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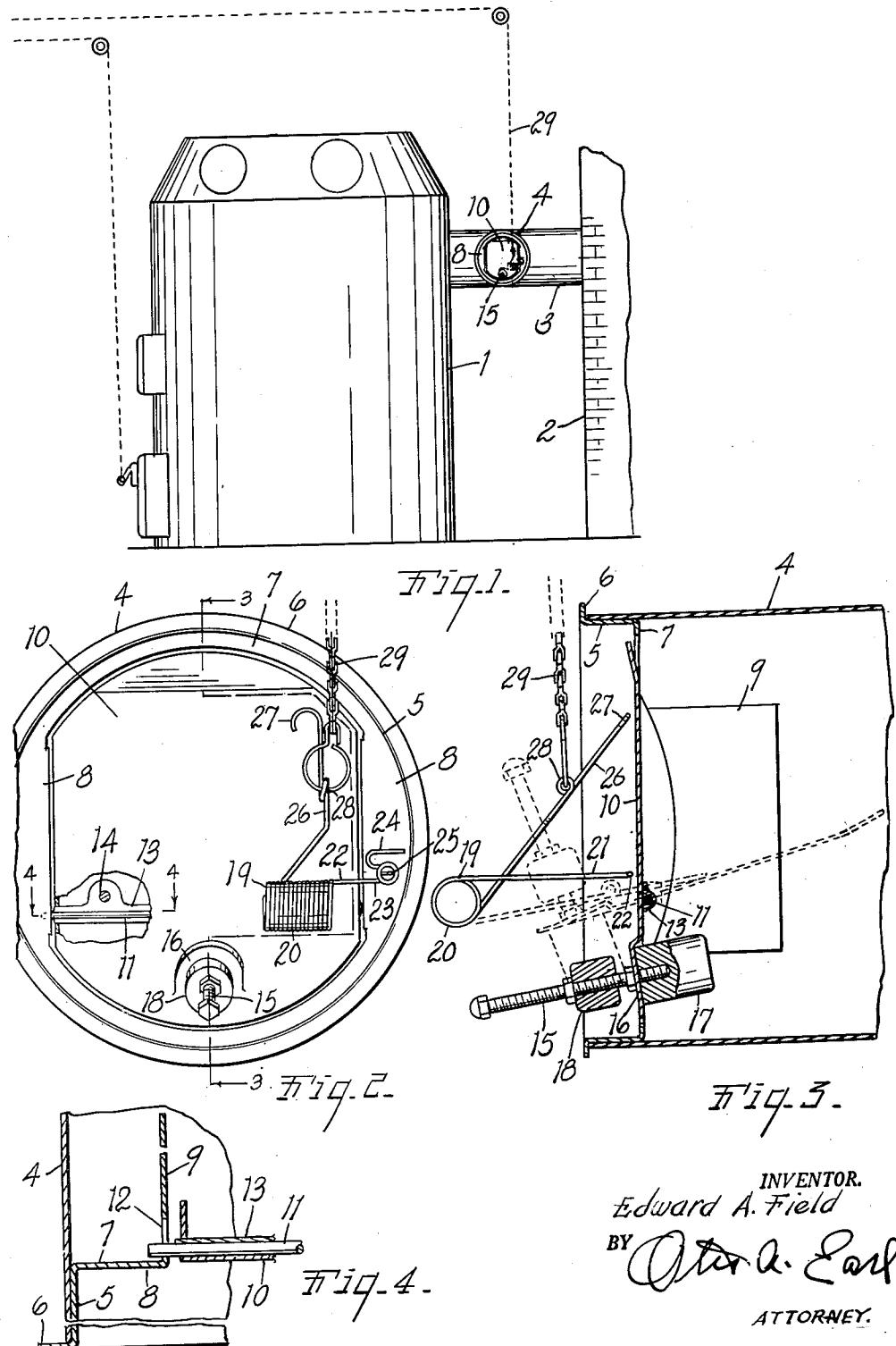
E. A. FIELD

