with the heating load and will seldom occur at the time of the heating peak. Unusual features such as large heaters for swimming pools should not be overlooked.

The pressure at which the steam is to be distributed will depend, in part, upon whether or not it has been passed through electrical generating units. If it has, the pressure will be considerably lower than if live steam, direct from the boilers, is used. The advantages of low pressure distribution (2 to 30 lb per square inch) are (1) smaller heat loss from the pipes, (2) less trouble with traps and valves, and (3) simpler problems in pressure reduction at the buildings. With distribution pressures not exceeding 40 lb per square inch there is little danger even if the full distribution pressure should build up in the radiators through the faulty operation of a reducing valve; but with pressures higher than this a second reducing valve or some form of emergency relief is usually desirable to prevent excessive pressures in the radiators. The advantages of high pressure distribution are (1) smaller pipe sizes and (2) greater adaptability of the steam to various operations other than building heating.

The different kinds of apparatus which frequently must be served require various minimum pressures. Kitchen equipment requires from 5 to 15 lb per square inch, the higher pressures being necessary for apparatus in which water is boiled, such as stock kettles and coffee urns. An increased amount of heating surface, which is easily obtained in some kinds of apparatus, results in quicker and more satisfactory operation at low pressures. For laundry equipment, particularly the mangle, a pressure of 75 lb per square inch is usually demanded although 30 lb per square inch is sufficient if the mangle is equipped with a large number of rolls and if a slow rate of operation is permissible. Pressing machines and hospital sterilizers require about 50 lb per square inch.

PIPE SIZES

The lengths of pipe, steam quantities and initial and terminal pressures having been chosen, the pipe sizes can readily be calculated by means of the Unwin pressure drop formula. This formula, which gives pressure drops slightly larger than actual test results, is as follows:

$$P = \frac{0.0001306\, W^2 L \left(1 + \frac{3.6}{d}\right)}{y d^5} \qquad (1)$$

where

P = pressure drop, pounds per square inch.
W = weight of steam flowing, pounds per minute.
L = length of pipe, feet.
d = inside diameter of pipe, inches.
y = average density of steam, pounds per cubic foot.

This formula is similar to the Babcock formula given in Chapter 32.

Information on provision for expansion will be found in Chapters 32 and 34.

In general return lines when installed follow the contour of the land, and Table 1 gives sizes of return pipes for various grades. It is evident that at points where the grade is great, smaller pipes can be installed.

PIPE CONDUITS

Conduits for steam pipes buried underground should be reasonably water-proof, able to withstand earth loads and to take care of the expansion and contraction of the piping without strain or stress on the couplings, or without affecting the installation or conduit. Expansion of the piping must be carefully controlled by means of anchors and expansion joints or bends so that the pipes can never come in contact with the conduit. Anchors can be anchor fittings or U-shaped steel straps which partially encircle the pipes and are firmly bolted to a short length of structural steel set in concrete.

TABLE 1. CAPACITY OF RETURNS FOR UNDERGROUND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS IN POUNDS OF CONDENSATE PER HOUR

Size[a] of Pipe In.	Pitch of Pipe per 100 Ft.						
	6″	1′	2′	3′	5′	10′	20′
1	448	998	1890	2240	3490	5490	7490
1¼	1740	2490	3990	4880	6480	9480	13500
1½	2700	4190	5740	7480	9480	14500	20900
2	4980	7380	10700	13900	16900	24900	36900
3	13900	22500	30900	37400	50400	74800	105000
4	30900	44800	64800	79700	105000	154000	229000
5	54800	79800	120000	144800	195000	294000	418000
6	90000	138000	187000	237000	312000	449000	.....
8	190000	277000	404000	508000	660000	938000	.....
10	344000	498000	724000	900000	1190000	.....	.....
12	555000	798000	1148000	1499000	1990000	.....	.....

[a]Size of pipe should be increased if it carries any steam.

In laying out conduits of this type the following points should be borne in mind:

1. An expansion joint offset or bend should be placed between each two anchors.
2. If the distance between buildings is 150 ft or less and the steam line contains high-pressure steam, it may be anchored in the basement of one building and allowed to expand into the basement of the second building. If the steam line contains low-pressure steam (up to 4 lb pressure), this method may be used if buildings are 250 ft or less apart.
3. If the distance between buildings is between 150 ft and 300 ft and the steam line contains high-pressure steam, the lines should be anchored midway between the buildings and allowed to expand into the basements of both buildings. If the steam line contains low-pressure steam this method may be used if buildings are between 250 ft and 600 ft apart. No manhole is required at the anchor, and a blind pit is all that is necessary.
4. For longer lines, manholes must be located according to judgment and depending upon the expansion value of the type of expansion joint or bend that is used. The minimum number of manholes will be required when an expansion bend or an anchor with double expansion joint is placed in each manhole and the pipes are anchored midway between manholes.
5. A proper hydrostatic test should be applied to the piping before the top of the conduit is applied and before application of insulation. The pressure used in this test should be greater than the pressure used in service, and should be not less than 100 lb per square inch in any case.

The styles and construction of conduits commonly used may be classified as follows. Some of the more common forms are illustrated in Fig. 1.

Wood Casing: The pipe is enclosed in a cylindrical casing usually having a wall 4 in. thick and built of segments which are bound together by a wire wrapped spirally around