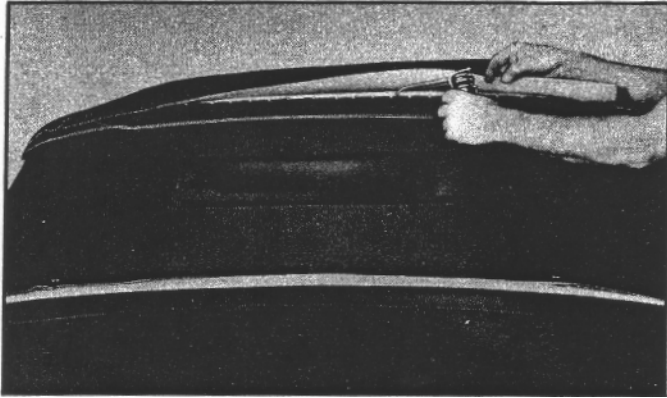
1. Loosen the metal valance plate to roof bow screws "A".
2. Slip the tabs "B" on the valance under the metal valance plate, pull up and tack the tabs to the roof bow with 4 oz. lace tacks.
3. Trim the ends of valance tabs after tacking to roof bow.
4. Tighten the metal valance to roof bow screws "A".

19



20

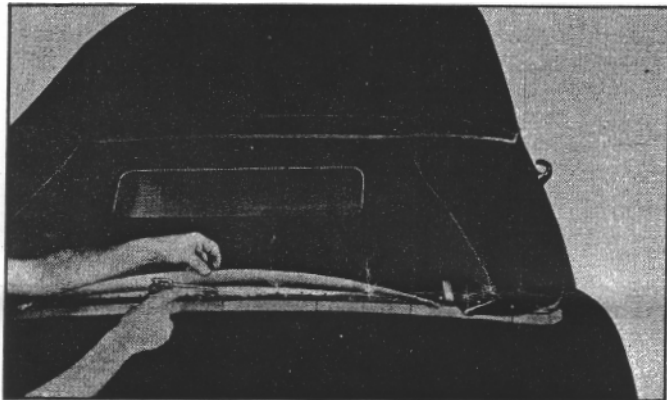
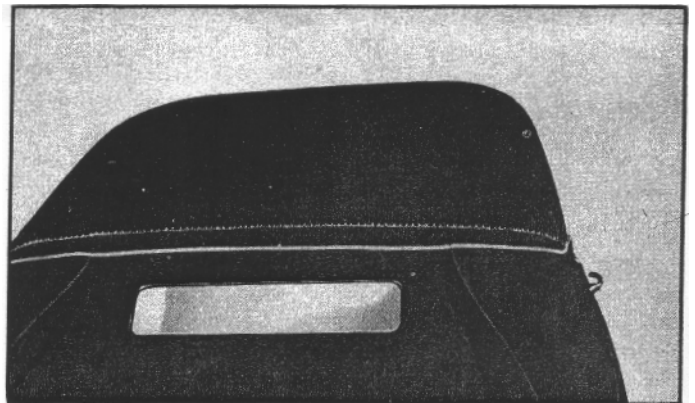
Slip the upper edge of trim valance under the top deck material and tack the right and left corners of the top deck material to the **rear roof bow in areas "A"** with 4 oz. lace tacks.



21 Next, roll back the edge of the top deck material and tack the rear bow valance to the roof bow. Use 4 oz. lace tacks. Then, with a sealing gun apply a ribbon of Dolfinite Sealer No. 1480 along the top edge of the valance as shown.

After sealing, draw top deck material over the valance and tack it down in the groove of the roof bow. Use 4 oz. lace tacks spaced approximately 3/4 inch apart. At the top deck seams, use 8 oz. tacks. At completion of this operation carefully trim off excess material. Note how the corner of top deck and valance are finished off in the illustration.

