

AIR BOARD  
TECHNICAL NOTES.

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120 H.P. BEARDMORE.

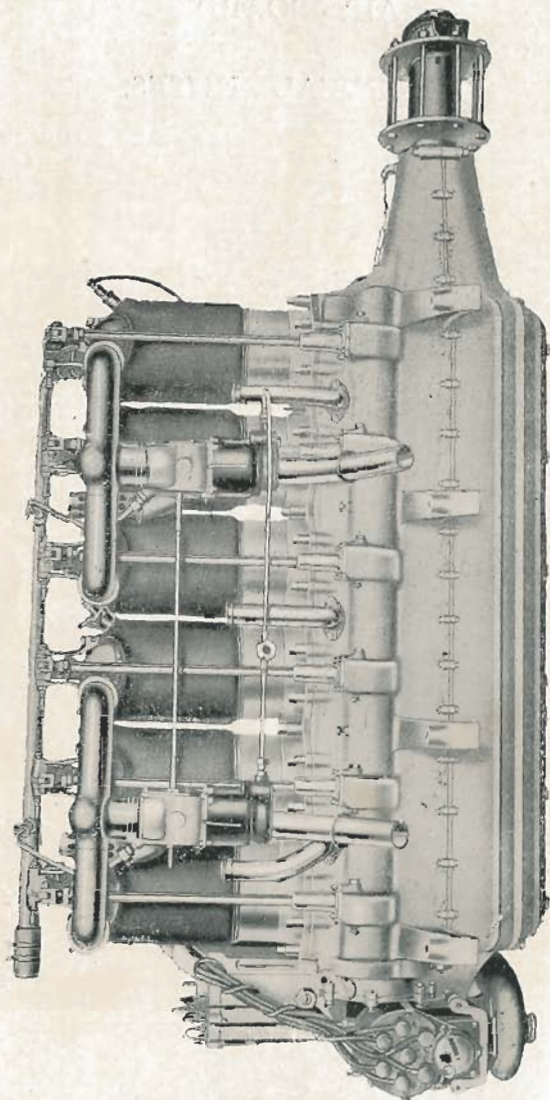


FIG. 1.

**120 H.P. BEARDMORE.**

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION.** This engine is of the stationary water cooled vertical type with 6 cylinders, 130 m.m. by 175 m.m., rated at 120 H.P. but capable of developing some 130 H.P. at 1,200 R.P.M. It is fitted with a double thrust ball bearing which enables it to be used either as a pusher or as a tractor. Its chief points of difference from other stationary engines are:—

- (1) The cylinders are off-set.
- (2) The inlet and exhaust valves in each cylinder are operated by 1 tappet rod.
- (3) The propeller is direct driven.

The direction of rotation is anti-clockwise as seen from the propeller end of the engine. The angle through which the crankshaft turns between any 2 consecutive explosions is 120°.

Approximate oil consumption =  $3\frac{1}{2}$  pints per hour.

„ petrol „ =  $9\frac{1}{2}$  gallons „

„ weight of engine (including radiator and cooling water) = 630 lbs. or 5.25 tons per rated H.P.

**CRANKSHAFT.** The crankshaft is made of chrome nickel steel.\* It is hollow and has 6 throws arranged in pairs at 120° spacing from the propeller end, cranks 1 and 6 form one pair, 2 and 5 a second pair, and 3 and 4 a third pair. Viewed from the propeller end, cranks 1 and 6 are downwards to the left, when cranks 2 and 5 are vertical, and cranks 3 and 4 are downwards to the right. The crankshaft runs on 7 white metal bearings, 1 at either side of each crankthrow, and 1 radial bearing in the thrust box at the propeller end of the shaft. At the end of the crankshaft, opposite to the propeller end, are 3 gear wheels:—

- (1) A spurwheel with 24 teeth for driving the camshaft,
- (2) A large bevel wheel for driving the oil and water pumps, and
- (3) A small bevel wheel for driving the magnetos.

**CAMSHAFT.** The camshaft runs in 4 phosphor bronze bushes at the side of the crankcase, and is driven from the crankshaft at half the engine speed. The drive is through an intermediate or idle wheel, so that the camshaft rotates in the same direction as the crankshaft. The 6 inlet and 6 exhaust

\* Superseded by Beardmore special steel.

cams are arranged in pairs, each pair operating the valve of 1 cylinder through the medium of 1 bellcrank lever and 1 tappet rod.

