

A Practical Guide to 'Free Energy' Devices

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This pre-World War I patent shows the details of a device which can produce electricity without mechanical or chemical inputs. The second prototype developed 8 volts DC. The flow of electricity is said to be constant. It operates day and night and works in all locations capable of receiving radio waves. While it will operate indoors, the output is greater if it is located outdoors. The inventor recommends the use of a lightning arrester as used on telegraph lines.

Patent GB1913,01098

14th January 1914

Inventor: Roy J. Meyers

APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING ELECTRICITY

ABSTRACT

A rectifier for use with apparatus for producing electricity from the earth consists of mercury- vapour lamps constructed and arranged as shown in **Fig.4**. Each lamp comprises two wires **6<1>**, **7<1>** wound around a steel tube **15** surrounding a mercury tube **11** preferably of copper. The coil **6<1>** is connected between the electrode **14** and the terminal **18**, and the coil **7<1>** between the terminals **19**, **5**. The coils **6<1>**, **7<1>** are preferably composed of soft iron.

DESCRIPTION

This invention relates to improvements in apparatus for the production of electrical currents, and the primary object in view is the production of a commercially serviceable electrical current without the employment of mechanical or chemical action. To this end the invention comprises means for producing what I believe to be dynamic electricity from the earth and its ambient elements.

I am, of course aware that it has been proposed to obtain static charges from upper strata of the atmosphere, but such charges are recognised as of widely variant potential and have thus far proved of no practical commercial value, and the present invention is distinguished from all such apparatus as has heretofore been employed for attracting static charges by the fact that this improved apparatus is not designed or employed to produce or generate irregular, fluctuating or other electrical charges which lack constancy, but on the other hand I have by actual test been able to produce from a very small apparatus at comparatively low elevation, say about 50 or 60 feet above the earth's surface, a substantially constant current at a commercially usable voltage and amperage.

This current I ascertained by repeated tests is capable of being readily increased by additions of the unit elements in the apparatus described below, and I am convinced from the constancy of the current obtained and its comparatively low potential that the current is dynamic and not static, although, of course, it is not impossible that certain static discharges occur and, in fact, I have found occasion to provide against the damage which might result from such discharge by the provision of lightning arresters and cut-out apparatus which assist in rendering the obtained current stable by eliminating sudden fluctuations which sometimes occur during conditions of high humidity from what I consider static discharges.

The nature of my invention is obviously such that I have been unable to establish authoritatively all of the principles involved, and some of the theories herein expressed may possibly prove erroneous, but I do know and am able to demonstrate that the apparatus which I have discovered does produce, generate, or otherwise acquire a difference of potential representing a current amperage as stated above.

The invention comprises the means for producing electrical currents of serviceable potential substantially without the employment of mechanical or chemical action, and in this connection I have been able to observe no chemical action whatever on the parts utilised although deterioration may possibly occur in some

of the parts, but so far as I am able to determine such deterioration does not add to the current supply but is merely incidental to the effect of climatic action.

The invention more specifically comprises the employment of a magnet or magnets and a co-operating element, such as zinc positioned adjacent to the magnet or magnets and connected in such manner and arranged relative to the earth so as to produce current, my observation being that current is produced only when such magnets have their poles facing substantially to the north and south and the zincs are disposed substantially along the magnets.

The invention also comprehends other details of construction, combinations and arrangements of parts as will be fully set forth.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

