

sure that he knows his business well enough to answer any questions that may be put to him.

Mr. Bly,—

I would like to ask Mr. Wilkinson which he has found best in practice, metal seat or vulcanized rubber seat to give best service under ordinary steam conditions.

Mr. Wilkinson,—

That is a point I do not like to go into very much for various reasons.

I tried to make it clear in my paper that the harder the metal seats are the longer they will wear, it therefore goes with out saying that it is impossible to get rubber composition discs that are very hard, especially if you subject them to high temperatures. Any rubber will vulcanize at 300 degrees heat which is slightly over 100 pounds pressure.

I should like to ask you a question Mr. Bly. Why should you use a vulcanized rubber seat?

Mr. Bly,—

They seem to be cheaper and more easily renewed.

My object has been, in plants I have been connected with, to get every valve as near uniform construction as possible, that is the same make, so that you have not got to get half a dozen different kinds of valve discs.

When I went to where I am at present I found about \$50.00 of valve discs that ascended all the way from 1-4 in. Fairbanks to 6 in. Jenkins, so that you can see what an immense amount of various kinds of stock it would be necessary to carry. There is a large quantity of this material on the shelves yet and it seems to me very ridiculous to have four or five different kinds of valves in one plant.

I might say that I have been renewing valve seats of vulcanized rubber and putting in metal discs already made or had them made specially. I found for the first year or two that the rubber valve seats stood pretty well but as they gave out I endeavoured to replace them with metal discs.

Mr. Stainton,—

I have found composition discs very satisfactory. I have found that they stand expansion much better. The trouble with the metal discs I have found is that they spring the bridge out.