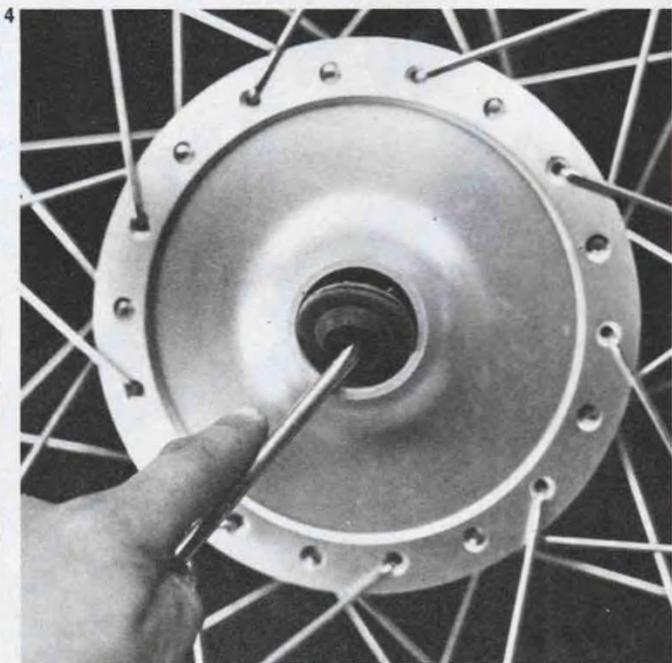
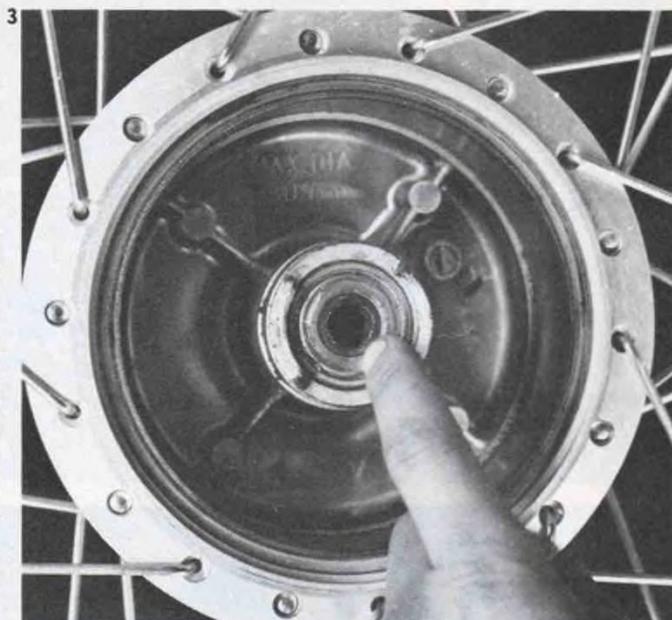


BRAKE TUNE-UP

When's the last time you took a good look at your brakes? Haven't they started to fade a little by now? There is a simple cure. The following article will cover all the areas of your brakes and give you a few pointers on rebuilding and saving money. After all, it's better to use 'em than loose 'em. ●



1 Remove the backing plate from the hub of your motorcycle and observe closely for bad signs such as grease on the shoes, bad or broken springs, dirty stuck cam activator, etc.

2 Check the brake line for deep scores in the surface. If any such grooves appear, the drum should be resurfaced. Most machine shops could handle this chore.

