a positive 5 lb pressure differential between supply and return) and the steam supply should never be throttled or the heating element may be frozen.

6 ● In general, what is the primary function of a unit ventilator?

To maintain the desired room air conditions as to temperature, air change, and air cleanliness, without drafts regardless of variations in outdoor temperature, occupancy, sun, heat, and wind.

7 ● What are the usual working parts of a unit ventilator?

The fan and motor assembly, a set of heating elements, outdoor and indoor air dampers, filters (optional), outlet grille, some method of varying the outlet temperature in keeping with the room requirements, and, in the case of some unit ventilators, a method of limiting the outlet temperature to a minimum of 60 F.

8 ● Do all unit ventilators introduce a constant amount of outdoor air?

Certain types employ full recirculation except when outdoor air is obtained by throttling the steam valve on the heating element so the proportion of outdoor air to room air is varied. This is a very economical type of unit ventilator but in some communities it cannot be used because of existing laws which require that some fixed amount of outdoor air be introduced whenever the room is occupied. Certain types of units are designed to always take in a minimum quantity of air from the outside and to automatically vary this with the weather.

9 ● Why are metal surface cooling elements instead of liquid spray chambers used in the design of most air conditioning units and cooling units?

The first cost of the surface cooling type of unit is considerably less than the cost of spray type equipment. Further, the requirements of many industrial air conditioning jobs and of all comfort cooling jobs where unit equipment is applicable can often be effectively met with the use of surface type units, with a reduction in the space required for making the installation. Where space conditions are especially limited, the cross-sectional area of the surface cooler can be reduced because the resulting increase in velocity over the coil surface increases the effectiveness of the surface, whereas an increase in velocity through a liquid spray would reduce its effectiveness.

10 ● Why are air conditioning units with metal cooling surfaces not desirable for all industrial jobs?

Wherever unusually close control of relative humidity is required, a spray type unit will prove to be more satisfactory. Relative humidity control and accurate temperature control, however, can be maintained without difficulty with the use of metal surface units.

11 ● Why is accurate control of relative humidity with surface coolers more or less complicated?

A surface cooler cannot add moisture to the air, and moisture is removed only when the surface temperature is below the entering dew-point temperature. Any change in condition of the entering air will result in a change in the dry-bulb depression of the leaving air. This change in entering condition requires not only a readjustment of the air volume but also a change in the coil temperature, if accurate control over the relative humidity is to be maintained.

12 ● What in general are the characteristics of operation of a unit using surface coils?

For a constant entering dry-bulb temperature and a constant refrigerant temperature any increase in the entering wet-bulb temperature will produce a rise in the leaving dry-bulb temperature with an accompanying reduction in the wet-bulb depression of the leaving air. The sensible heat removed by the unit decreases and the latent heat increases, while the total heat removed also increases. When the dry-bulb temperature of entering air is increased, with constant refrigerant temperature and constant wet-bulb temperature of entering air, the wet-bulb depression of the leaving air increases, and since it is this depression which determines the maintained relative humidity it must be carefully considered when selecting the unit.

Chapter 14

AUTOMATIC CONTROL

Purpose of Automatic Control, Definitions of Control Units and Terms, Types of Control, Central Fan Systems, Unit Systems, Control of Automatic Fuel Appliances, Residential Control Systems, Control of Refrigeration Equipment, Industrial Processes

THIS chapter is prepared with the purpose of acquainting the engineer with the principles underlying the use of automatic control, the general types and varieties of control equipment available and their application.

Automatic control, properly applied to heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems, makes possible the maintenance of desired conditions with maximum operating economy. A properly designed and complete control system has the ability to interlock and coordinate the various functions of heating, ventilating and air conditioning in a manner impossible to accomplish with manual regulation.

Automatic control is an integral and essential part of a heating, ventilating or air conditioning installation and cannot be regarded as an accessory. In order to insure satisfactory results, the control should be designed with and incorporated in the heating, ventilating or air conditioning system. The control equipment should be given careful consideration in the planning of any installation in order that the entire system may operate together with satisfactory results.

In order that proper selection and application of controlling devices may be made it is important that a broad understanding exist as to the types of control available and their principles of operation. Improper selection and application of control equipment will result in unsatisfactory and inefficient operation. Specific control devices and systems are described in the Catalog Data Section.

PURPOSE OF AUTOMATIC CONTROL

Automatic control is normally applied to heating, ventilating or air conditioning systems:

1. To insure the maintenance of certain desired or required conditions of temperature, pressure, humidity, air motion or air distribution.
2. To serve a safety function, limiting pressures or temperatures within predetermined points, or preventing the operation of mechanical equipment unless it may function without hazard.
3. To produce economical results and thereby insure operation of the system at a minimum of expense.