T. ABTMEYER.

ELECTRIC HEATER FOR PIPE THAWING.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 9, 1910.

1,015,923.

Patented Jan. 30, 1912.

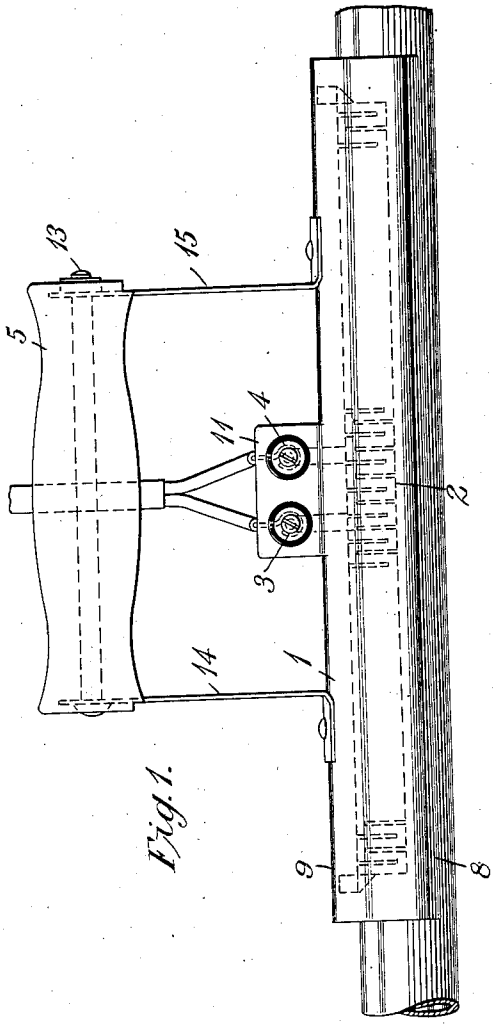

Fig. 1.

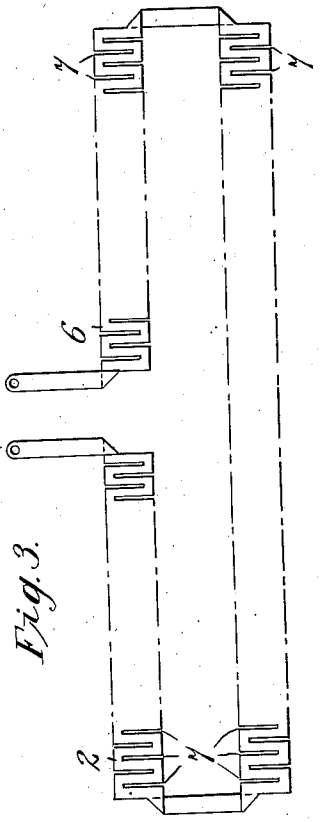

Fig. 3.

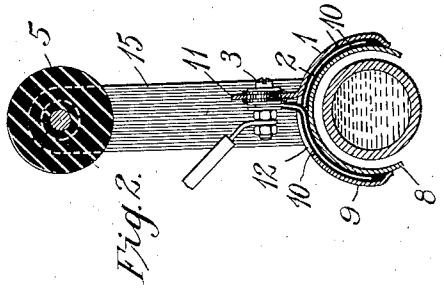

Fig. 2.

WITNESSES:

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ELECTRIC HEATER FOR PIPE-THAWING.

1,015,923. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 30, 1912.

Application filed June 9, 1910. Serial No. 566,107.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODORE ABTMEYER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Wilkinsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Electric Heaters for Pipe-Thawing, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to electric heating devices and it has for its object to provide a simple and durable device of this character that shall be adapted for pipe thawing and similar operations which require a local application of considerable heat.

It has been heretofore proposed to utilize electricity for thawing frozen water pipes, but the electric current has usually been passed directly through the pipe from the secondary winding of a specially constructed transformer.

According to my present invention, I provide a simple electric heater having a segmental cylindrical body member which is shaped to conform, in general, to the exposed surface of a water pipe, of ordinary size, and a handle which is secured to the body member and is similar to the handle of an electric sad iron.

Figure 1 of the accompanying drawings is a side elevation and Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation of an electric heating device constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the resistance element developed into a single plane.

Referring to the drawings, the structure here shown comprises a body member 1, a resistance element 2, terminal members 3 and 4 and a handle 5. The resistance element may be of any suitable type, but I prefer to employ the element shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings, or one similar to it, which is composed of a strip or ribbon 6 of steel or other resistance material having a plurality of slots 7 cut alternately from opposite sides to provide a zig-zag path for the electric current.

The resistance element is located between plates 8 and 9 which are bent into the form of cylinder segments and are located the one within the other, as shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings. The plates 8 and 9, when assembled, are secured together by a welding process or by other suitable means so as to hold the resistance element between sheets 10 of mica, or other insulating material, under considerable pressure. A projection 11 is punched or stamped outwardly from the plate 9 so that a terminal outlet 12 is provided, through which the resistance leads may extend. The terminal members 3 and 4 are secured to, and insulated from, the projection 11.

The handle 5 is preferably formed of wood or other heat-insulating material, and is supported on a bolt 13 which extends through it and through the holes in strips or brackets 14 and 15 which are riveted to the plate 9.

My invention is not restricted to the structure illustrated and I desire that its scope shall only be limited by the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. A pipe thawing heater comprising two approximately semi-cylindrical concentric metal shells, an insulated resistance element disposed between said shells and having laterally projecting terminals approximately midway of the ends of the shells and a handle secured to the outer shell.

2. A pipe thawing device comprising two approximately semi-cylindrical concentric sheet metal shells, an interposed resistance element having laterally projecting terminals, brackets secured to the outer shell and a handle secured to the outer ends of the brackets substantially parallel to said shells.

3. A pipe thawing device comprising two approximately semi-cylindrical concentric sheet metal shells having their edges welded together and the outer shell having an opening and a projection adjacent thereto, an insulated resistance element disposed between said shells and having terminals that project through the opening in the outer shell and are secured to and insulated from the projection, brackets secured to the outer shell and a handle secured to said brackets substantially parallel to said shells.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 26th day of May, 1910.

THEODORE ABTMEYER.

Witnesses:
J. R. BACKOFEN,
B. B. HINES.