recorded by thermometer with its bulb in the center of the sphere is termed the *radiation-convection temperature*. See Chapter 35.

CONTROL OF RADIANT HEATING

The effectiveness of any type of control will largely depend on the time lag of the system. With warm air passing through floor ducts the time lag is usually too long for any kind of room thermostat, in fact this type of thermostat will not prove suitable with any system if the building is constructed with massive brickwork and masonry, unless it operates in conjunction with a time control responsive to changes in outside conditions.

The heat emitted by hot water pipes embedded in the plaster of the

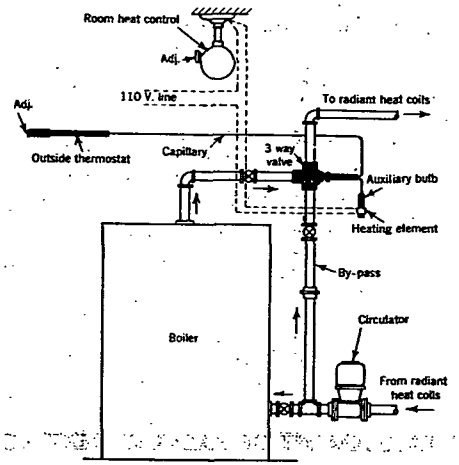


FIG. 10. TYPICAL RADIANT HEAT CONTROL SYSTEM

ceiling and walls or in the concrete base of a floor can be effectively controlled by an instrument designed to modulate the temperature of the water circulating in the system according to the outside conditions. Metal panels which can be installed in the ceiling or side walls may be either controlled by an instrument responsive to outside weather conditions or by a specially designed instrument responsive to both air temperature and radiation. Any purely *on or off* control system is not recommended for radiant heating.

A typical control system operated from an outside thermostat, and supplemented with a room heat control instrument is illustrated in Fig. 10. The outside thermostat modulates the temperature of the circulating water in the coils by introducing some of the hot water leaving the boiler with a proportionate amount of return water which is diverted to the three-way valve.

One type of room instrument consists of a blackened copper sphere of

6 or 8 in. in diameter, in which a cylindrical sump contains a volatile liquid. A small electric heating coil creates in the sphere a vapor pressure which remains constant as long as the total heat loss from the sphere is at the desired rate. If the BET becomes too high for comfort, a greater vapor pressure results from the smaller heat loss from the sphere. This acts on a diaphragm and reduces the supply of heat to the room. With too low a BET the reverse action occurs. A similar instrument which has an electric heating element for warming the air inside the sphere and thermostat operated switch is also used for controlling room conditions.

In addition to a thermostatically controlled device for modulating the temperature of the circulating water, it is an advantage to insert in each coil a locked flow control or adjustable resistence to give uniform conditions throughout all rooms. Owing to unforeseen difficulties with varying frictional losses in pipes, emission factors and exposures it is an advantage to be able to permanently regulate the flow through each circuit by means of a key operated valve as indicated in Fig. 4.

FUEL CONSUMPTION

Because of the lower air temperature desired with radiant heating, there is a possible saving in fuel consumption. This saving depends very largely on the method employed to heat the surfaces and the provision made to prevent heat passing from the coils to the earth or outside air.

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