



Fig. 66—Wheel Spindle and Support Cross Section

## Packing Rear Wheel Bearings: 1965-1969

1. Remove brake shoes and outer U-joint so you can feel the bearings as you rotate the hub by hand.
2. Drill and tap a hole for a grease fitting,  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch out from the backing plate. Drill a  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch pilot hole, and then use a #3 bit. Tap for  $\frac{1}{4}$  - 28, which is the standard grease fitting thread. Other sizes could be used. Coat the tap with grease to catch chips.
3. Use a high quality wheel bearing grease in a gun to pack the bearings as you check the turning of the bearings by hand after about 20 pumps (if this is the first packing). The fitting is installed between the two bearings and the new grease forces the old grease to the outside of the bearing against the seal. As you reach the proper amount of grease, the rotating of the hub will suddenly be quieter and show resistance to turning. At this point, remove the fitting and let any trapped air out. Reinstall the fitting and use two or three more pumps to complete packing.
4. Do not over pack, as you can pop the outer seal out of the hub (replace it with two prybars). Also, too much grease can find its way on to your brake shoes. If you suspect this, drive at highway speed for a few minutes, remove the fitting to check for excess pressure, and clean brakes if necessary with brake cleaner.
5. You can repack the bearings again after 20,000 miles by following #1 above but only using a few pumps of grease.