2,624,513

DRAFT CONTROL

Filed Dec. 17, 1949

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1



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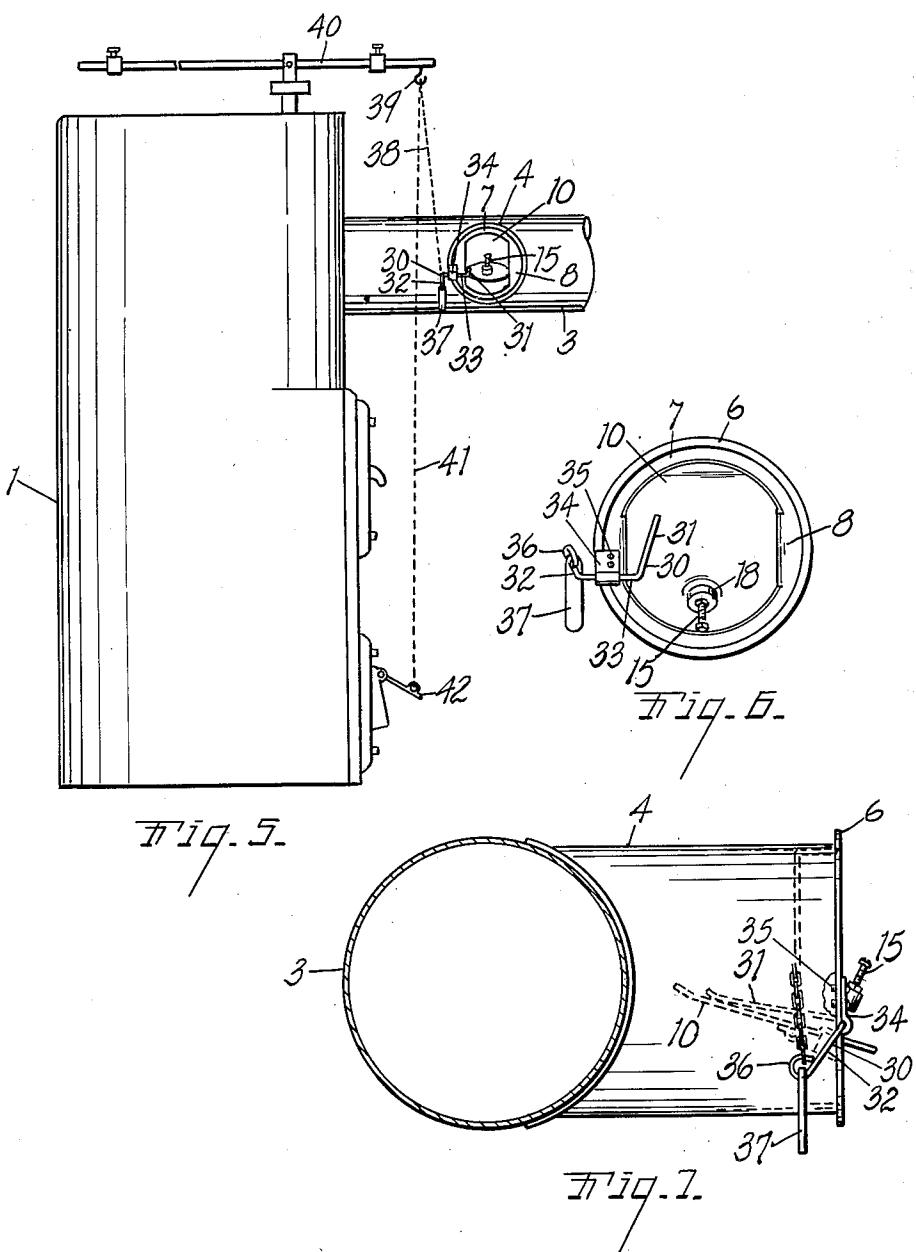
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2



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DRAFT CONTROL

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10 Claims. (Cl. 236—45)

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This invention relates to improvements in draft controls.

The main objects of the invention are:

First, to provide an improved barometric draft control having provision for opening the gate or damper of such a control and holding the same open, to thereby render the barometric control inoperative and check the fire in a furnace, to the flue of which the control is applied.

Second, to provide a draft control of the character above described in which the means for opening the gate or damper and holding the same open is normally operative to prevent normal barometric control of the gate or damper, and in which such means may be either manually or automatically operated to render the same inoperative in holding the gate open, to thereby permit normal barometric control of the gate.

Third, to provide a draft control which may be very economically produced and may be readily installed, and one in which the parts are so arranged that the gate and its supports cannot be injured in the event of excessive force being applied to the control, and one in which on failure of such control the gate is automatically opened to check the fire of the furnace.

Objects relating to details and economies of the invention will appear from the description to follow. The invention is pointed out and defined in the claims.

Preferred embodiments of the invention are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of a furnace, mainly shown conventionally with the draft control of the invention installed in the flue thereof.

Fig. 2 is a front elevational view of the control with portions broken away.

Fig. 3 is a view generally in vertical section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2, the gate being shown in closed position in full lines and in open position in dotted lines.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary view showing a structural detail on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a view of another embodiment of the invention showing in side elevation a boiler and the draft control installed in the flue of the heating equipment thereof.

Fig. 6 is a front elevational view of the control of Fig. 5.

Fig. 7 shows in section the flue of the furnace and in side elevation the housing and control applied to the flue.

Referring to the accompanying drawing and the embodiment of the invention shown in Figs.

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1 to 4, 1 designates the furnace, 2 the chimney and 3 the flue connecting the furnace and chimney. The flue is provided with a laterally projecting housing 4 opening thereto. An annular gate frame 5 is fitted in the outer end of the housing and is provided with an outwardly projecting flange 6 which serves as locating and reinforcing means for the gate frame. This frame is desirably formed of a sheet metal stamping.

10 The gate frame 5 is provided at its inner end with a radially inwardly projecting flange 7 having on the opposite sides thereof the segmental portions 8 provided at their inner edges with wings 9 projecting inwardly of the housing. 15 These wings are disposed in spaced parallel relation to swingably receive the gate or damper 10 between them, the wings serve to substantially reduce or minimize passage of air around the sides of the gate, thus providing a much more uniform control or regulation than would be possible without the same.

20 The gate 10 is provided with a pintle or pivot rod 11 arranged substantially below the center of the gate. The wings 9 are provided with bearing openings 12 of substantial size, as shown in Fig. 4, so that the pintle may have rolling contact with the lower edge thereof. The pintle 11 is attached to the rear side of the gate by means of the plate 13 secured by rivets 14 to the gate.

25 The gate is weighted for barometric draft-control as follows: A threaded counterweight arm 15 projects through the offset 16 of the gate so that the arm is in the desired angular relation to the gate. A balancing weight 17 is threadedly connected to the inner end of the arm, and a weight 18 is threadedly connected to the outer end of the arm. The weight 18 is adjustable on the arm to provide suitable barometric control, as is old in the art.

30 35 40 In operating a furnace, there are certain conditions when it is desirable to prevent or eliminate barometric control of the gate, for example, when it is desired to bank or check the fire in the furnace to which the control is applied.