**CRANKCASE.** The crankcase is of aluminium alloy and is divided horizontally along the line of the crankshaft. The bottom of the lower half, which forms the oil sump, is divided into 6 chambers, each of which is fitted with a drain plug for the removal of oil. At the propeller end is the lower half of the thrust box and 1 end white metal bearing. At the other end is the lower half of the gear wheel housing and the other end white metal bearing together with 2 magneto plates. Cooling fins, which also act as strengthening ribs, are cast on the outside of the sump. The top half of the crankcase is divided into 6 circular openings for the 6 cylinders, 5 webs or parts for supporting the 5 white metal bearings between the cylinders and 4 projecting lugs or feet on either side for supporting the engine in the aeroplane. At the propeller end, are the lower halves of the thrust box and 1 end white metal bearing. At the other end, is the top half of the 7th white metal bearing. The openings for the cylinders are not on the centre line of the crankcase, but are off-set 18 m.m. in the direction of rotation. This arrangement reduces the obliquity of the connecting rods during the power strokes and results in increased mechanical efficiency. On the carburettor side of the crankcase are 3 brass breather pipes fitted with gauze strainers. The primary object of the breathers is to maintain atmospheric pressure in the crankcase. They are also used for pouring oil into the crankcase.

**CYLINDERS.** The cylinders are of cast iron with electrolytically deposited copper water jackets. A flanged steel cap is screwed and sweated to each cylinder, and the cylinders are held in position on the crankcase by 3 screwed studs and 4 crankcase bolts which engage with this flange. All 7 bolts, with the exception of those at the ends of the engine, pass through the crankcase webs and serve as holding bolts for the bearing caps. The remaining 4 bolts pass through the sump. The cylinders are numbered 1 to 6 successively, starting at the propeller end. The order of numbering is 1, 5, 3, 6, 2, 4.

**PISTONS.** The pistons are of mild steel with slightly conical heads, and each carries 3 cast iron rings fitted in grooves cut into the piston head. The pistons are attached to the connecting rods by means of wrist pins.

A.B.T.D. T.5. 8/17. 120 H.P. BEARDMORE.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P

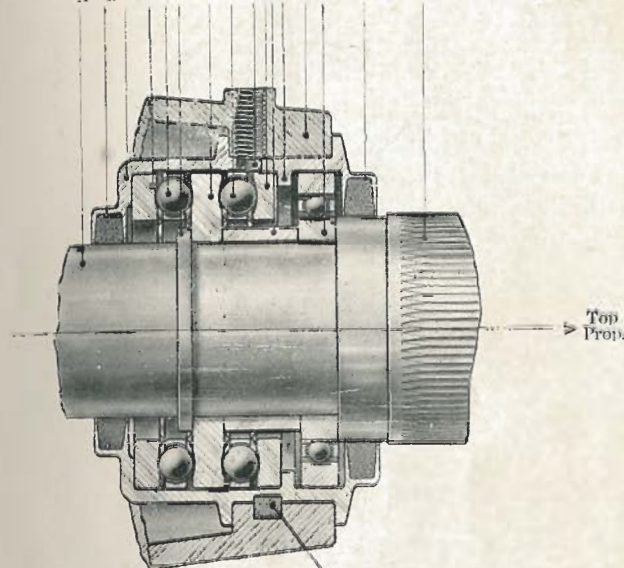
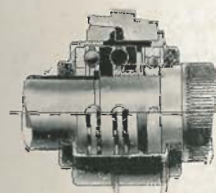
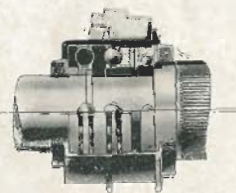


FIG. 2.



Tractor.  
FIG. 3.



Pusher.  
FIG. 4.

A Crankshaft.  
B Felt Oil Retainer.  
C Thrust Box.  
D Steel Washer.  
E Thrust Ball Bearing.  
F Shoulder on Crankshaft.  
G Steel Washer.  
H Thrust Ball Bearing.  
I Oil Lead to Thrust Box.  
J Steel Washer.

K Distance Piece.  
L Shoulder in Thrust Box.  
M Extension of Crankcase.  
N Radial Ball Race.  
O Felt Washer to retain Oil.  
P Propeller Mounting.  
Q Pin to prevent Thrust Box from turning.  
Pusher Thrust - P N K G E D C M.  
Tractor Thrust - A F G H J L M.

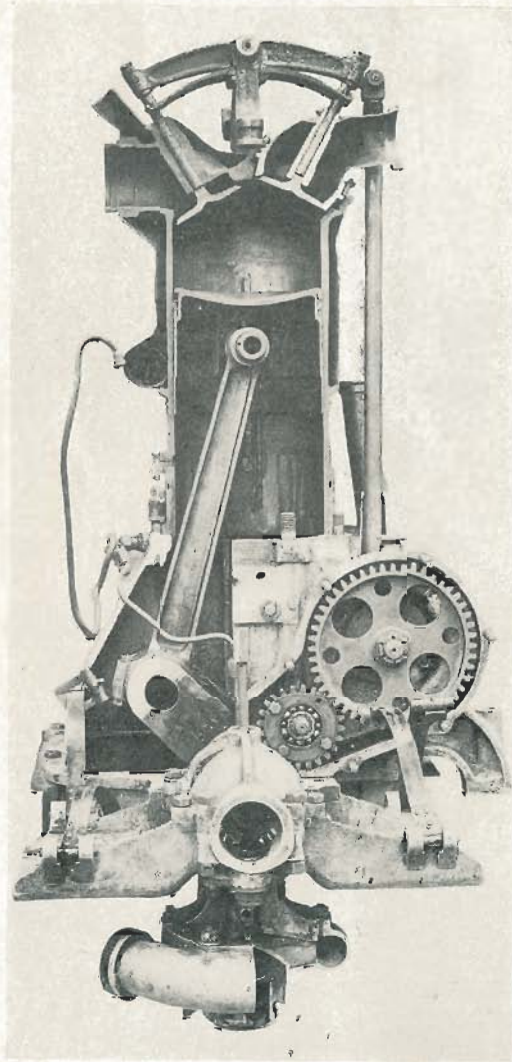


FIG. 5.

