

other experimental data which have been presented, the usual endeavor is to secure not less than 90 per cent efficiency for underground piping. Table 19 can be used as a guide in arriving at the minimum thickness of loose insulation fills to use for laying out conduit systems. Other factors such as the number of pipes and their combination of sizes, as well as the standard conduit sizes, are primary controlling factors in the amount and thickness of insulation for use.

When sectional insulation is applied to lines in tunnels or conduits, usual practice is to apply the most efficient materials $\frac{1}{2}$ in. less in thickness than that determined by the use of Fig. 6. The data in Fig. 6 are based on conditions of insulation exposed to the air, whereas normal ground temperature is substituted for air temperature in determining the temperature difference for use with the chart when applying it for underground pipe line estimates.

Chapter 43

ELECTRIC HEATING

Resistors, Heating Elements, Electric Heaters, Unit Heaters, Central Fan Heating, Electric Boilers, Electric Hot Water Heating, Heating Domestic Water Supply, Radiant Drying, Reversed Cycle Refrigeration, Auxiliary Electric Heating, Control, Calculating Capacities, Power Problems

ELECTRIC heating is steadily assuming a more important place in heating, ventilating and air conditioning installations, encouraged in many localities by reduced electric rates. Electric heating is flexible, clean, safe, convenient and easy to control. It has many basic principles in common with fuel heating, but there are also important differences. When heat is delivered by wire, no combustion process is necessary, either at a central plant or at the individual room units. The output of an electric heater is a fixed constant, unaffected by the temperature of the surrounding air and it follows that the total load on an electric heating system is the total wattage of connected electric heaters, regardless of weather conditions. The main obstacle to the more general adoption of electric heating for buildings is the cost of the electricity itself.

All heat is a form of energy. Fuels hold stored chemical energy which is released into heat by combustion. Electrical power is a form of energy which can be released into heat by passing it through a resisting material. Both fuel and electric heating have two divisions: *first*, the conversion of energy into heat; *second*, the distribution and practical use of the heat after it is produced.

In converting the chemical energy of fuels into heat by combustion, there is necessarily a considerable variation in thermal efficiency. This is not true, however, when converting electric power into heat, as 100 per cent of the energy applied to the resistor is always transformed into heat. In electric heating practice no concern need be given to efficiencies of heat production, but rather to efficiencies of heat utilization. The problem is to distribute the electrically produced heat units in such manner as to obtain conditions of maximum comfort with the minimum consumption of electricity.

DEFINITIONS

Definitions of general terms used in fuel heating are given in Chapter 46. Terms which apply particularly to electric heating are: