## ARISTO-CRAFT "EGGLINER" LOCOMOTIVE Coupler Conversion

"G" Scale #787 or #836 and #1 Scale #1787 or #1836 No draft gear box is used, coupler only on both ends.

Invert the locomotive and place it on a padded surface to avoid scratching.

Remove the original couplers and retain the cover plate (lid) and screws. Make a small shim .065" thick .090" high and .310" long, to fit in the back of the "U" shaped box to act as a spring stop. It is best, but maybe not necessary, to make a sleeve (bushing) to fit over the post, this will relieve any "slop" or looseness in the coupler. Use .190" OD styrene tube stock and carefully drill it deep enough for two pieces .170" long, use at least a .159" drill. Slip the coupler over the tube while you drill, this will keep the tube from warping. Place the shim in the back of the box and the sleeve on the post and slide it down to the bottom.

Fit the coupler onto the post and check the coupler height on both ends of the loco (put the lid on if needed). If the coupler is too low you will then need to file enough off the "top" of the shank to achieve the correct coupler height. Be sure to keep the file as level as possible.

Drill a hole in the center of the end of the shank for an 0-48 or 0-80 x 3/16" screw (use a #55 drill). Be careful to keep the drill as perpendicular as possible so the screw will be on center with the coupler. Place 3 washers on the screw and carefully thread it into the hole but make sure that the tip does not protrude into the hole of the coupler.

Use a "G" scale knuckle spring and carefully slip the head of the screw between the coils at the halfway point, the washers should be against the coupler. There is one extra spring in the G scale coupler packages or they are sold separately as product #860 at \$2.95 per dozen.

Fit the coupler onto the post and the spring into the box. If the coupler does not line up to center remove it and "screw" the spring on the screw head one way or the other to move the coupler to center. Flip the coupler back and forth to check the centering action, make sure it snaps freely back to center, adjust the spring again if necessary. If you did not have to file the shank down to .170" thick you'll need to place washers on the screw holes to raise the lid so it will not bind the coupler. Check the coupler for freedom of movement and correct coupler height.

