Fitting of the Girling brake expander.

The brake expander is held in place with a pair of brass nuts under which are fitted Thackeray (double coil) spring washers. When first assembled to the brake back plate the nuts should be fully tightened, so as to compress the Thackeray washer. They must then be un-done by a full turn, before being locked with a split pin. This will allow the brake expander to move under pressure on the back plate to give an element of self-centring as the brake shoes wear.

Before assembly the face of the brake expander that contacts the brake back plate should be given a light smear of grease. Also make sure that the contacting faces are clean and free of any damage or burrs that might restrict movement.