3 While your wheel is apart, it's a good idea to check your bearings for excessive wear. While you're at it . . .

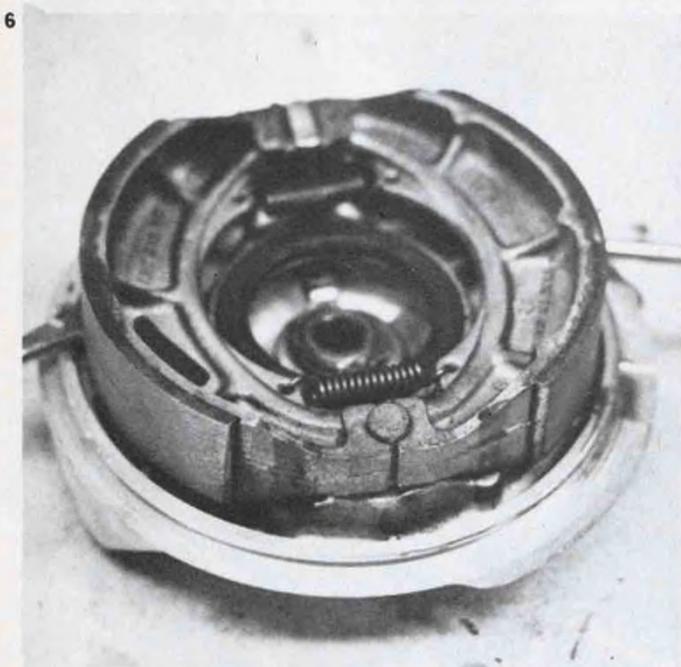
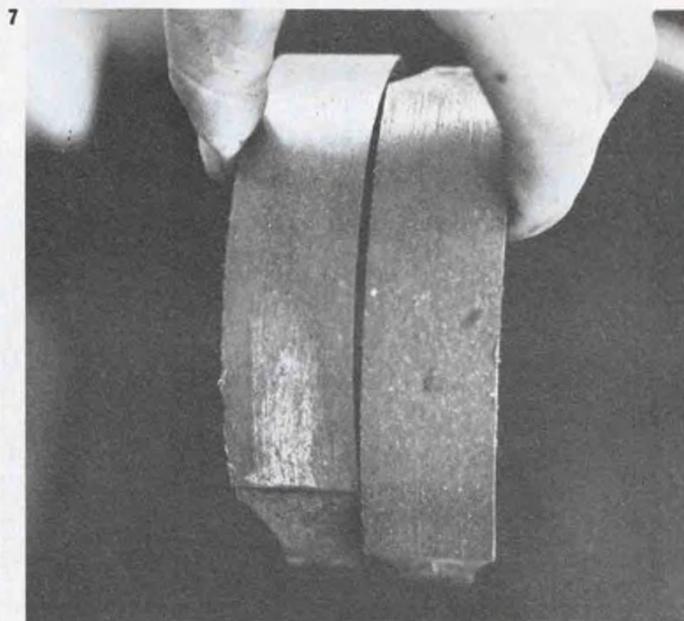
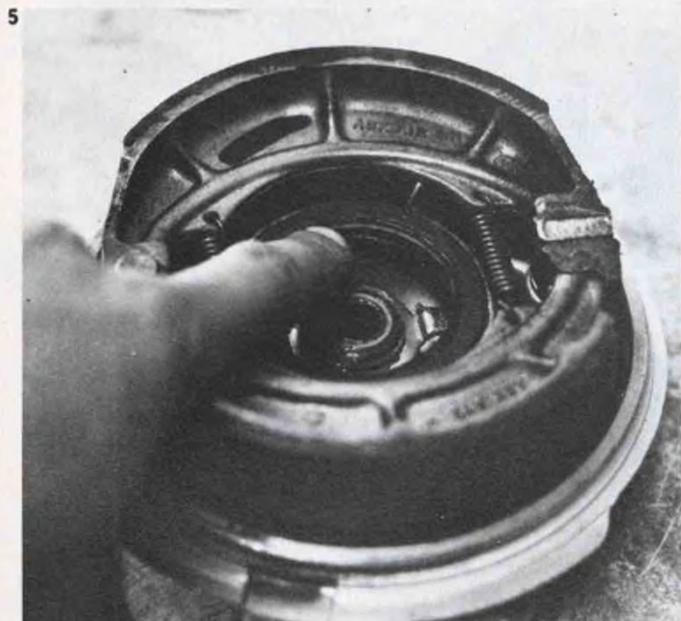
4 . . . pop off the seal and check the other side of the hub.

5 Look closely at the seal in the backing plate to make sure it's o.k. This seal is very important in keeping oil and grease out of the shoes.

6 Brake shoes come off real easy if you pry up both sides at the same time. They will pop right off.

The faster you
can stop, the faster
you can go.

By Chris Hatounian



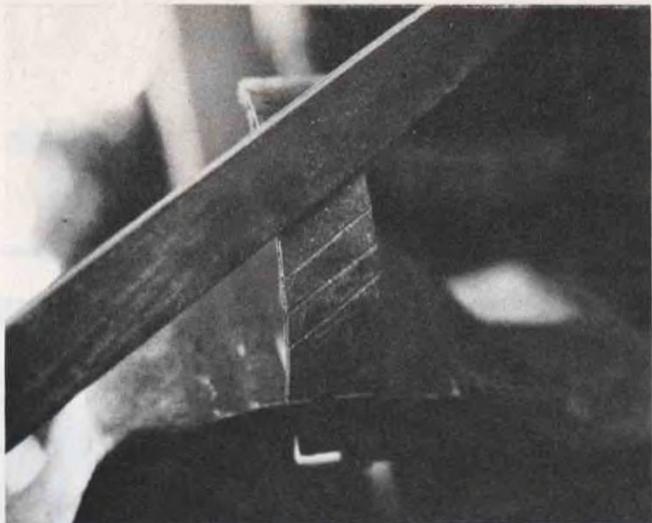
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If you look closely, you can see that the brake shoes were not making full contact with the drum.

