maximum side. Ducts 25 to 30 in. in size should be reinforced between the joints, but not necessarily at the joint. Ducts 31 in. and up should be reinforced at the joint and between the joints; if drive slips are used the angles are usually riveted to the duct about 2 in. from the slips. It is good practice to cross-break or kink all flat surfaces to prevent vibration or buckling due to the air flow and accompanying variations in internal pressure. Round ducts are sometimes swedged 1.5 in. from the ends so that the larger end will butt against the swedge and are held in place with

TABLE 5. RECOMMENDED SHEET METAL GAGES FOR RECTANGULAR DUCT CONSTRUCTION[a]

U. S. STD. GAGE	MAXIMUM SIDE, INCHES	TYPE OF TRANSVERSE JOINT CONNECTIONS[b]	BRACING
26	Up to 12	S, Drive, Pocket or Bar Slips, on 7 ft 10 in. centers	None
24	13 to 24	S, Drive, Pocket or Bar Slips, on 7 ft 10 in. centers	None
	25 to 30	S, Drive, 1 in. Pocket or 1 in. Bar Slips, on 7 ft 10 in. centers[c]	1 x 1 x ⅛ in. angles 4 ft from joint
22	31 to 40	Drive, 1 in. Pocket or 1 in. Bar Slips, on 7 ft 10 in. centers[c]	1 x 1 x ⅛ in. angles 4 ft from joint
	41 to 60	1½ in. Angle Connections, or 1½ in. Pocket or 1½ in. Bar Slips with 1⅜ in. x ⅛ in. bar reinforcing on 7 ft 10 in. centers[c]	1½ x 1½ x ⅛ in. angles 4 ft from joint
20	61 to 90	1½ in. Angle Connections, or 1½ in. Pocket or 1½ in. Bar Slips 3 ft 9 in. maximum centers with 1⅜ x ⅛ in. bar reinforcing	1½ x 1½ x ⅛ in. diagonal angles, or 1½ x 1½ x ⅛ in. angles 2 ft from joint
18	91 and up	2 in. Angle Connections or 1½ in. Pocket or 1½ in. Bar Slips 3 ft 9 in. maximum centers with 1⅜ x ⅛ in. bar reinforcing[d]	1½ x 1½ x ⅛ in. diagonal angles, or 1½ x 1½ x ⅛ in. angles 2 ft from joint

[a]For normal pressures and velocities (see Table 3) utilized in typical ventilating and air conditioning systems. Where special rigidity or stiffness is required, ducts should be constructed of metal two gages heavier. All uninsulated ducts 18 in. and larger should be cross-broken. Cross-breaking may be omitted on uninsulated ducts if two gages of heavier metal are used.

[b]Other joint connections of equivalent mechanical strength and air tightness may be used.

[c]Duct sections of 3 ft 9 in. may be used with bracing angles omitted, instead of 7 ft 10 in. lengths with joints indicated.

[d]Ducts 91 in. and larger require special field study for hanging and supporting methods.

sheet metal screws. Where swedges are not used it is general practice to paste the joint with asbestos paper to insure a tight joint.

The construction of elbows and changes of shape cannot be definitely outlined because of the varied conditions encountered in the field, but in general long radius elbows and gradual changes in shape tend to maintain uniform velocities accompanied by decreased turbulence, lower resistance and a minimum of noise.

Heavy canvas connections are recommended on both the inlet and outlet to all fans. The fan discharge connections shown in Fig. 7 are marked *good*, *fair*, and *poor* in the order of the amount of turbulence produced. An inspection of the heater connections shown in Fig. 7 will readily show that uniform velocity through the heater cannot be expected

in the diagram noted *poor*. When obstructions cannot be avoided, the duct area should never be decreased more than 10 per cent and then a *streamlined* collar should be used. Larger obstructions require an increase in the duct size in order to maintain as nearly uniform velocity as possible. Branch take-offs should always be arranged to cut or slice into the air stream in order to reduce as far as possible the losses in velocity head.

The recommended gages for sheet metal duct construction are given in

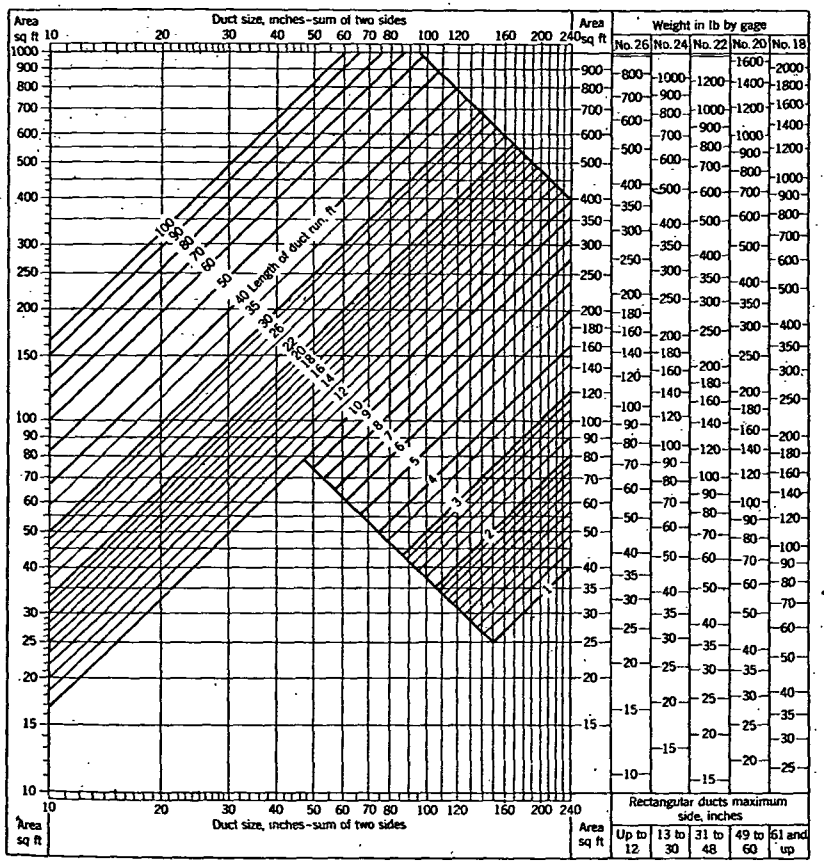

FIG. 8. AREA AND WEIGHT OF RECTANGULAR SHEET METAL DUCTS

Table 5. Weights of sheet metal per square foot of surface for different gages are given in Table 6. The weights of various gages and the areas for any length of run of rectangular sheet metal ducts may also be determined from Fig. 8. The bottom scale represents the sum of the two sides of the duct and the oblique lines give the length of run in feet. Proceeding horizontally to the right from the intersection of vertical and oblique lines on the chart, the area of the duct may be determined in the first vertical scale. The scales to the right give the weights of the duct