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rods by hollow steel gudgeon pins. One end of the gudgeon pin is parallel, and the other end is a taper fit in the gudgeon pin boss. A dowel at the parallel end engages a notch in the piston and prevents the gudgeon pin from turning, a grub screw, in the joint between the tapered end and the boss, locks the pin in position.

Piston clearance = 0.89 m.m. to 0.74 m.m. at top,  
0.46 m.m. to 0.36 m.m. at bottom.  
Piston ring gap = 0.17 m.m. to 0.23 m.m.

**CONNECTING RODS.** The connecting rods are of chrome nickel steel, "H" section, bronze bushed at the small end, and lined with white metal at the big end. The big end cap, the lower half bearing is removable, and is secured to the connecting rod by 4 steel bolts. It has a small lip or scoop on its underside which picks up oil from the sump and conveys it to the crankpin. The upper half has a small hole at each side of the connecting rod which conveys oil splashed from the sump to the crankpin. 2 larger openings at the sides of the big end expose the crankpin to splashed oil.

**VALVES.** The inlet and exhaust valves in each cylinder are mechanically operated by means of a hollow steel tappet rod and an overhead rocker arm which is mounted on a fulcrum post or bracket at the head of the cylinder. The exhaust valve seating and guide are cast integral with the cylinder, and this part is efficiently water jacketed. The inlet valve seating and guide is removable. It is of cast iron and is held in position by a phosphor bronze ring which screws into the cylinder head and engages with a flange on the seating. The inlet valve is operated by the inlet cam pushing down the lower arm of the bellcrank lever. This lever pulls down the tappet rod which depresses the inlet end of the rocker arm and opens the inlet valve. The exhaust cam raises the upper arm of the bellcrank lever which pushes the tappet rod and raises the inlet end of the rocker arm so that the exhaust end is lowered and the exhaust valve opened. Both valves are returned to their seatings by 1 laminated spring which is fixed at its centre on the fulcrum post and has each of its ends passing under a cross pin in 1 of the valve stems. The total clearance between the valve rocker arm and the valve stems should be as follows:—

Engine cold, inlet + exhaust = 0.7 m.m.

**CYCLE OF OPERATIONS.** Consider the case of cylinder, for example No. 1, starting with the piston at top of its stroke (T.D.C.) and the exhaust valve just closed. The suction stroke is commenced as the exhaust valve closes and the piston travels downward, creating a slight vacuum in the cylinder, until it has moved through 8 to 10 m.m. when the inlet valve opens. The piston, continuing its downward motion, draws the explosive mixture into the cylinder, reaching the bottom of the stroke (B.D.C.), and moves up through 12 m.m. of the return stroke before the inlet valve closes, and compression commences. When the piston is 12 to 15 m.m. from the top of the compression stroke, i.e., 12 to 15 m.m. before T.D.C., ignition takes place, and the stroke is complete while the flame is spreading through the mixture. During the succeeding power stroke, the piston is driven downward by the force of the explosion, and the exhaust valve opens when the piston has reached a point 18 to 20 m.m. before the end of the stroke, i.e., 18 to 20 before B.D.C. The exhaust valve remains open during the whole of the return stroke, until the cycle has been completed.

Admission of explosive mixture	8 to 10 m.m. past T.D.C.
	to
Compression (Ignition 12 to 15 m.m. before T.D.C.)	10 to 12 m.m. past B.D.C.
	to
	T.D.C.
Power	18 to 20 m.m. before B.D.C.
	to
Exhaust	T.D.C.

**VALVE TIMING.** With gears unmeshed turn the camshaft and check all the tappet clearances. Remove the spark plug, and in any cylinder, for example No. 1, insert a stiff wire or gauge, by means of which the position of the piston may be ascertained. Turn the engine in its normal running direction until No. 1 piston is 8 to 10 m.m. down the stroke, and then turn the camshaft in its normal running direction until the rocker arm just touches the inlet valve spindle and is about to open the inlet valve. Mesh the gears by placing the idle wheel in position and fixing the timing wheel to suit the holes in the flywheel and the teeth on the idle wheel. Continue turning the engine until the rocker arm just touches the exhaust valve spindle and is about to open the exhaust valve. At this point the piston

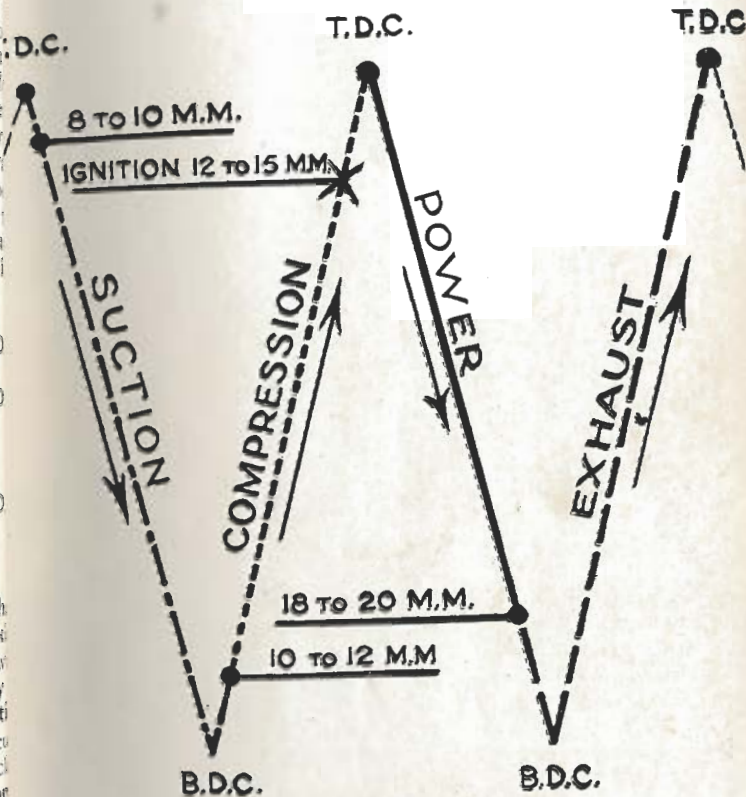


FIG. 6.

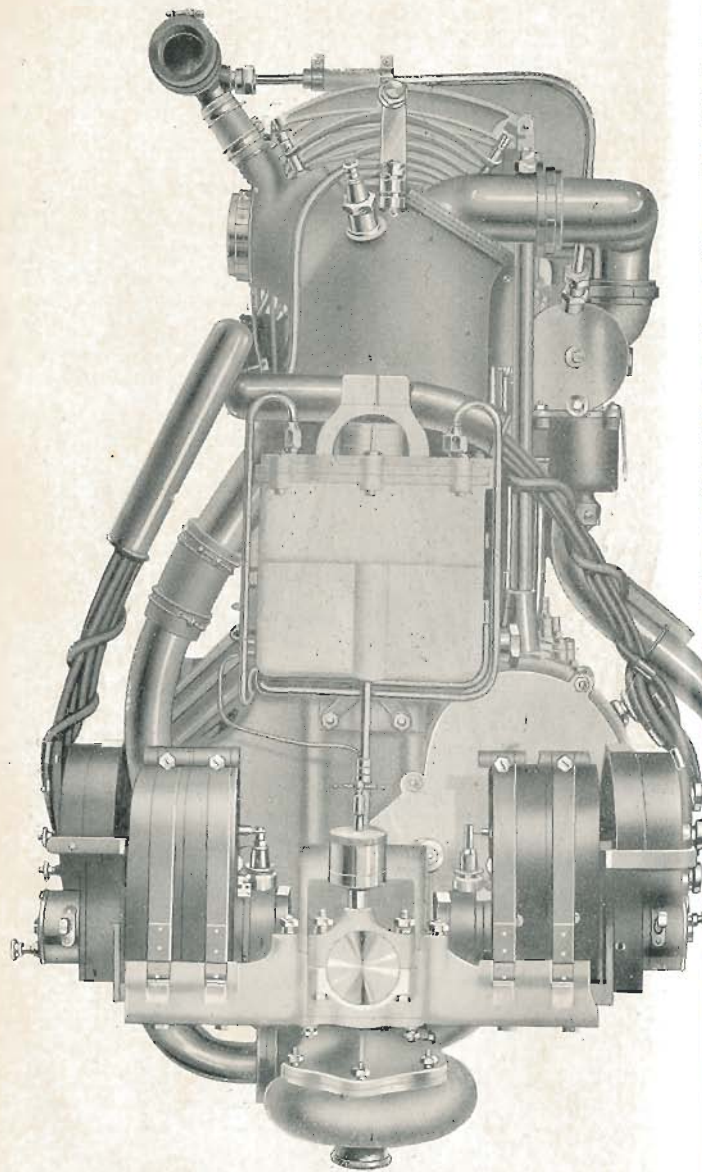


FIG. 7.