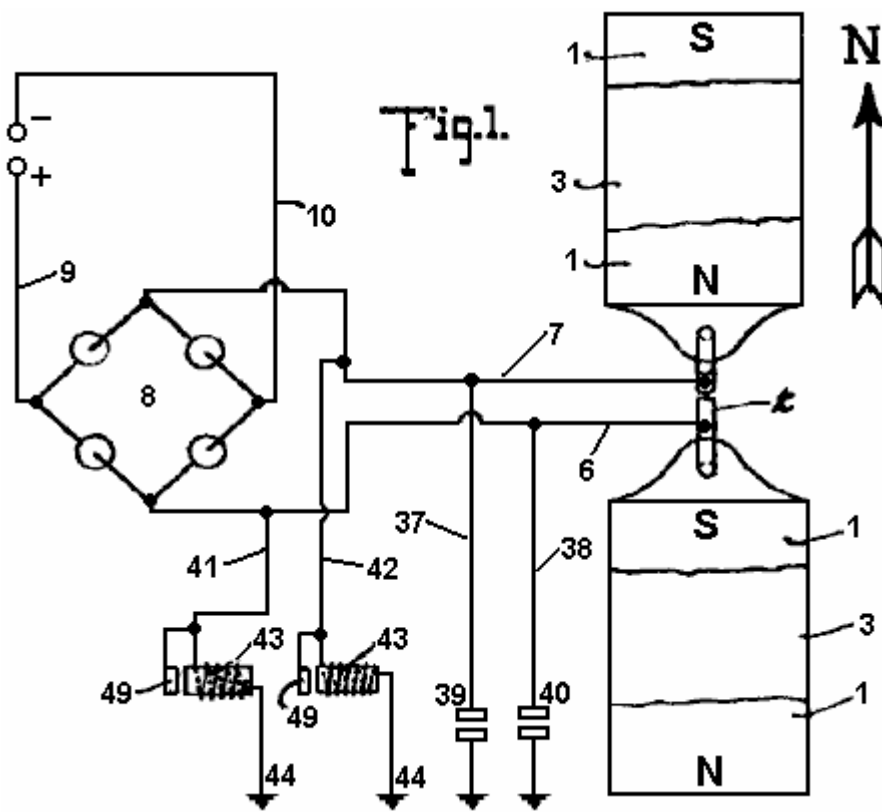


Fig.1 is a plan view of an apparatus embodying the features of the present invention, the arrow accompanying the figure indicating substantially the geographical north, parts of this figure are diagrammatic.

