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PATENTED AUG. 28, 1906.

W. G. MEDDINGS.
SPRINKLER ALARM DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 12, 1906.

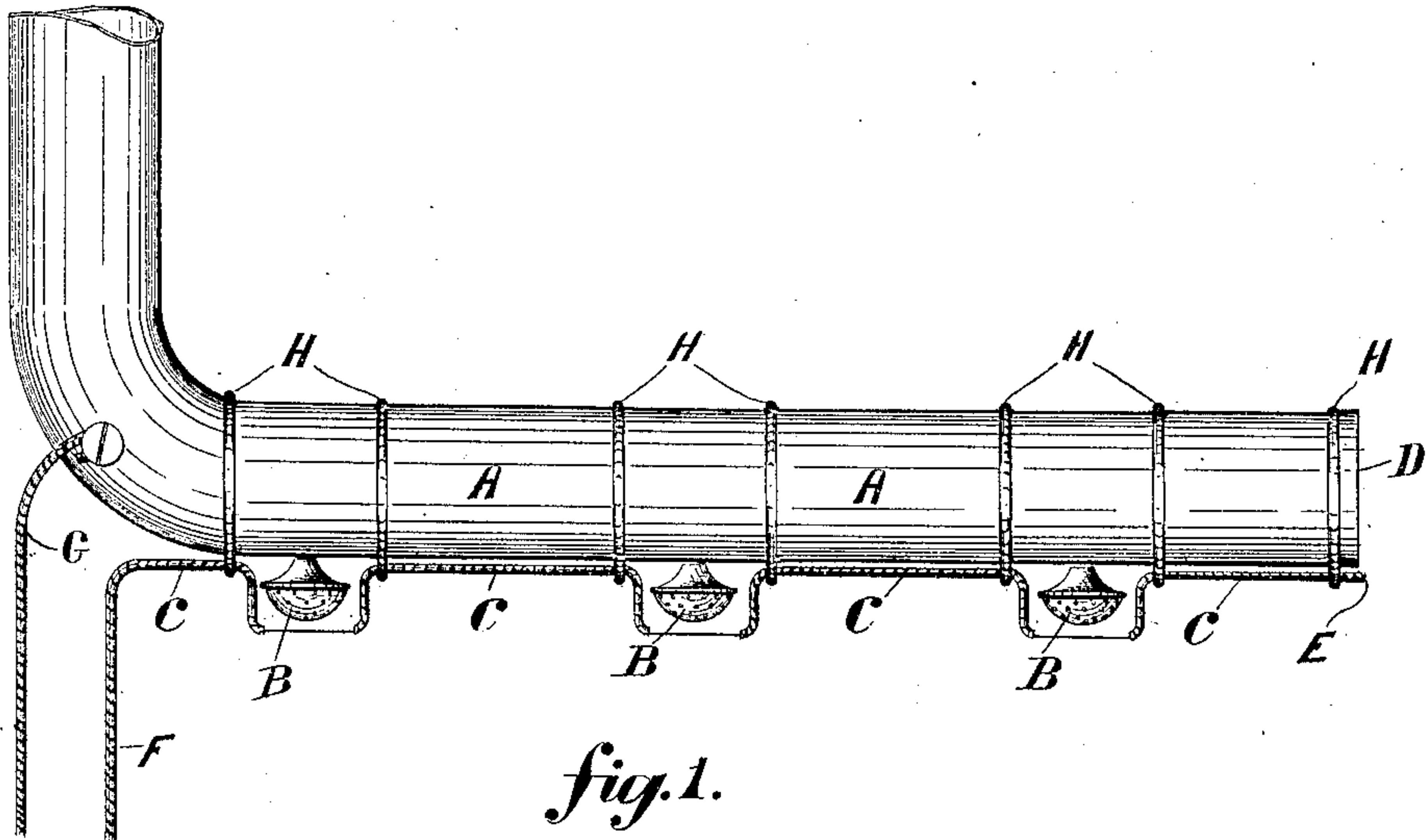


fig. 1.

