
Letters to the Editor

Lubricating Oils and Metals.

To the Editor of The New York Times:

Referring to Mr. Garland's claim for prior discovery of the fact that fluid oil penetrates metal that it lubricates, I would say that I discovered and announced that fact in the late seventies—more than sixty years ago.

I was the first to test cylinder oils in engine cylinders, instead of by the Thurston method, on journals. In taking friction cards of samples of cylinder oil for the Standard Oil Company I found that after running the engine twenty-four hours on each kind of oil it was necessary to use hot caustic soda solution, very thoroughly with many washings, before the oil was removed. My last test of cylinder lubricants under these conditions was of an oil containing graphite, and this put me out of the oil testing business, as the graphite got into the pores of the metal and soda was useless as a method of removal. It would have been necessary to rebore the cylinder.

ROBERT GRIMSHAW.

Brooklyn, July 16, 1932.