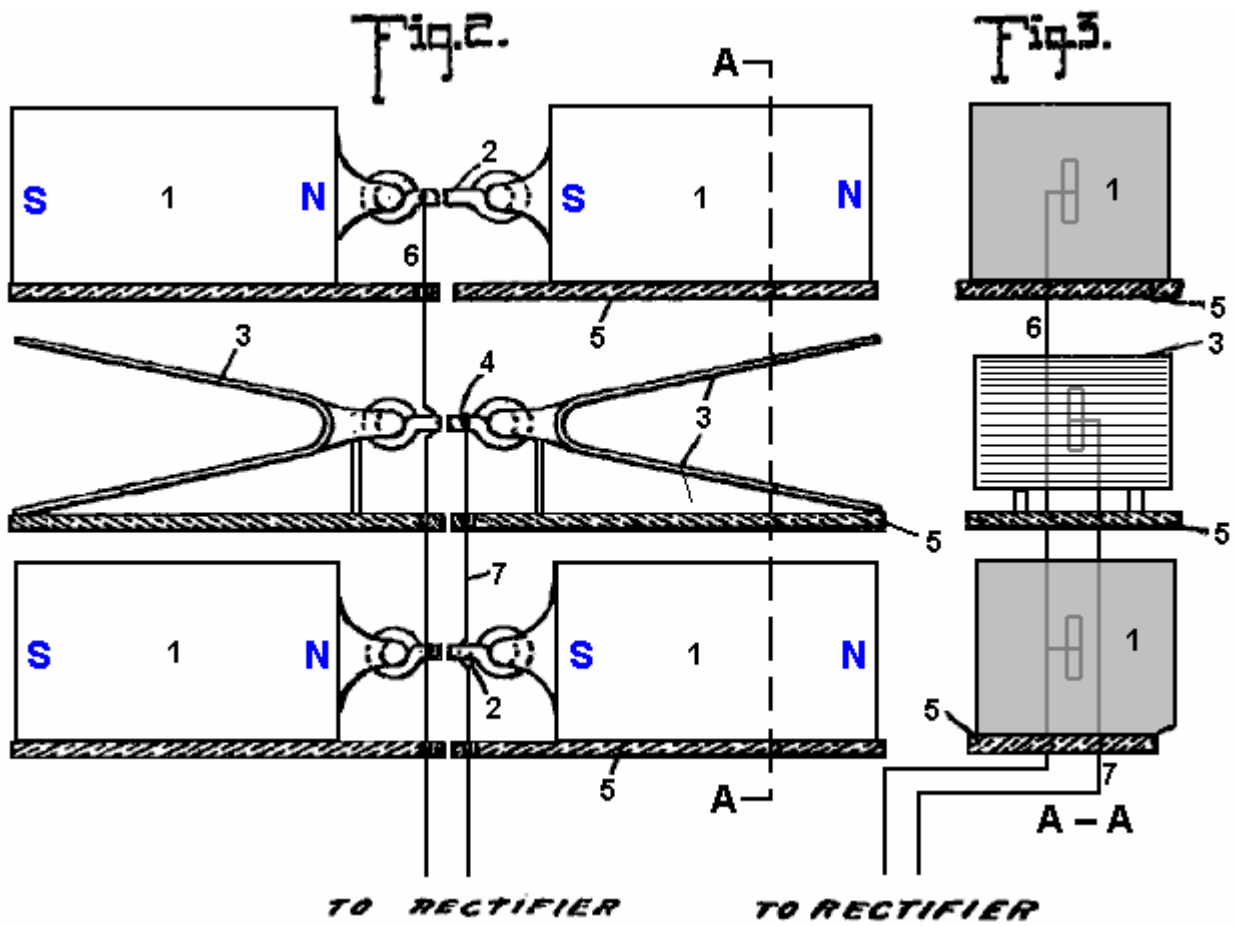


Fig.2 is a view is side elevation of the parts seen in plan in Fig.1

Fig.3 is a vertical section taken on the plane indicated by the line A--A of Fig.2.

