

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

THAWING OF WATER PIPES BY ELECTRICITY.

A NUMBER of successful experiments have recently been made in Canada and

and 104 volts secondary; this was further reduced by means of a water rheostat as described below to 50 volts. The apparatus, as shown in accompanying cut, consists of a large 200 light (40 G. S.K.C.) transformer, switchboard, several switches, C. G. watt meter to measure the current, all of which is placed on a small waggon for convenience in transportation, and a water rheostat. The water rheostat consists of the most simple type, a copper plate placed in the bottom of a wooden pail, another copper plate placed some 6" to 8" above the first and so arranged that it can be moved up and down as found

current is then conducted by 2 No. 6 wires to afford ample capacity for current without heating the wires, and by means of a simple clamp these wires are attached to one end of a frozen pipe.

(To be Continued.)



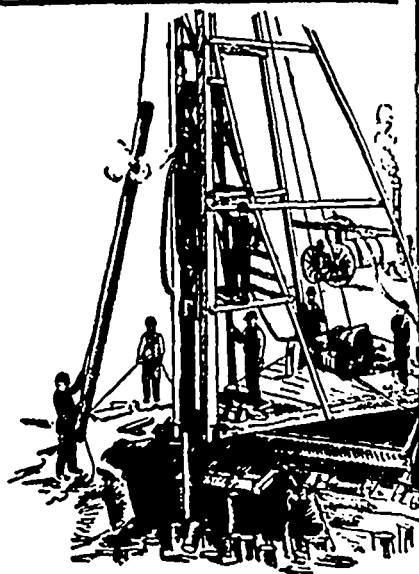
FIG. 1.—APPARATUS FOR THAWING OUT WATER PIPES.

the United States with the use of electricity for thawing out frozen water pipes. The Canadian experiments were made in Ottawa, Berlin and Chatham. Below are printed particulars of the methods pursued in the above mentioned cities, together with illustrations showing the apparatus employed:

The Berlin Gas and Electric Co. used alternating current of 2,080 volts primary

necessary. There is enough water poured into the pail to well cover both plates. When in use the water is kept from boiling by the addition of snow or ice.

The waggon is placed as near as possible to the place of operation. The wires of the primary circuit are brought to a D.P. switch on wagon switchboard, are then taken to the transformer and back to second D.P. switch on switchboard. The



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