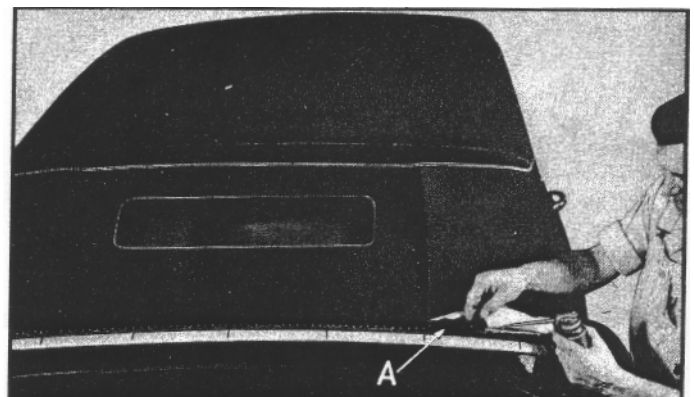
22

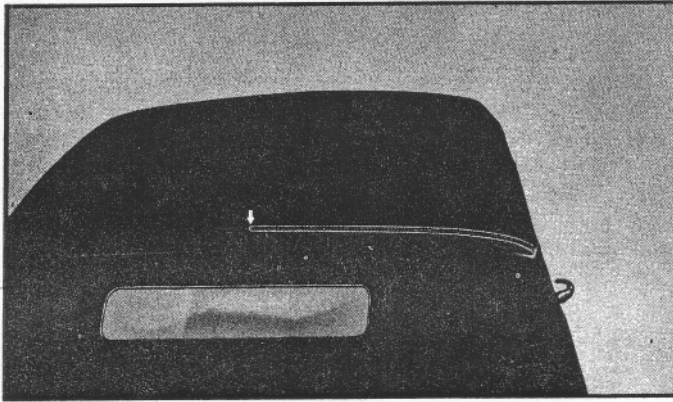


23 At bottom of back curtain; turn up curtain material and tack the inner lining of the curtain to belt rail trim stick using 4 oz. lace tacks. Trim off excess material and with a sealing gun and Dolfinite Sealer apply a ribbon of sealer along the edge of the curtain inner lining as shown.

After sealing the edge of inner lining, pull down the lower skirt of the back curtain and tack it to the belt trim stick. Use 6 oz. tacks spaced 3/4 inch apart. Next, apply a coat of sealer along the cord welt at each lower corner of the quarter deck material adjacent to the back curtain indicated at "A". After sealing firmly; pull down the top material at this point and tack it to place with 8 oz. lace tacks. After this operation, seal the remainder of the rear quarter cord welt, pull down material and tack to place. Trim off surplus material.

24



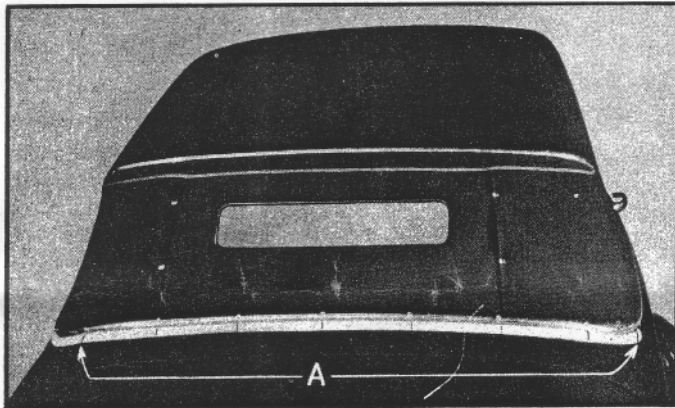
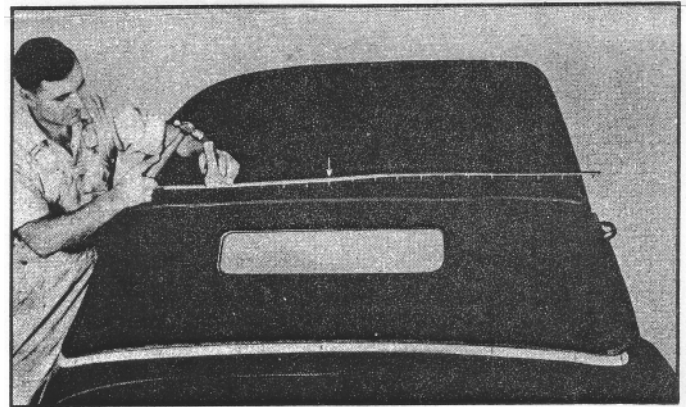


25

Before installing rear moldings, find and mark the exact center of the rear roof bow and rear belt rail. Starting at outer end of tacking area on roof bow, use a piece of cord and stretch it across the tacked area of bow to a comparable point on opposite side. Then cut the cord. To find the center of bow, double the cord and repeat the measurement, marking the center of the bow, as shown in this illustration. This operation can be repeated at the rear belt area and front roof rail.