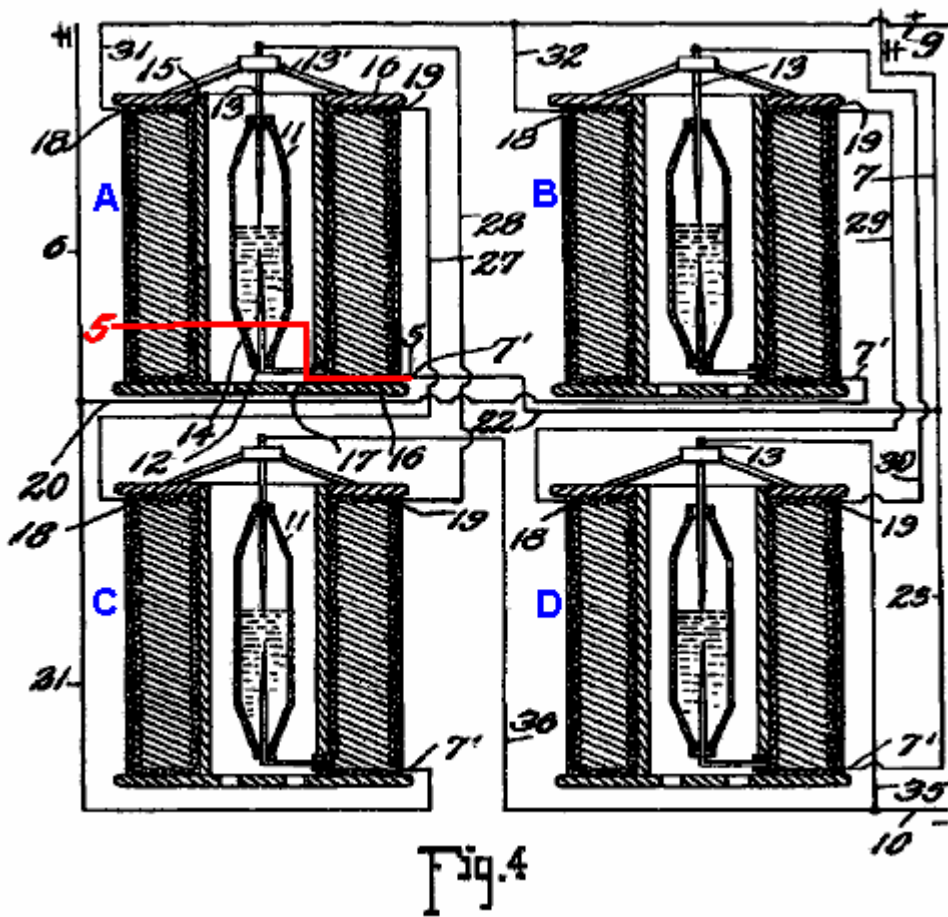


Fig. 4

Fig. 4 is a detail view, partly in elevation and partly in section, showing the connections of the converter and intensifier.

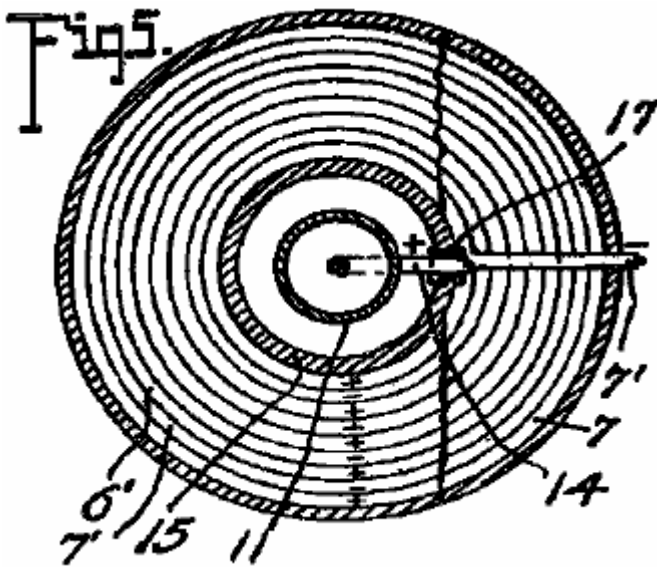


Fig. 5 is a transverse section taken on the planes indicated by line 5-5 of Fig. 4, looking downwards.

Fig.6

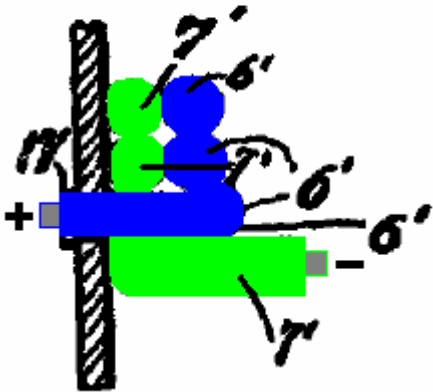


Fig.6 is an enlarged detail fragmentary section illustrating the parts at the junction of the conductors and one of the intensifiers.