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uld be 18 to 20 m.m. from the bottom of the stroke. If  
 ; than 15 m.m., fit a washer under the shoulder of the  
 pet at the exhaust end of the rocker arm. The presence  
 his washer may necessitate alteration of the clearances by  
 ustment of the tappet rod, and it should be noted that  
 h adjustment will affect the inlet valve timing.\* Check  
 remaining points in the cycle, and if necessary correct the  
 ing of the other cylinders by adjusting their tappet rods  
 d rocker arms.

**IGNITION TIMING.** Set the piston of No. 1 cylinder  
 m.m. before T.D.C. on the compression stroke. Set 1  
 the magnetos at full advance, and turn the armature in  
 normal running direction until the brush is making contact  
 h No. 1 segment on the distributor, and the contact  
 maker points are just "breaking." Mesh the gear wheels,  
 d repeat with the second magneto. It is essential that  
 e magnetos be absolutely synchronised, i.e., that the 2  
 eaks occur at exactly the same instant. †

**MAGNETOS.** These are 3 in number. 1 is used for starting  
 y, and the other 2, with their corresponding leads and  
 rking plugs, form separate and independent ignition  
 stems each of which fires 1 of the 2 plugs in every  
 nder. The magnetos are mounted on the crankcase at  
 e end opposite the propeller and are driven by the small  
 el wheel on the end of the crankshaft. The magneto gear  
 eel has 14 teeth, and the driving wheel 21 teeth so that the  
 gneto makes 3 revolutions to 2 of the engine. The  
 gneto is of the revolving armature type giving 2 sparks  
 r revolution, so that there are 6 sparks in 2 revolutions  
 the engine, during which time each piston completes  
 cycle. As is usual in the case of stationary engines,  
 e distributor forms part of the magneto. The distributor  
 ash is driven from the magneto armature by spur gearing  
 1/3 the armature speed, i.e., at 1/3 engine speed. The corres-  
 nding distributor contacts on each magneto are each con-  
 nected by high tension leads to separate plugs in the same  
 nder. A special hand driven magneto is provided for  
 rting the engine. This magneto which is usually referred

n later type engines the tappets are in the form of set screws and  
 are continuously adjustable.

n later type engines a fine adjustment connection is provided between  
 the magneto gear wheel and the armature.

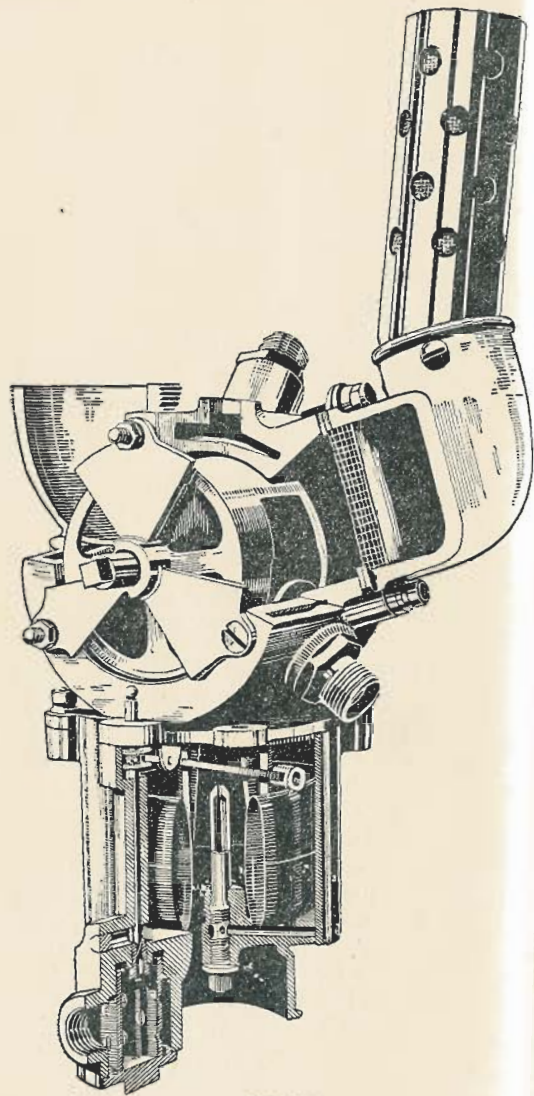


FIG. 8.

to as the "hand starting" magneto, is entirely self contained and carries its own contact breaker. 1 turn of the armature gives 2 sparks, and the armature is geared up to 4 to 1, so that there are 8 sparks to 1 complete turn of the handle. Rapid rotation of the handle therefore ensures a torrent of sparks such as would be obtained by the use of the old fashioned trembler coil. To ensure that the correct cylinder is fired, when starting the engine, use is made of the distributor of 1 of the ordinary magnetos, and the high tension lead from the starting magneto is connected to a special terminal at the centre of this distributor. This terminal is connected by means of a carbon brush and brass contact to a brass spike which projects from the rotating ebonite holder of the distributor brush and reaches to within about 2 m. m. of the distributor contacts. As the distributor brush passes over the contacts it is followed by the brass spike, which therefore reaches any given contact later than the brush. When the handle of the starting magneto is sharply turned, a series of sparks jumps from the spike to one of the distributor contacts and across the points of the corresponding sparking plug. This fires the charge behind the piston that is at rest, about halfway down its power stroke, and so turns the engine. As the engine moves around, the distributor brush passes over the next contact, and the corresponding cylinder is fired by the ordinary magnetos which now come into action. It should be noted that there is no electrical connection between the starting magneto circuit and the high tension circuits of the ordinary magnetos.