45 To this end I provide a control spring designated generally by the numeral 19 and comprising a coiled portion 20 terminating at one end in a rearwardly projecting arm 21 provided with a laterally offset portion 22 terminating in lower and upper loops 23 and 24 respectively. A bolt 25 passing through the lower loop 23 and the segmental portion 8 of the gate frame, securely connects the control spring to the gate frame. The loops 23 and 24 are disposed in a common plane and flatly engage the portion 8 to minimize

tendency of any rocking motion of the loops about the bolt 25. The opposite end of the coiled portion 20 terminates in a rearwardly and upwardly projecting arm 26 terminating in a loop 27 normally engaging the gate to press the same inwardly into open position as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 3. To a loop 28 intermediate the ends of the arm 26 is connected a cable or chain 29 by means of which the arm 26 may be raised so that the loop 27 no longer engages the gate to hold the same in open position. Fig. 3 shows in full lines, the arm 26 raised from engagement with the gate and out of the path of movement thereof, thereby permitting the same to freely swing against the force of the weight of the counterbalancing mechanism, for barometric draft control. The arms 21 and 26 are disposed in crossing relation, as shown in Fig. 3. It will be noted by reference Fig. 2 that the end portion of the arm 26 to which the cable is connected is offset laterally so as to be substantially in the same vertical plane with end coil opposite that from which the arm projects. This tends to prevent any distortion of the coiled portion when the cable is pulled upwardly. The arm 26 swings about the axis of the coil 20. This arm and the gate 10 both extending upwardly that is in substantially the same general direction from their axes of swinging movements, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, facilitates the arm swinging in substantially general parallelism to the gate during substantially the entire opening movement of the gate, and facilitates opening the gate to a widely opened substantially horizontal position as shown in dotted outline in Fig. 3.

When it is desired to check or bank the furnace fire the cable 29 is released. This permits the loop 27 of the control spring to engage gate and open the same into the dotted line position shown in Fig. 3. When there is need for heat the cable is pulled upwardly which releases the control spring from engagement of the gate as shown in full lines Fig. 3 which permits the gate to close under the force of the weight of the counterbalancing mechanism and to be thereafter automatically controlled by variations of pressure on the opposite sides of the gate. The cable may be operated by any suitable means either manual or automatic not shown. If the cable should break the control spring automatically opens the damper to check the fire. In other words the mechanism is such that it fails safe.

Referring to the embodiment of the invention shown in Figs. 5, 6 and 7, a control lever designated generally by the numeral 30 is formed of a wire or rod circular in cross section and bent to provide a gate engaging arm 31, a weight supporting arm 32 and a shaft portion 33 intermediate the arms. The shaft portion is pivotally mounted in a bracket 34 secured by screws 35 to the gate frame 5 as shown in Figs. 6 and 7. This permits the bracket and control lever to be connected to the gate frame when installed. The arm 32 is provided with a loop 36 to which is pivotally connected the weight 37. A cable or chain 38 engaging in loop 36 connects the arm 32 to a hook 39 on the end of lever 40. Another cable 41 connects the hook 39 to the ash pit draft damper 42. The construction of the embodiment of Figs. 5, 6 and 7 is otherwise similar to that of the embodiment of Figs. 1 to 4.

When it is desired to check or bank the fire of the boiler, the lever 40 is operated to lower the cable 38. This permits the weight 37 to pull down on the arm 32 of the lever 30 and thereby force

the arm 31 into engagement with the gate and open the same against the force of weight 18 of the gate into the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 7. When there is need for heat the lever 40 is operated to pull the cable 38 upwardly. This raises the weight 37 and operates the lever 30 into such position that arm 31 is vertically disposed and out of engagement with the gate, which permits the gate to close under the influence of its weight and thereby be automatically controlled by variations in pressure on the opposite sides thereof. The cables 38 and 41 being connected to the lever 40 and to the control lever 30 and ash pit draft damper 42 as shown and described, when the lever 40 is operated so as to open the gate or damper 10 then the ash pit draft damper 42 is simultaneously closed so as to check the fire, and when the lever 40 is operated to permit closing of the damper 10 then the damper 42 is simultaneously opened so as to provide more heat. Should the cable 38 break, the control lever 30 under the influence of the weight 37 operates to open the damper 10 and thereby check the fire, the mechanism thus being such that it fails safe. The lever 40 obviously may be operated either manually or automatically by any suitable means, not shown.