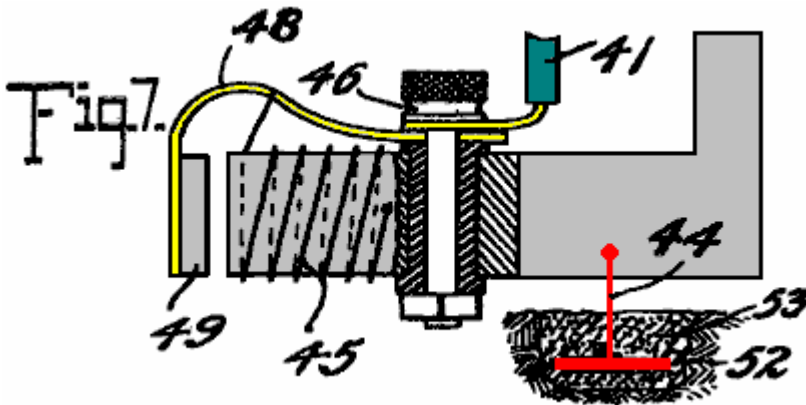


Fig.7 is an enlarged detail view partly in elevation and partly in section of one of the automatic cut-outs

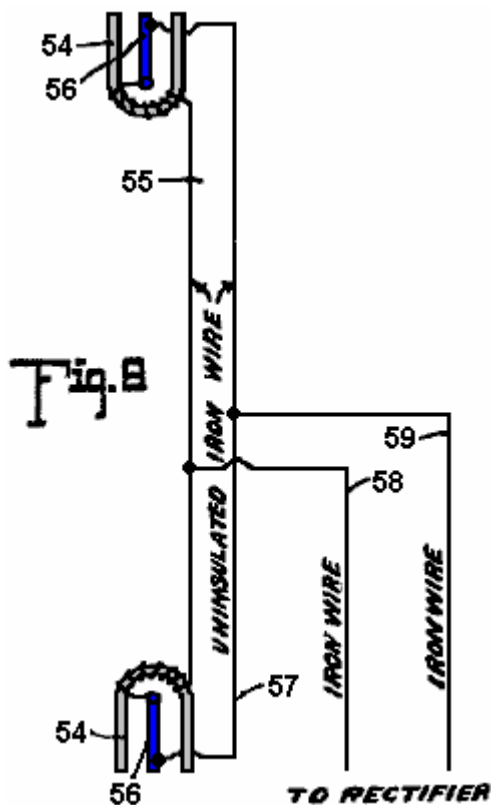


Fig.8 is a diagrammatic view of one of the simplest forms of embodiment of the invention.

Referring to the drawing by numerals, 1,1 indicates magnets connected by a magnetic substance 2, preferably an iron wire. The magnets 1 are arranged in pairs, one pair being spaced beneath the other, and interposed between the magnets are zinc plates 3,3 connected by an iron wire conductor 4. Suitable insulating supports 5 are arranged for sustaining the respective magnets 1 and plates 3,3. Each plate 3 is preferably bent substantially into V form, as clearly seen in Fig.1, and the V of one of the plates opens or faces toward the North and the V of the other plate to the South. I have determined by experimentation that it is essential that the plates 3 be disposed substantially North and South with their flat faces approximately parallel to the adjacent faces of the co-operating magnets, although by experience I have not discovered any material difference in the current obtained when the plates are disposed slightly to one side of North and South, as for instance when the plates are disposed in the line of the magnetic polarity of the earth. The same is true with respect to the magnets 1, the said magnets being disposed substantially North and South for operative purposes, although I find that it is immaterial whether the North pole of one of the magnets is disposed to the North and the South pole to the South, or vice versa, and it is my conviction from experience that it is essential to have the magnets of each pair connected by magnetic material so that the magnets substantially become one with a pole exposed to the North and a pole exposed to the South.

In Fig.1, I have indicated in full lines by the letters **S** and **N** the respective polarities of the magnets 1, and have indicated in dotted lines the other pole of those magnets when the connection 2 is severed. I have found that the magnets and zinc plates operate to produce, (whether by collection or generation I am not certain), electrical currents when disposed substantially North and South, but when disposed substantially East and West, no such currents are produced. I also find that the question of elevation is by no means vital, but it is true that more efficient results are obtained by placing the zincs and magnets on elevated supports. I furthermore find from tests, that it is possible to obtain currents from the apparatus with the zincs and magnets disposed in a building or otherwise enclosed, although more efficient results are obtained by having them located in the open.