**CARBURATION.** There are two carburetters of the Beardmore type, each supplying 3 adjacent cylinders through a 3 way copper manifold pipe. The Beardmore carburetter is of the float type, constructed in 2 main parts, the float chamber and the throttle housing or mixing chamber, both of aluminium alloy. The throttle housing is mounted on the top of the float chamber immediately above the jet and choke tube. It surrounds the throttle barrel which is cylindrical in shape and moves about a horizontal axis. The housing is water jacketed and has openings communicating with:—

- (1) The choke tube, jet and main air intake.
- (2) The extra air intake.
- (3) The induction manifold.

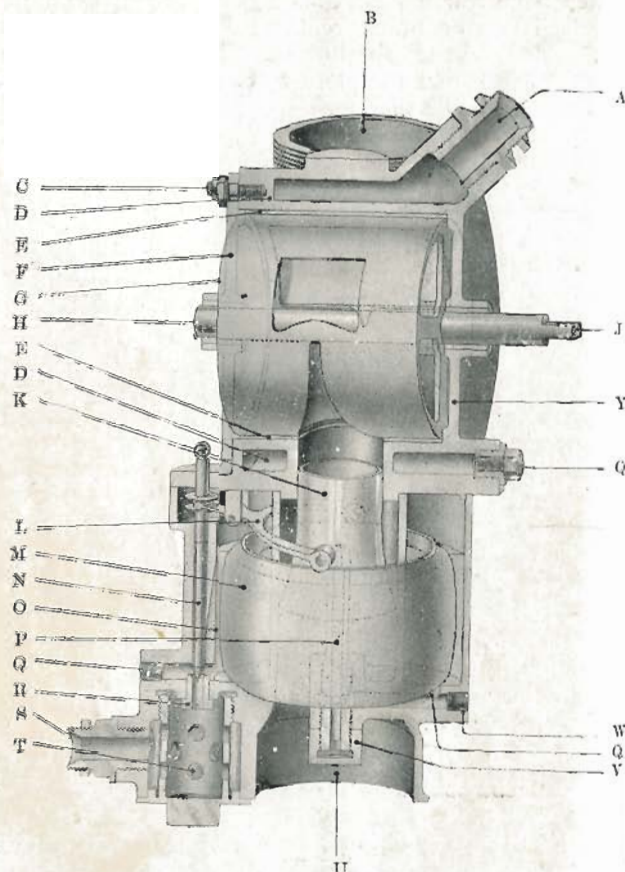


FIG. 9.

- A Hot Water from Engine.  
 B Gas to Engine.  
 C Nuts for Cover of Mixing Chamber F.  
 D Water Jacket.  
 E Phosphor Bronze Liner.  
 F Cover of Mixing Chamber.  
 G Control Barrel.  
 H To fit Control Lever.  
 J To connect to Second Carburettor Control Spindle.  
 K Choke Tube to control suction on Jet.  
 L Needle Valve Control Lever.

- M Annular Float.  
 N Needle Valve.  
 O Float Chamber.  
 P Jet.  
 Q Plugs used to fill holes used in manufacture.  
 R Needle Valve Seating.  
 S Inlet for Petrol from Service Tank.  
 T Gauze Filter.  
 U Air Intake Pipe.  
 V Locking Nut for Jet.  
 W Passage from Float Chamber to Mixing Chamber.  
 Y Mixing Chamber.

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effective area of these openings is determined by the position of the throttle barrel which has 3 specially shaped openings corresponding to those in the housing. The jet and choke tube are surrounded by the float chamber in which is an annular shaped copper float. The needle valve at the side of the float chamber is actuated by a spur shaped lever, the ends of which rest on a small rim at the top of the float. Fuel is fed to the needle valve through a small filter at the side of the carburettor. The arrangement of the jet at the side of the float chamber ensures that the petrol level at the jet orifice is maintained constant when the carburettor is tilted through an angle.

**LUBRICATION.** This is by pressure and splash. The pump forces oil through 6 leads, 2 of which supply the cylinders and 4 the bearings. Each of the cylinder leads has 3 branches terminating in non-return valves mounted at the sides of the cylinders below the water jackets. Each piston has 2 small valves, the function of which is to spread the oil over the cylinder walls, and 1 large groove which carries oil into the lower gudgeon pin from whence it passes through a small hole to the connecting rod small end bearing. Each of the remaining 4 leads has 2 branches and supplies oil to 2 of the main bearings.\* The camshaft bearings, cams, bell crank levers, etc., and the connecting rod big ends are lubricated by splash from the sump. This should contain 4 pints of good mineral oil, which must be drained off and replaced by fresh after 12 hours' running. The water circulating pump and valve rocker arms are fitted with grease caps, which must be screwed down at intervals and refilled when necessary. Other external working parts are oiled by hand.

