

IF YOU OWN A FAIRMONT MT SERIES CAR, READ THIS

Tom Norman submitted the following item for publication in *THE SETOFF*. It describes a procedure for checking the center bearing on MT series Fairmont motorcars. These bearings have been known to cause the rear axles to break.

This procedure was published by Fairmont as Service Data No. 411, entitled "Drive Axle, Center Bearing and Bearing Support Maintenance Check for MT-19 Series A and B Motor Car."

"The drive axle, center bearing and bearing support should be checked for wear at least once a month or every 200 operating hours, whichever occurs first. Follow the procedure outlined in this Service Data Sheet to perform the maintenance check.

"Maintenance Check Procedure:

"CAUTION: Apply the parking/service brake to perform maintenance check. Failure to comply could result in personal injury and/or property damage.

"1. Apply the parking/service brake.

"2. Remove the housing seat assembly (133463) to expose the drive axle, center bearing and bearing support.

"3. Start the engine. Set the engine speed at approximately half throttle.

"WARNING. Make sure all persons are clear of the motor car before performing any operating functions. Failure to comply could result in severe personal injury.

"4. Depress the clutch pedal

"5. Place the forward/reverse shift lever in the forward position.

"6. Place the high/low shift lever in the low position.

"7. Let the clutch pedal out SLOWLY, until the drive chain tightens without stalling the engine.

"8. Note the drive axle deflection when the drive chain tightens. The drive axle may deflect, but it should be less than 1/8 inch (3.2mm) at the center bearing support position.

"9. If the drive axle deflects less than 1/8 inch (3.2mm) at the center bearing, the center bearing and bearing support components do not have to be replaced. Replace the housing seat assembly (133463).

"If the drive axle deflects more than 1/8 inch (3.2mm) at the center bearing, the center bearing assembly (M34727A), bearing support assembly (46502) and/or the drive axle (Series A 98356N or Series B 127962N) must be replaced. Replace all worn components before using the motor car. See your Operator's and Parts Manual supplied with the motor car, or contact Fairmont Railway Motors for the parts needed.

"A Service Group (138583) is available for field application, providing less maintenance and longer life of the center bearing, bearing support and axle. Contact Fairmont Railway Motors for details of the Service Group. Fairmont recommends that this service group be applied to all MT-19 series A and B motorcars."