While in Figures 1, 2, and 3, I have shown the magnets and the zinc plates as superimposed, it will be apparent, as described in detail below, that these elements may be repositioned in horizontal planes, and substantially the same results will be secured. Furthermore, the magnets 1 with the interposed zincs 3, as shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3 merely represent a unit which may be repeated either horizontally or vertically

for increasing the current supply, and when the unit is repeated the zinc plates are arranged alternating with the magnets throughout the entire series as indicated below.

A conductor **6** is connected in multiple with the conductors **2** and a conductor **7** is connected with conductor **4**, the conductor **6** extending to one terminal of a rectifier which I have indicated by the general reference character **8**, and the conductor **7** extending to the other terminal of the rectifier. The rectifier as seen in the diagram **Fig.1** may assume any of several well known embodiments of the electrical valve type and may consist of four asymmetric cells or Cooper-Hewitt mercury vapour lamps connected as indicated in **Fig.1** for permitting communication of the positive impulses from the conductor **6** only to the line conductor **9** and the negative impulses from conductor **6** on only to the line conductor **10**. The current from this rectifier may be delivered through the conductors **9** and **10** to any suitable source for consumption.

While the said rectifier **8** may consist of any of the known types, as above outlined, it preferably consists of a specially constructed rectifier which also has the capacity of intensifying the current and comprises specifically the elements shown in detail in **Figures 4, 5, and 6** wherein I have disclosed the detail wiring of the rectifier when composed of four of the rectifying and intensify in elements instead of asymmetric cells or simple mercury vapour valves. As each of these structures is an exact embodiment of all the others, one only will be described, and the description will apply to all. The rectifying element of each construction consists of a mercury tube **11** which is preferably formed of glass or other suitable material, and comprises a cylinder having its end portions tapered and each terminating in an insulating plug or stopper **12**. Through the upper stopper **12** is extended the electrode **13** which extends well into the tube and preferably about one-half its length, to a point adjacent the inner end of an opposing electrode **14** which latter electrode extends from there down through the insulation **12** at the lower end of the tube. The tube **11** is supplied with mercury and is adapted to operate on the principle of the mercury vapour lamp, serving to rectify current by checking back impulses of one sign and permitting passage of impulses of the other.

To avoid the necessity for utilising a starter, as is common with the lamp type of electrical valve, the supply of mercury within the tube may be sufficient to contact with the lower end of the electrode **13** when current is not being supplied, so that as soon as current is passed from one electrode to the other sufficiently for volatilising that portion of the mercury immediately adjacent the lower end of electrode **13**, the structure begins its operation as a rectifier. The tube **11** is surrounded by a tube **15** which is preferably spaced from tube **11** sufficiently for allowing atmospheric or other cooling circulation to pass the tube **11**. In some instances, it may be desirable to cool the tube **11** by a surrounding body of liquid, as mentioned below. The tube **15** may be of insulating material but I find efficient results attained by the employment of a steel tube, and fixed to the ends of the of the tube are insulating disks **16, 16** forming a spool on which are wound twin wires **6'** and **7'**, the wire **6'** being connected at the inner helix of the coil with the outer end of the electrode **14**, the lower portion of said electrode being extended to one side of the tube **11** and passed through an insulating sleeve **17** extending through the tube **15**, and at its outer end merging into the adjacent end of the wire **6'**. The wire **7'** extends directly from the outer portion of the spool through the several helices to a point adjacent to the junction of the electrode **14** with wire **6'** and thence continues parallel to the wire throughout the coil, the wire **6'** ending in a terminal **18** and the wire **7'** ending in a terminal **19**.