I have illustrated and described highly practical embodiments of the invention. I have not attempted to illustrate or describe other embodiments or adaptations as it is believed this disclosure will enable those skilled in the art to embody or adapt the invention as may be desired.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a draft control, a housing, a gate frame disposed within said housing and defining a gate opening, a gate pivotally connected to said frame and disposed in said opening, a weight on said gate disposed to close the same for barometric draft control, means for opening the gate and holding the same in open position against the return action of its weight, said means including a coiled spring terminating at each end in a projecting arm, one arm being fixedly connected to said gate frame, the other arm being disposed to yieldingly press against the gate to open the gate and hold the same open against the return action of its weight, and a cable connected to said last named arm and disposed to pull the same away from the gate against the stress of said spring to permit the gate to close under the influence of its weight for barometric draft control.
2. In a draft control, a housing, a gate frame disposed within said housing and defining a gate opening, a gate pivotally connected to said frame and disposed in said opening, a weight on said gate disposed to close the same for barometric draft control, means for opening the gate and holding the same in open position against the return action of its weight, said means including a coiled spring terminating at each end in a projecting arm, one arm being fixedly connected to said gate frame, the other arm being disposed to yieldingly press against the gate to open the gate and hold the same open against the return action of its weight and having the outer end portion thereof disposed in substantially the same vertical plane with the first mentioned arm, and a cable connected to said other arm and disposed to pull the same away from the gate against the stress of said spring to permit the gate to close under the influence of its weight for barometric draft control.

3. In a draft control, a housing, a gate frame disposed within said housing and defining a gate opening, a gate pivotally connected to said frame and disposed in said opening, a weight on said gate disposed to close the same for barometric draft control, means for opening the gate and holding the same in open position against the return action of its weight, said means including a coiled spring terminating at each end in a projecting arm, one arm being fixedly connected to said gate frame, the other arm being disposed to yieldingly press against the gate to open the gate and hold the same open against the return action of its weight, and means connected to said last named arm and disposed to move the same away from the gate against the stress of said spring to permit the gate to close under the influence of its weight for barometric draft control.

4. In a draft control, a housing defining a gate opening, a pivoted gate disposed in said opening, a weight on said gate disposed to close the same for barometric draft control, means for holding the gate open against the return action of its weight, said means including a spring having one end fixedly associated relative to said housing and its other end disposed to yieldingly urge said gate to an open position and hold the same open against the return action of its weight, and a cable connected to said last named arm and disposed to pull the same against the stress of the spring to render the spring inoperative in holding the gate in open position and to permit the gate to close under the influence of its weight for barometric draft control.

5. In a draft control, a housing defining a gate opening, a pivoted gate disposed in said opening, a weight on said gate disposed to close the same for barometric draft control, means for holding the gate open against the return action of its weight, said means including a coiled spring having one end fixedly associated relative to said housing and its other end constituting an arm springable about the axis of the coil and disposed to yieldingly urge said gate to an open position and hold the same open against the return action of its weight, and means connected to said arm and disposed to move the same against the stress of the spring to render the spring inoperative in holding the gate in open position and to permit the gate to close under the influence of its weight for barometric draft control.

6. In a draft control, a housing defining a gate opening, a pivoted gate disposed in said opening, means for urging said gate toward a closed position for barometric draft control, resilient means disposed to open said gate and hold the same open against the return action of said first mentioned means, said resilient means including a coiled spring having two arms projecting therefrom, one arm being attached to the housing for supporting the coil and the other arm being disposed to engage the gate and hold the same open, and means connected to the last named arm for rendering the same inoperative in holding the gate open, to thereby permit the gate to close under the return action of the first mentioned means for barometric draft control, said arms being disposed in crossing relation to each other when the gate is closed.

