

The Holley NH

Not everyone will agree on which carburetor is the best choice for your model T. While many get good service out of the Holley G and the NH, others advocate certain aftermarket carbs such as the Simmons and Wizzard. There are even some who swear by the Kingston L2 and L4 (commonly referred to as wheel chocks).

All kidding aside, they are all good but they have to be reasonably clean and not wore slap out to work well.

All carbs regardless of any prejudice towards one or the other can and often do suffer the same issues and are commonly found on the T. That is a leaking float valve, damaged needle valve, worn throttle shaft, broken choke spring and plugged passages (or stuck flapper). It is no wonder that many cars idle like crap.

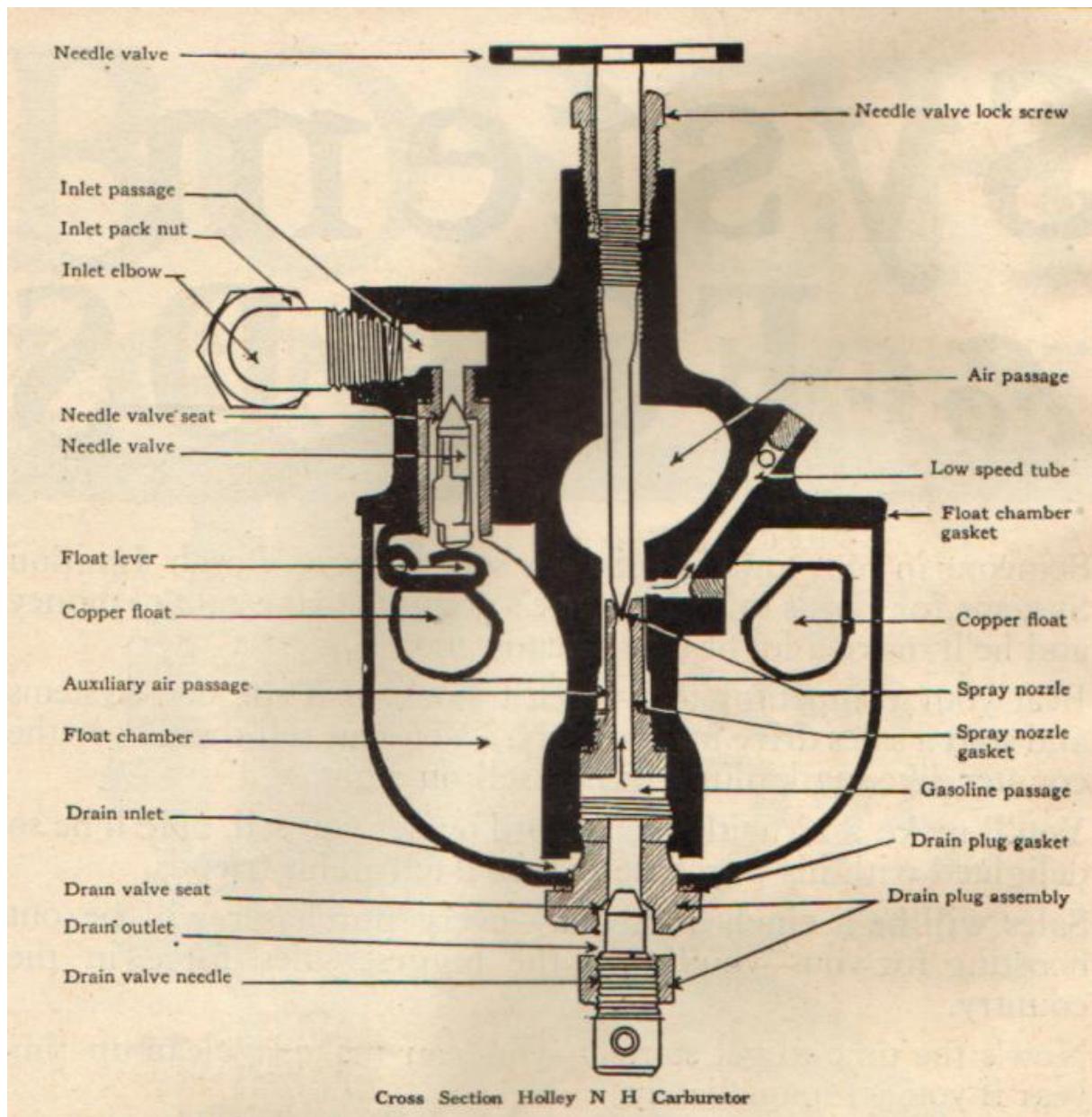
The biggest hurdle to taking a carb apart is overcoming the tendency to put a screw driver to the seat or spray nozzle and attempt to remove it. Stand back, grab the oxygen assisted socket set and heat them first! Heat both areas red hot and leave it set to cool on its own. They will sometimes turn out without assistance of tools after heating. What happens is, when heated the brass parts are prevented from expanding by the cast iron. When cooling takes place because the rate of expansion and contraction being different between cast iron and brass, the brass part shrinks and pulls away from the cast. If you attempt this without first heating you will likely be drilling it out.