For the sake of convenience of description and of tracing the circuits, each of the apparatus just above described and herein known as an intensifier and rectifier will be mentioned as **A, B, C** and **D**, respectively. Conductor **6** is formed with branches **20** and **21** and conductor **7** is formed with similar branches **22** and **23**. Branch **20** from conductor **6** connects with conductor **7'** of intensifier **B** and branch **21** of conductor **6** connects with the conductor **7'** of intensifier **C**, while branch **22** of conductor **7** of intensifier **C**, while branch **22** of conductor **7** connects with conductor **7'** of intensifier **D**. A conductor **27** is connected to terminal **19** of intensifier **A** and extends to and is connected with the terminal **18** of intensifier **C**, and a conductor **7** connects with conductor **7'** of intensifier **D**. A conductor **27** is connected to terminal **19** of intensifier **A**, and extends to and is connected to terminal **18** of intensifier **C**, and a conductor **28** is connected to the terminal **19** of intensifier **C** and extends from the terminal **19** of intensifier **B** to the terminal **18** of intensifier **D** to electrode **13** of intensifier **B**. Each electrode **13** is supported on a spider **13'** resting on the upper disk **16** of the respective intensifier. Conductors **31** and **32** are connected to the terminals **18** of intensifiers **A** and **B** and are united to form the positive line wire **9** which co-operates with the negative line wire **10** and extends to any suitable point of consumption. The line wire **10** is provided with branches **35** and **36** extending to the electrodes **13** of intensifiers **C** and **D** to complete the negative side of the circuit.

Thus it will be seen that alternating currents produced in the wires **6** and **7** will be rectified and delivered in the form of a direct current through the line wires **9** and **10**, and I find by experiment that the wires **6** and **7** should be of iron, preferably soft, and may of course be insulated, the other wiring not specified as iron being of copper or other suitable material.

In carrying out the operation as stated, the circuits may be traced as follows: A positive impulse starting at the zincs **3** is directed along conductor **7** to branch **23** to conductor **7'** and the winding of the rectifier of intensifier **B** through the rectifier to the conductor **6'**, through its winding to the contact **18**, conductor **32** and to the line wire **9**. The next, or negative, impulse directed along conductor **7** cannot find its way along branch **23** and the circuit just above traced because it cannot pass across the rectifier of intensifier **B** but instead the negative impulse passes along conductor **22** to conductor **7** of intensifier **A** and its winding to the contact **19** and to conductor **27** to contact **18** of intensifier **C**, to the winding of the wire **6'** thereof to the electrode **14** through the rectifier to the of the electrode **13** and conductor of intensifier **A**, electrode **14** thereof and conductor **6'** to contact **18** and wire **31** to line wire **9**.

Obviously the positive impulse cannot pass along the wire **20** because of its inverse approach to the rectifier of intensifier **B**. The next impulse or negative impulse delivered to conductor **6** cannot pass along conductor **21** because of its connection with electrode **13** of the rectifier of intensifier **A**, but instead passes along conductor **20** to the wire **7'** and its winding forming part of intensifier **B** to the contact **19** and conductor **29** to contact **18** and the winding of wire **6'** of intensifier **D** to the electrode **14** and through the rectifier to the electrode **13** and conductor **35** to line wire **10**. Thus the current is rectified and all positive impulses directed along one line and all negative impulses along the other lie s that the potential difference between the two lines will be maximum for the given current of the alternating circuit. It is, of course, apparent that a less number of intensifiers with their accompanying rectifier elements may be employed with a sacrifice of the impulses which are checked back from a lack of ability to pass the respective rectifier elements, and in fact I have secured efficient results by the use of a single intensifier with its rectifier elements, as shown below.

Grounding conductors **37** and **38** are connected respectively with the conductors **6** and **7** and are provided with the ordinary lightning arresters **39** and **40** respectively for protecting the circuit against high tension static charges.

