

milinches. For the third set of risers, a resistance of 120 milinches is required and an 0.60-in. orifice in a 1-in. union will provide sufficient resistance.

EXPANSION TANKS

Expansion tanks may be either of the open or of the closed type. In the open type, (see Fig. 9) the water is subject to atmospheric pressure only, but in the closed tank (see Fig. 10) the system is under pressure and, therefore, a relief valve should be placed on the tank. Water expands about 4 per cent when being heated from 40 F to 200 F, and the expansion tank should have a volume about twice the actual expansion or about 8 per cent of the total volume of water in the entire system including boiler, radiators, pipes, etc. Open expansion tanks should be at least 3 ft above the highest radiator and be protected against freezing. Closed tanks are generally placed in the cellar over the boiler.

A relief valve installed on a closed tank will not operate often provided the tank is of adequate size. It is essential that the relief valve be kept in good condition to eliminate any possible failure when operation is necessary.

INSTALLATION DETAILS

Attention should be paid to the following:

All piping must be so pitched that all air in the system can be vented either through an open expansion tank, radiators or automatic relief valves.

All piping must be arranged so that the entire system can be drained. Sections of piping individually valved shall have corresponding drain valves.

In large buildings, the piping may be zoned according to exposure of building usage of building or method of control.

All piping must be installed so that it is free to expand and contract with changes of temperature without producing undue stresses in the pipes or connections. For this purpose it is generally sufficient to allow for a variation in length of 1 in. for 100 ft of pipe.

The pipe system should be designed so that each circuit has its correct friction head for balanced water distribution. This may be done by change of pipe size or change in piping detail.

The connections from the boiler to the mains should be short and direct, to reduce the friction head and allow for expansion. It is frequently possible to avoid an elbow and to reduce the length of the pipe by running the pipe in a diagonal direction, either in a horizontal or in a vertical plane.

The mains and branches should pitch up and away from the heater, generally not less than 1 in. in 10 ft.

The connections from mains to branches and to risers should be such that circulation through the risers will start in the right direction. Hence, in a one-pipe system the flow connection must be nearer the heater than the return connection. In a correctly-designed two-pipe system, the pressure in the flow main is higher than that in the return main, and a slight variation in the distances of the flow and return connections from the heater is not material; but it is generally best to have the two connections about equally distant from the heater.

Generally connections to risers or radiators are taken out of the top of mains either 45 or 90 deg. In some cases it may be advisable to take the flow connection off the top of the main and the return connection from the side.

With forced circulation and high velocities, it is advisable to let the water enter at the top of the radiator and leave at the bottom of the opposite end. With gravity circulation the flow connection may be either at the top or at the bottom of the radiator. With short radiators both flow and return may be at same end, but top and bottom.

Unless used as heating surface, all piping, both flow and return, should be insulated.

Chapter 18

PIPE, FITTINGS, WELDING

Pipe Material, Types of Pipe Used, Dimensions of Pipe Commercially Available, Expansion and Flexibility of Pipe, Pipe Threads and Hangers, Types of Fittings, Welding as Applied to Erection of Piping, Valves, Corrosion of Piping

IMPORTANT considerations in the selection and installation of pipe and fittings for heating, ventilating, and air conditioning work are dealt with in this chapter.

PIPE MATERIALS

Use of corrosion-resistant materials for pipe, including special alloy steels and irons, wrought iron, copper and brass, has increased considerably during the past few years. The recent development of copper, brass, and bronze fittings which can be assembled by soldering or sweating permits the use of thin-wall pipe and thereby has reduced the initial cost of such installation. The following brief discussion indicates the variety of pipe materials and the types of pipe available.

Wrought-Steel Pipe. Because of its low price, the great bulk of wrought pipe used for heating and ventilating work at the present time is of wrought steel. The material used for steel pipe is a mild steel made by the acid-bessemer, the open-hearth, or the electric-furnace process. Ordinary wrought-steel pipe is made either by shaping sheets of metal into cylindrical form and welding the edges together, or by forming or drawing from a solid billet. The former is known as *welded pipe*, the latter as *seamless pipe*.

Many types of welded pipe are available, although the smaller sizes most frequently used in heating and ventilating work are made by the lap-weld, resistance-weld, or butt-weld process. While the lap-weld and resistance-weld processes produce a better weld than the butt type, lap-weld and resistance-weld pipe is seldom manufactured in nominal pipe sizes less than 2 in. Seamless pipe can be obtained in the small sizes at a somewhat higher cost.

Seamless steel pipe is frequently used for high pressure work or where pipe is desired for close coiling, cold bending, or other forming operation. Its advantages are its somewhat greater strength which permits use of a thinner wall and, in the small sizes, its freedom from the occasional tendency of welded pipe to split at the weld when bent.

Wrought-Iron Pipe. Wrought-iron pipe is claimed to be more corrosion-resisting than ordinary steel pipe and therefore its somewhat higher