8

A simple cure is to take a fine metal file to the high spots on the shoes and carefully smooth out the surface. Full contact makes a big difference in stopping power.

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If you ride where there's a lot of water, take the edge of your file and cut grooves into the shoes to allow for faster water drainage, and sooner stopping power.

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Before reassembly, give the brake lining a light sanding to roughen up the surface.

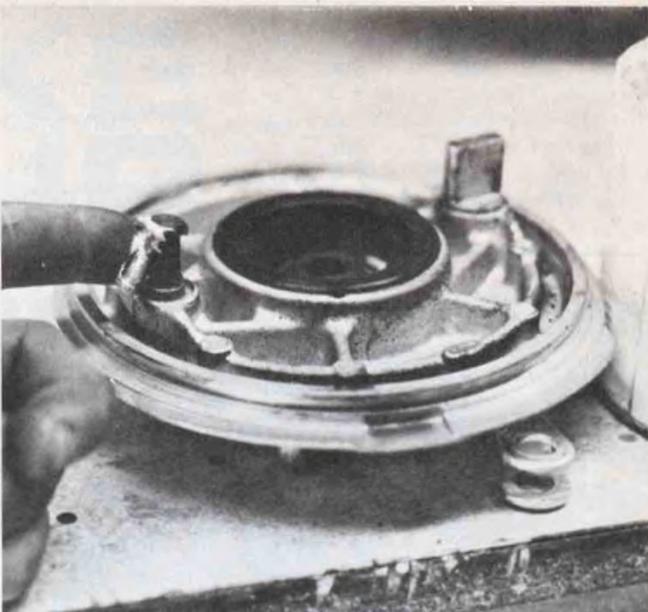
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Before any assembly takes place, blow all the dirt and shavings out of the parts for protection.

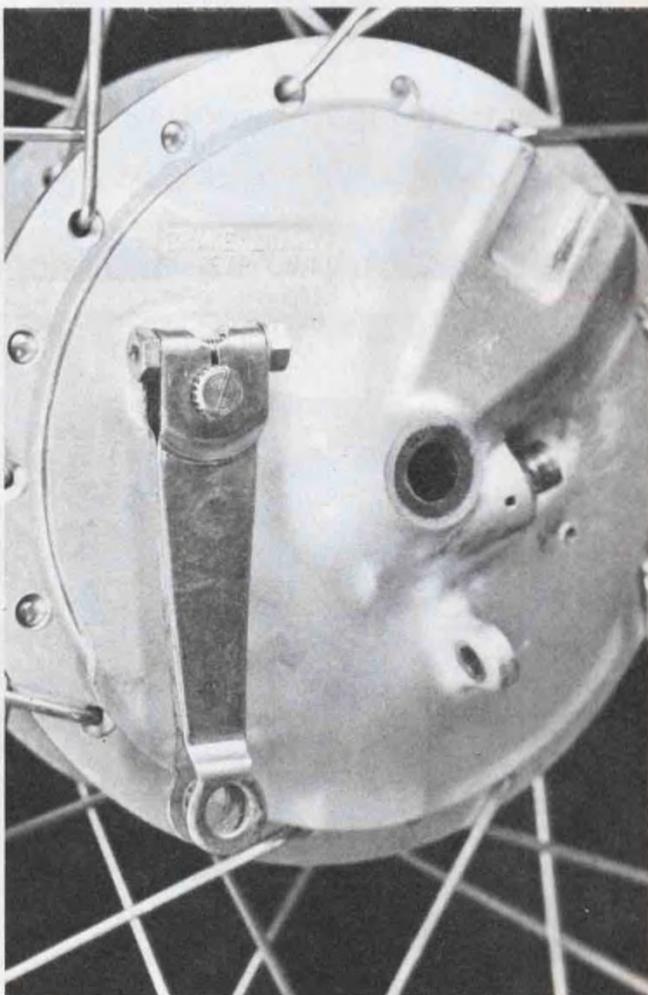
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It's a good idea to take the cam assembly apart to clean and regrease for smoother working.

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Slip the backing plate back on and slip the wheel back into the forks. You should find much improved braking now.