**PUMP.** The engine is fitted with the "Bosch Lubrication" which consists of 6 separate oil pumps driven from a central vertical spindle and mounted in an aluminium casing which communicates with the oil tank and is normally full of oil. The pumps are arranged around the central spindle upon which is mounted two inclined discs or cams. The larger cam works the 6 pump plungers, and the smaller the 6 valves. The position of the plungers is adjustable so that the amount of oil

\* 5 crankshaft journal bearings, front crankshaft bearing, rear crankshaft bearing and thrust box.



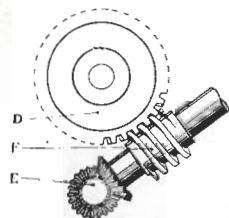


FIG. 12.

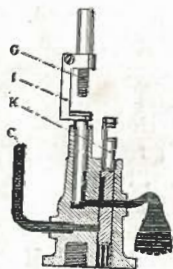


FIG. 11.

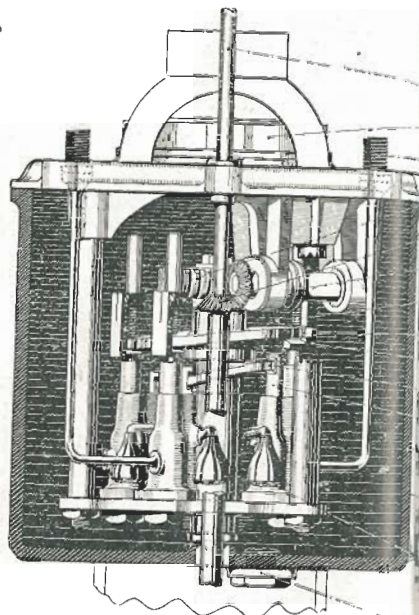


FIG. 10.

- A Drive to Revolution Indicator.
- B Cover.
- C Delivery to Exhaust.
- D Wormwheel attached to Cam Spindle.
- E Bevel Wheel.
- F Worm.
- G Screw regulating length of Stroke.
- H Cam operating Plunger Pistons.
- I Plunger Pistons.
- J Cam operating Valve Pistons.
- K Valve Pistons.
- L Aluminium Pump Casings.
- M Oil Supply.
- N Intakes.
- P Drain.

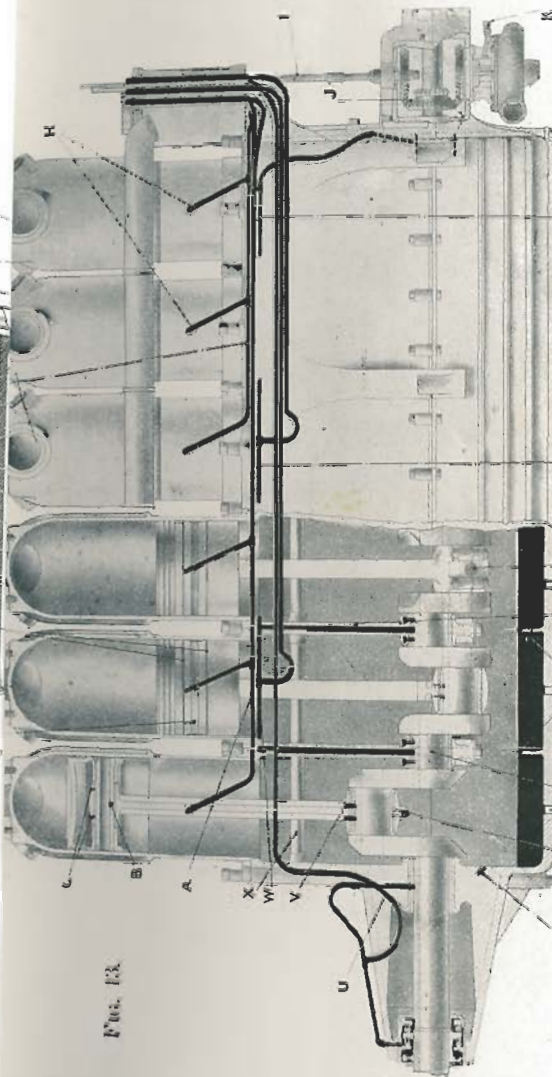
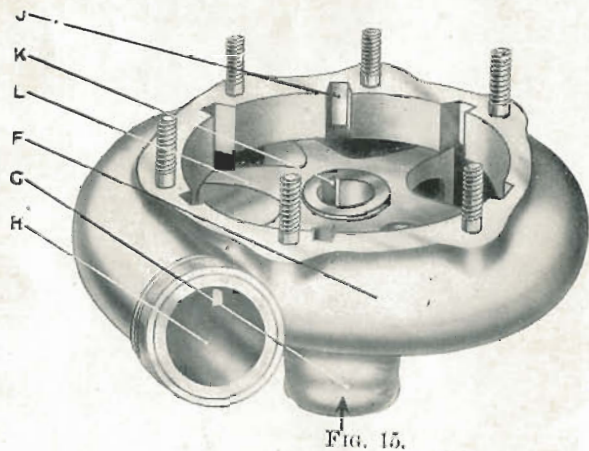
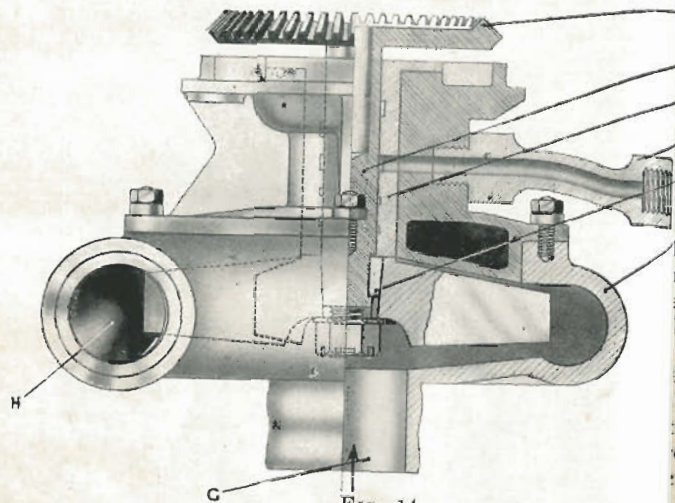


