

BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Motor Vehicles and
Construction Apparatus

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WIRE FEEDING TUBE

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1. GENERAL

1.01 The wire feeding tube is for use in conjunction with the standard collapsible power driven reel used on winch equipped construction trucks. It is used when removing line wire and its purpose is to provide a safe means for guiding the wire onto the reel.

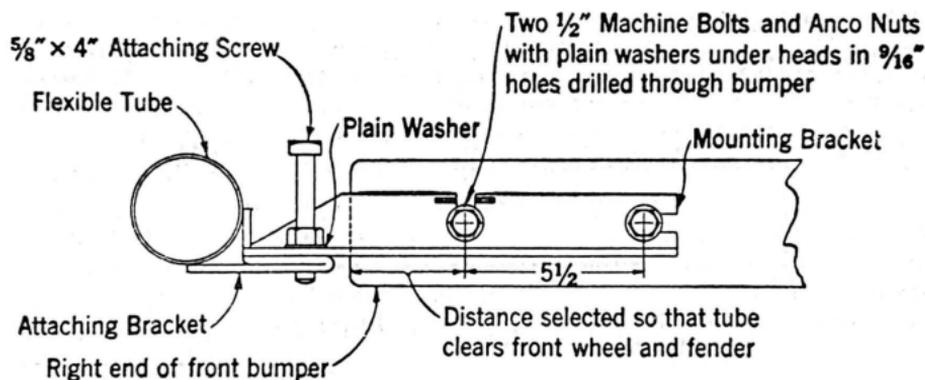
1.02 When removing line wire, especially if it is to be junked, it is customary to pull the wires with the collapsible power reel, either over the crossarms on the poles or along the ground, and simultaneously wind them onto the reel in coils of a suitable size for handling. The wires are, of course, previously disconnected from the insulators and, if they are to be pulled along the ground, they are dropped from the poles. Usually several wires are taken up simultaneously, the number depending upon the conditions prevailing and the number of wires to be removed.

1.03 The wire feeding tube permits the reel attendant to guide the running wires onto the collapsible reel without coming into physical contact with them. It has the additional feature of gathering the wires as they approach the reel. In most cases this obviates the need for removing the tie wires and enables winding up the wires and ties simultaneously. Since the wires pass to the reel through a tube there are no protruding ties to injure the workman or to scratch the truck body as they approach the reel.

2. INSTALLATION

2.01 The wire feeding tube can be attached to either the front or the rear of the truck. The point of attachment will depend upon whether the wires to be taken down will be wound onto the reel from the front or the rear. Whenever practicable the wire should be wound from in front since, in that case, the driver in the cab who controls the operation of the reel can more easily keep his eyes on the workmen along the line for any signals and at the same time have a better view of the behavior of the wires as they are being taken up.

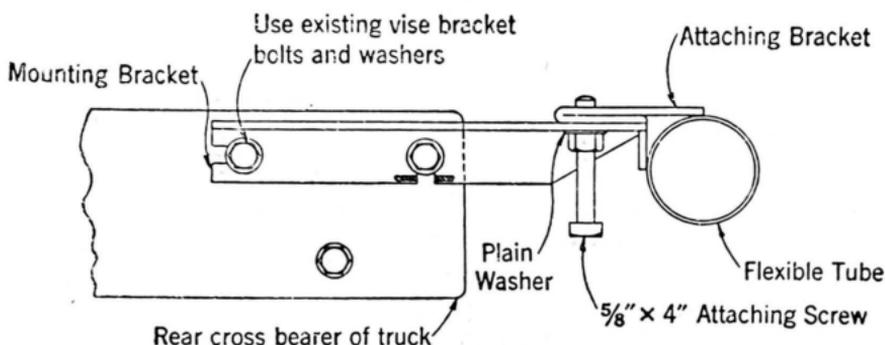
2.02 The feeding tube is attached to the front of a truck by first bolting its mounting bracket to the right-hand end of the front bumper as shown below.



ATTACHED TO FRONT OF TRUCK

When making the installation for the first time it will be necessary to first drill two $\frac{9}{16}$ -inch holes in the bumper. After the mounting bracket is secured in place on the bumper the funnel end of the flexible tube is attached to it by means of a special $\frac{5}{8}$ -inch by 4-inch attaching screw furnished with the wire feeding tube. It should be noted that the attaching bracket on the funnel end of the flexible tube is placed on the underside of the mounting bracket on the bumper and in such a manner that it fits into the notch at the end of the mounting bracket. The special attaching screw which has a nut permanently fastened to it is passed through the mounting bracket and screwed into the threaded hole in the attaching bracket. The screw is made long enough to facilitate applying a wrench to its head end.

2.03 The feeding tube is attached to the rear of the truck by first attaching the mounting bracket to the vise bracket on the truck using the two existing mounting bolts and washers. After the mounting bracket is secured in place the funnel end of the flexible tube is attached to it by means of the special 5/8-inch by 4-inch attaching screw furnished, as shown below.



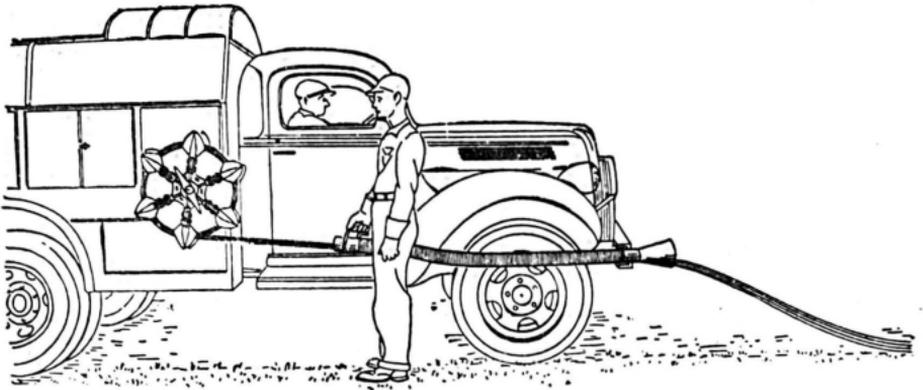
ATTACHED TO REAR OF TRUCK

It should be noted that the attaching bracket at the funnel end of the tube is placed on top of the mounting bracket so that it fits into the notch at the end of the mounting bracket.

3. OPERATION

3.01 When the wires are ready to be taken up by the reel, they are threaded through the tube and passed to the underside of the reel if the pull is made from the front and to the top of the reel if the pull is made from the rear. The ends are secured by taking a few wraps around the reel.

3.02 When the ends are thus secured, power is applied to the reel and the man attending the reel guides the wires onto it by means of the feeding tube as shown in the following figure.



4. PRECAUTIONS

- 4.01 See that all who are engaged in the job are familiar with the system of signals to be used in connection with any operations that might be necessary.
- 4.02 See that the truck hand brake is applied in order to prevent inadvertent movement of the truck during any part of the operation.
- 4.03 Before starting the power reel be sure that it is fully engaged with the driving pin on the winch shaft.
- 4.04 Keep hands off any moving wires. At all times stand sufficiently clear of them in order to avoid unintentional contact.
- 4.05 Keep hands off the moving reel. At all times stand sufficiently clear in order to avoid unintentional contact with it.