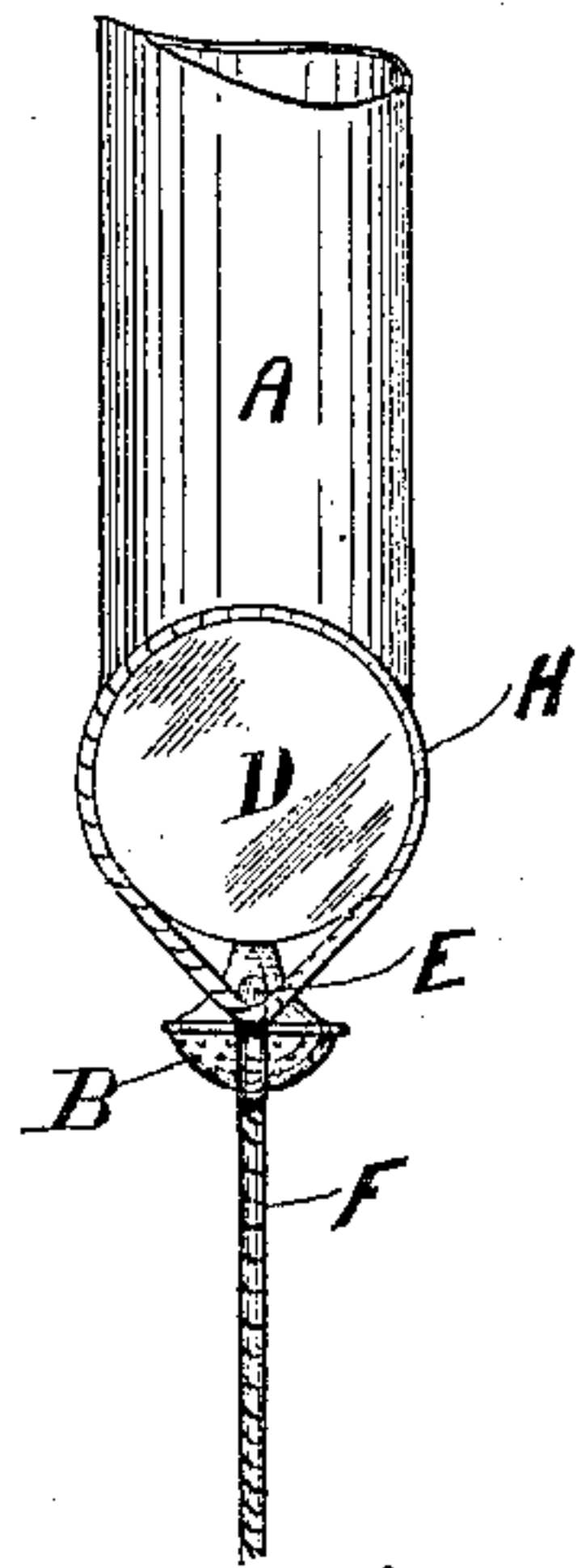


fig. 2.

Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM GEORGE MEDDINGS, OF REMUERA, NEAR AUCKLAND,
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SPRINKLER ALARM DEVICE.

No. 829,796.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 28, 1906.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM GEORGE MEDDINGS, inspector of New Zealand telegraphs, a subject of His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and a resident of Remuera, near the city of Auckland, in the Provincial District of Auckland and Colony of New Zealand, have invented a Sprinkler Alarm Device, of which the following is a specification.

The purpose of this invention is to create a record and give a signal whenever sprinklers fitted for extinguishing fires are broken and caused to act. This result is obtained by fitting an insulated wire partly exposed to the pipe or pipes to which the sprinklers are attached, which is connected to a battery and recording instrument or instruments in the manner hereunder described.

The accompanying drawings show two figures, of which—

Figure 1 is an elevation showing a pipe with three sprinklers attached thereto and an insulated wire fitted to the pipe; and Fig. 2 is an end view showing closed end of pipe, one sprinkler, and one end of insulated wire.

The pipe A represents a water-pipe fixed, preferably, to the ceiling of a room of a building or to the inside of the roof of the building. The sprinklers B are attached in the usual way to the pipe or pipes A and are made ready to operate as fire-extinguishers on sufficient heat reaching and acting on them.

The insulated wire C is fitted to the pipe or pipes A by wippings of any suitable material (shown at H) in any suitable manner and so that where the wire C is carried round or beneath the sprinklers B the insulation is removed. This removal leaves the wire bare and exposed, so that on any one of the sprinklers B being broken or opened the water rushing from the sprinkler B will play on the exposed part of the wire C, and thereby establish an electrical circuit between the wire C and the pipe or pipes A. One end E of the insulated wire C is sealed and left disconnected at the end D of the pipe A, while the other end F of the wire is carried to any convenient position where it can be connected to the necessary battery or apparatus. Another wire G is electrically connected to the pipe A,

and it, too, is also carried to the battery or apparatus in such a manner as to make the pipes the return-circuit through the medium of the water issuing from the sprinkler.

This device is capable of being fitted to any sprinkler system for the extinguishing of outbreaks of fire. The portion of the wire C from which the insulated material is removed can be covered with any thin material pervious to water, so as to save accidental contact with the pipes.

When the electric circuit before referred to is established between the wire C and the pipe or pipes A by means of the water issuing therefrom, the record-signal will be made and give the alarm by ringing a bell in the usual way or by any other electrical means which may be desired.

The great advantage of this device is its perfectly instantaneous action, whereby the opening of a sprinkler is made known whether caused by fire or otherwise. If from other cause than fire, the breakage can be rectified and the consequent spoiling of goods by the downpour of water be forthwith prevented.

Though three sprinklers are described and shown, one or any number can be used, if so desired.

I claim—

1. In combination with a water-pipe, battery-wires, one of which is in electrical connection with the pipe and the other of which is insulated therefrom, said latter wire having exposed portions located directly under normally closed discharge-orifices in said pipe.

2. Electrical apparatus for instantly recording the actuation of automatic fire-extinguishing apparatus comprising in combination with a water-pipe provided with a series of sprinklers, battery-wires, one of which is electrically connected with said pipe and the other of which is insulated therefrom, said latter wire having exposed portions located directly under said sprinklers.

WILLIAM GEORGE MEDDINGS.

Witnesses:

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