Cut new molding to length, using the old molding as a pattern. Then measure and mark the center of molding. At each end, with a file, round off the corners and taper the under-surface so that it will lie flush with the top. **IMPORTANT**, apply a coat of Dolfinite Sealer to the lap joint edges of top material before molding installation. Place new molding in position over the sealed area so that the center mark on molding matches the center mark on roof bow or belt rail. Starting at the center and working towards the ends gradually swage down the molding. Use a hard wood block with rounded edges and sufficient width to prevent kinking the molding. The molding must cover all tack heads.

26

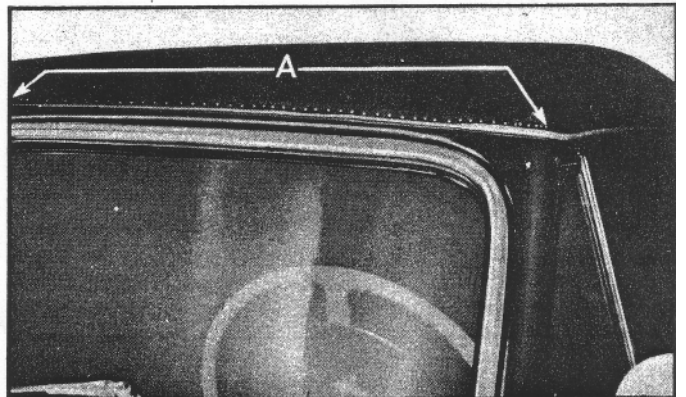


27

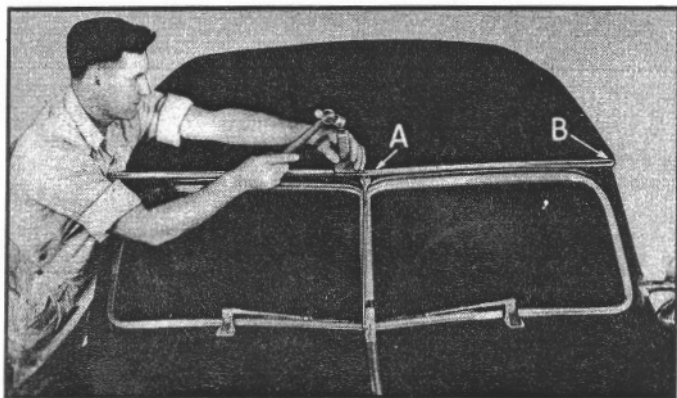
The lead filled trim molding at the rear belt area is sealed and applied in the same manner. In addition, fasteners are installed through this molding for top boot installation as follows: At the reference marks on the masking tape across the rear belt, shown at "A" and described in the removal operation, prick-punch each fastener location. Then at each location drill 5/32" diameter holes through the molding and install the fastener studs. On the back curtain as shown in this illustration, install and rivet to place the back curtain retaining clips. Obtain location measurements for these clips from the old curtain.

Along the front roof rail area of the top, apply a coat of Dolfinite Sealer to the edges of the top material as shown along area "A" in this illustration. This is very important. Sealer must be applied evenly so that it will be completely covered when front molding is installed. All tack heads must also be completely covered by molding.

28







29

After cutting to length, rounding the ends and finding the exact center of the front molding and likewise the front roof rail, as described under rear top molding installation, start the installation of the front molding at the center "A" and work towards each end. Using a prepared hard wood block or swage as shown, carefully and gradually swage down the molding to prevent kinking. Upon completion, at each end shown at "B" drill and countersink a 5/32" hole through molding and secure with a cross-recess head self tapping metal screw.

To complete installation of the top, permanently tack to place the side quarter tacking strip to the curved portion of the roof rail at the rear quarter window opening as shown in this illustration and trim off surplus material. Then, at this location, re-install the side roof rail weatherstrip retainer and weatherstrip. In addition, at point "A", install the side quarter retainer plate and also the slide fasteners to the valance of the top along side roof rail at "B".

30