FIG. 13.

- A Lead to Cylinders 1, 2 & 3.
- B Oil Hole in Gudgeon Pin.
- C Oil Hole in Small End.
- D Large Oil Grooves in Piston.
- E Small Oil Grooves in Piston.
- F Grease Cups on Rocker Arms.
- G Lead to Cylinders Nos. 4, 5 & 6.
- H Non-return Valves.
- I Oil Pump Driving Spindle.
- J Bevel Gearing Driving Oil Pump.
- K Grease Cup on Water Pump.
- L Lead to Rear Crankshaft Bearing and I to Crankshaft Journal Bearings.
- M Lead to 2 Crankshaft Journal Bearings.
- N Openings Exposed Crankpin.
- O Crankpin Washers.
- P Drives in Summ.
- Q Crankshaft.
- R Drains.
- S Lip Leading to Crankpin.
- T Overflow from Thrust Box.
- U Lead to Front Crankshaft Bearing and Thrust Box.
- V Holes Leading to Crankpin.
- W Lead to 2 Crankshaft Journal Bearings.
- X Crankshaft.



- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| A Bevel Wheel driven from Engine Crankshaft. | F Aluminium Casing.                   |
| B Steel Spindle.                             | G Suction.                            |
| C Bronze Bush.                               | H Delivery.                           |
| D Lubricator Connection.                     | J Slots to allow removal of Impeller. |
| E Key.                                       | K Keyway.                             |
|  | L Impeller (6 blade, Aluminium).      |

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plied to the different leads may be controlled.† The pump driven by a vertical spindle, which passes through the pump casing and also drives the engine speed indicator. At the top of this spindle is a bevel wheel meshing with the large bevel wheel on the crankshaft, and inside the casing it carries a small bevel wheel which drives the pump cams through a vertical horizontal countershaft. The countershaft carries a worm which engages with a worm wheel on the vertical spindle. The whole of the pump mechanism is supported by adjustable brackets and pillars from the pump casing cover, and can be removed with the cover, after the 6 oil pipe unions which drive the speed indicator have been disconnected. The pump should be removed from the casing and cleaned out after about 100 hours running. The pump casing is fitted with a glass oil gauge of the usual type.

**WATER CIRCULATION.** The water jackets are constructed with openings at the base through which the cooling water enters, and at a point at the top adjacent to the exhaust valve through which the water flows, by way of a manifold pipe, to the radiator. The circulating pump, which is of the centrifugal type with a vertical spindle, is mounted under the gear housing at the end of the crankcase remote from the crankshaft. It delivers the water through a copper pipe to a horizontal water passage formed of a series of 6 short pipes, each of which has a lateral opening leading into the base of one of the water jackets. These pipes, which are electrolytically deposited with the water jackets, are jointed together by the section rubber packing rings and metal clips. The outlets, which are also electrolytically deposited with the jackets, are in the form of short projecting pipes, which are connected to the branches of the manifold by short lengths of rubber pipe and metal clips in the usual way. The radiator should be in such a position that its top will, under all normal flying conditions, remain 8 inches above the top outlet pipe of the engine and it must be of such a size as to ensure that the temperature of the cooling water during a flight does not exceed 180° Fahr.

The adjustment recommended for the 2 pumps that supply the cylinders is full oil less 1 turn of the adjusting screws, and for the other 4 pumps full oil less 2½ turns of the adjusting screws.