MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS, CONTRACTORS AND MATERIALS

OF WATER PIPES ELECTRICITY. THAWING

(Continued from last issue.)

The second wire from the switch is then taken to the watt meter, then by means of two No. 6 wires, is connected to lower plate in water rheostat. The wires from the top plate in the water rheostat are so connected to the other end of the frozen pipe that the frozen part remains between the terminals of the secondaries. A volt meter should be inserted in circuit after leaving the rheostat, and the rheostat so adjusted that the current will be reduced to 50 volts. In ordinary sizes of black or galvanized ron pipe the voltage should not exceed 50 volts. For from 4" to 6" cast iron pipes the pressure may be increased to 100 volts. In any case a strong ampere current should be used. The current is then turned on and carefully manipulated.

Only a very few moments are necessary ordinarily to thaw out water service pipes. The connections are made at any most convenient point where the pipe is exposed, a city hydrant, private pipe, or faucet

in dwelling may be used.

It is necessary to use a source of current which does not affect the electric light lines by the grounding effected through connecting with the pipe, or danger may result.

In using this method to thaw the frozen condensation found in gas pipes the experience was that the thawing process had to be continued for a longer period of time.

Mr. John Murphy, superintendent of power houses, and Mr. W. G. Bradley,

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