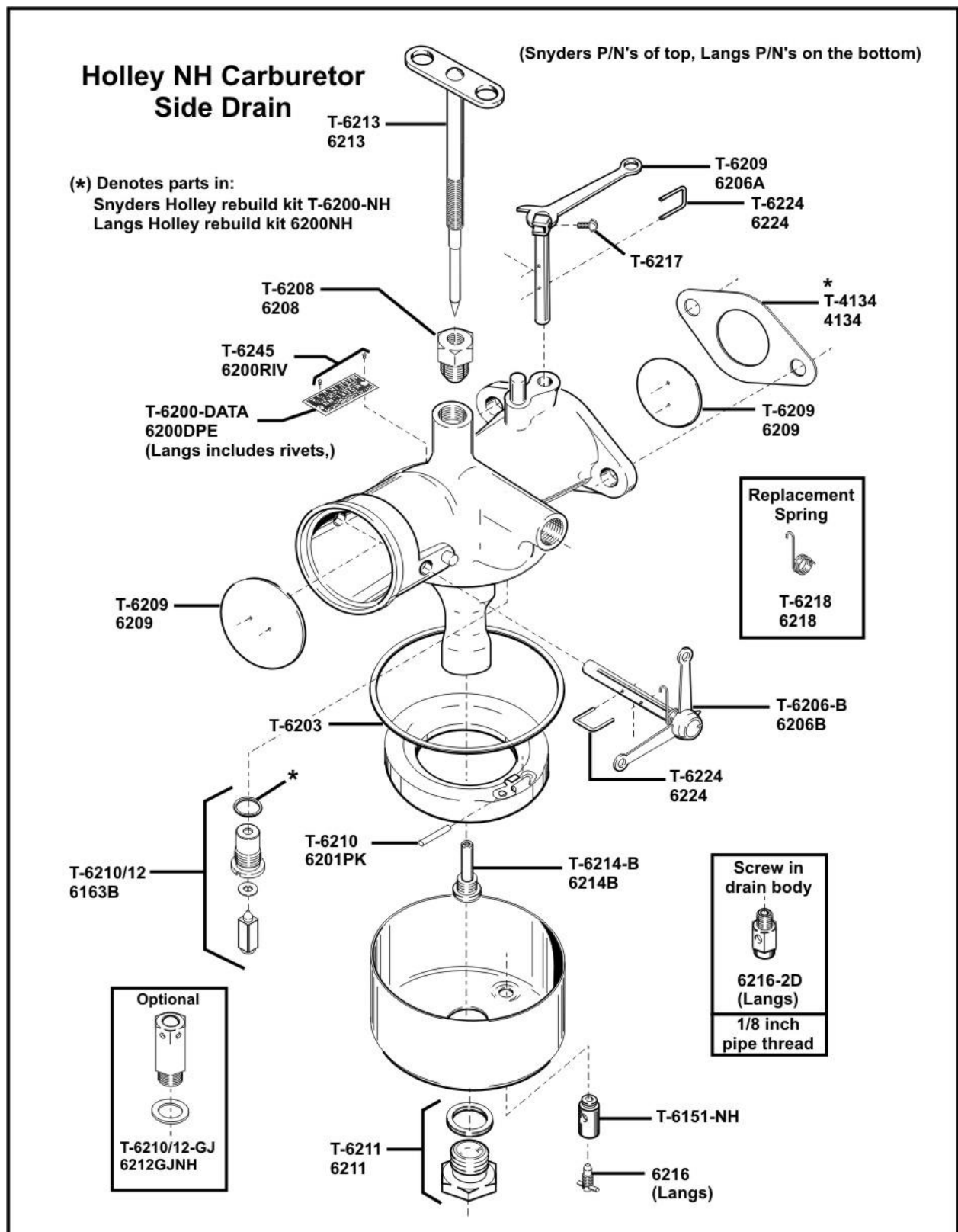
Everything else is straight forward and rather simple. There are three areas that will cause poor idle performance. The idle passages become clogged with rust or gum up with the famous waxy substance that remains from our favorite fuel ethanol.

There are three small brass plugs to drill out to clean these passages. Once clean, I tap them with 8-32 tap and install set screws in place of the brass plugs. That way in another 90 years the next guy will have an easy time of it.



Carb shown with plugs removed and wire inserted to clean out passages.





Put it all back together and voila! Your car will now idle smoothly and not stumble when taking off.