7. In a draft control, a housing defining a gate opening, a pivoted gate disposed in said opening, a weight on said gate disposed to urge the gate toward a closed position for barometric draft control, a first means disposed to open said gate and hold the gate open against the return action

of its weight, and a second means connected to said first means and operable against the force of the first means for rendering said first means inoperative in holding the gate open to thereby permit the gate to close under the influence of its weight for barometric draft control, said first means being supportingly connected to the housing at one side thereof adjacent an end of the pivotal axis of the gate, and including an arm disposed to swing towards and from the gate and to engage the gate in radially spaced relation from the axis of the gate to open the same, said arm and gate projecting from their axes of swinging movement in substantially the same general direction to facilitate the arm swinging in substantially general parallelism to the gate during substantially the entire opening movement of the gate, said first means including means tending to urge said arm inwardly towards the gate at all times, said second means in its entirety being a separate means from the first means.

8. In a draft control, a housing defining a gate opening, a pivoted gate disposed in said opening, a first means connected to said gate for urging the same towards a closed position for barometric draft control, a second means disposed to open said gate and hold the same open against the return action of said first means and a third means connected to said second means operable against the force of the second means to render the second means inoperative in holding the gate open to thereby permit the gate to close under the return action of said first means for barometric draft control, said second means being supportingly connected to the housing at one side thereof adjacent an end of the pivotal axis of the gate and including an arm disposed to swing toward and from the gates and to engage the gate in radially spaced relation from the pivotal axis of the gate to open the same, said arm and gate projecting from their axes of swinging movement in substantially the same general direction to facilitate the arm swinging in substantially general parallelism to the gate during substantially the entire opening movement thereof, said second means including means tending to urge said arm inwardly towards the gate at all times, said third means in its entirety being a separate means from said second means.

9. In a draft control, a housing, a gate frame disposed in said housing and defining a gate opening, a pivoted gate disposed in said opening and weighted to urge said gate toward a closed position for barometric draft control, means for opening said gate and holding the same open against the return action of its weight, said means including a lever formed of a rod bent to provide a first arm, a second arm and a shaft portion intermediate said arms, a bearing on said gate frame for said shaft portion, said first arm being disposed to move the gate to an open position, a weight mounted on said second arm, said weight and second arm being disposed to move said first arm to open the gate and hold the same open against the return action of the weight on the gate, and a cable connected to said control lever for moving the same against the influence of the weight supported by the control lever to render the control lever inoperative in holding the gate in open position and to permit the gate to close under influence of its own weight for barometric draft control, said lever being supportingly connected to the housing at one side

thereof adjacent an end of the pivotal axis of the gate, said first arm being disposed to swing towards and from the gate and to engage the gate in radially spaced relation from its pivotal axis to open the same, said first arm and gate projecting from their axes of swinging movement in substantially the same general direction to facilitate said first arm swinging in substantially general parallelism to the gate during substantially the entire opening movement thereof, said second arm and the weight supported thereby being disposed relative to said first arm to urge said first arm inwardly towards the gate at all times.

10. In a draft control, a housing defining a gate opening, a pivoted gate disposed in said opening, a weight on said gate to urge the same towards a closed position for barometric draft control, a control lever disposed for opening said gate and holding the same open against the return action of the weight on the gate, a weight on said control lever disposed to turn the lever to open the gate, the force of the last named weight in turning the control lever being such that the gate is opened and held open by the lever against the closing action of the weight on the gate, and means connected to said control lever for turning the same against the force of the weight thereon to render the control lever inoperative in holding the gate open to permit the gate to close by the force of the weight on the gate for barometric draft control, said lever

15 being supportingly connected to the housing at one side thereof adjacent an end of the pivotal axis of the gate and including an arm disposed to swing towards and from the gate and to engage the gate in radially spaced relation from the pivotal axis of the gate to open the same, said arm and gate projecting from their axes of swinging movement in substantially the same general direction to facilitate the arm swinging in substantially general parallelism to the gate during substantially the entire opening movement thereof, said arm and weight being disposed relative to said lever to urge said arm towards the gate at all times.

10 20 25 30 EDWARD A. FIELD.

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