Conductors **41** and **42** are connected respectively with the conductors **6** and **7** and each connects with an automatic cut-out **43** which is grounded as at **4**. Each of the automatic cut-outs is exactly like the other and one of the these is shown in detail in **Fig.7** and comprises the inductive resistance **45** provided with an insulated binding post **46** with which the respective conductor **6** or **7** is connected, the post also supporting a spring **48** which sustains an armature **49** adjacent to the core of the resistance **45**. The helix of resistance **45** is connected preferably through the spring to the binding post at one end and at the other end is grounded on the core of the resistance, the core being grounded by ground conductor **44** which extends to the metallic plate **52** embedded in moist carbon or other inductive material buried in the earth. Each of the conductors **41**, **42** and **44** is of iron, and in this connection I wish it understood that where I state the specific substance I am able to verify the accuracy of the statement by the results of tests which I have made, but of course I wish to include along with such substances all equivalents, as for instance, where iron is mentioned its by-products, such as steel, and its equivalents such as nickel and other magnetic substances are intended to be understood.

The cut-out apparatus seen in detail in **Fig.7** is employed particularly for insuring against high voltage currents, it being obvious from the structure shown that when potential rises beyond the limit established by the tension of the spring sustaining the armature **40**, the armature will be moved to a position contacting with the core of the cut-out device and thereby directly close the ground connection for line wire **41** with conductor **44**, eliminating the resistance of winding **45** and allowing the high voltage current to be discharged to the ground. Immediately upon such discharge the winding **45** losing its current will allow the core to become demagnetised and release the armature **49** whereby the ground connection is substantially broken leaving only the connection through the winding **45** the resistance of which is sufficient for insuring against loss of low voltage current.

In **Fig.8** I have illustrated an apparatus which though apparently primitive in construction and arrangement shows the first successful embodiment which I produced in the course of discovery of the present invention, and it will be observed that the essential features of the invention are shown there. The structure shown in the figure consists of horseshoe magnets **54**, **55**, one facing North and the other South, that is, each opening in the respective directions indicated and the two being connected by an iron wire **55** which is uninsulated and wrapped about the respective magnets each end portion of the wire **55** being extended from the respective magnets to and connected with, as by being soldered to, a zinc plate **56**, there being a plate **56** for each magnet and each plate being arranged longitudinally substantially parallel with the legs of the magnet and with the faces of the plate exposed toward the respective legs of the magnet, the plate being thus arranged endwise toward the North and South. An iron wire **57** connects the plates **56**, the ends of the wire being preferably connected adjacent the outer ends of the plates but from experiment I find that the wire

may be connected at practically any point to the plate. Wires **58** and **59** are connected respectively with the wires **55** and **57** and supply an alternating current at a comparatively low voltage, and to control such current the wires **58** and **59** may be extended to a rectifier or combined rectifier and intensifier, as discussed above.

The tests which I have found successful with the apparatus seen in **Fig.8** were carried out by the employment first of horseshoe magnets approximately 4 inches in length, the bar comprising the horseshoe being about one inch square, the zincs being dimensioned proportionately and from this apparatus with the employment of a single intensifier and rectifier, as above stated, I was able to obtain a constant output of 8 volts.

It should be obvious that the magnets forming one of the electrodes of this apparatus may be permanent or may be electromagnets, or a combination of the two.

While the magnets mentioned throughout the above may be formed of any magnetic substance, I find the best results obtained by the employment of the nickel chrome steel.

While the successful operation of the various devices which I have constructed embodying the present invention have not enabled me to arrive definitely and positively at fixed conclusion relative to the principles and theories of operation and the source from which current is supplied, I wish it to be understood that I consider myself as the first inventor of the general type described above, capable of producing commercially serviceable electricity, for which reason my claims hereinafter appended contemplate that I may utilise a wide range of equivalents so far as concerns details of construction suggested as preferably employed.

The current which I am able to obtain is dynamic in the sense that it is not static and its production is accomplished without chemical or mechanical action either incident to the actual chemical or mechanical motion or incident to changing caloric conditions so that the elimination of necessity for the use of chemical or mechanical action is to be considered as including the elimination of the necessity for the use of heat or varying degrees thereof.