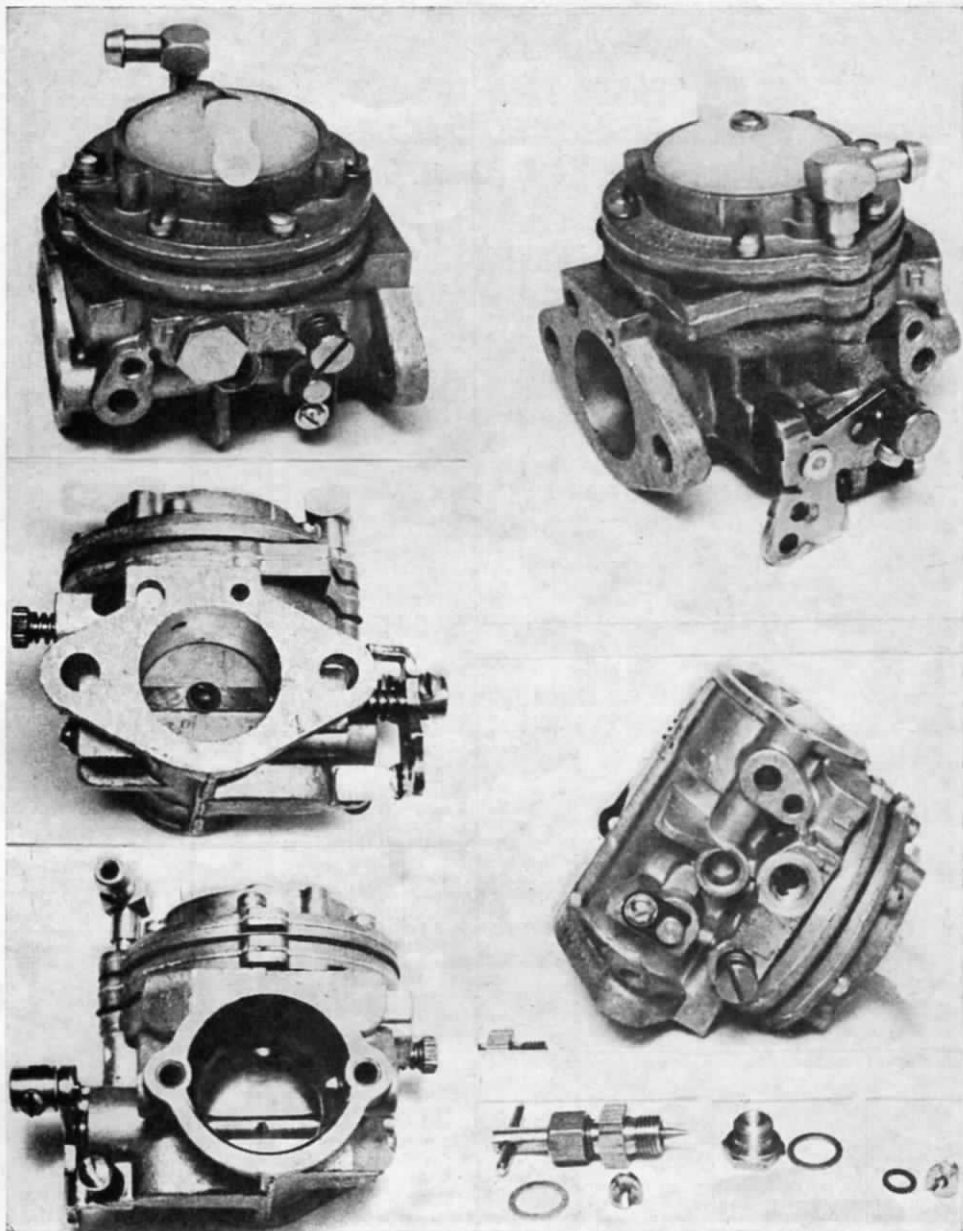


NEW CARB

At last we have our hands on the mystery Tillotson HL310A carburettor through the most helpful services of Tony Billing, principal of Rowena Light Engines Ltd. This unit has aroused such interest because it was listed by IAME as standard wear on their Formula Europe motors as a means of complying with the fixed jet rule. This regulation came about at the instigation of Robert Benoit, the CIK delegate for Belgium. It was his opinion that the many crashes at the 1975 World Championships on the Paul Ricard circuit in France were due to the incessant fiddling by drivers during races with the Tillotson adjustment needles, to try and beat the opposition until they leaned too far and seized. An added advantage would be that less drivers would lose their fingers in the chain but nobody bothered to find out that Dell Orto had discontinued their 24mm unit. Fortunately Grana discovered the HL310A.

It is built on the same body as the HL227A and 304 i.e. it has a 1 1/2 in venturi, 1.3/32 in airhorn and the choke shaft holes are not drilled although the casting lumps are present. The throttle and control diaphragm are as usual but the compound pump diaphragm is as the DG3HL. The L needle is retained but instead of the H needle there is a brass hexagon plug into the body which covers a jet, not calibrated by its flow but by the hole diameter. Thus apparently identical jets could have different flow characteristics. From the pump cover there is an elbow which presumably could supply a return pipe back to the tank equipped with a tap that would enrich the mixture when closed — just as we once had with float pattern carburettors. Although it should not cost much more than a conventional Tillotson the jets, which appear to be available in 0.036 in, 0.04 in, 0.042 in and 0.056 in sizes, may well sell for around £2 each! Rowena offer a conversion kit RK70HL which can be used instead of the Formula Europe system of fixed jets and capping plug to restore adjustability "on-the-move" at £2.69.



Bottom right illustration. From left to right:
1. RK70HL conversion needle, jet and washer
2. Brass plug and washer; 3. Sample inter-changeable jet.

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