

## Charging New Batteries

18 LI

New batteries are generally shipped dry. If no instructions are supplied by the manufacturer, proceed as follows:

1. Remove vent plugs and fill cells with chemically pure battery acid diluted with distilled water to a specific gravity of 1.285 at 20° C (68° F). The level should be approx. 15 mm ( $\frac{5}{8}$  in.) above the plates.
2. Let the battery soak for 5 or 6 hours in order to saturate the plates with electrolyte. The electrolyte level will drop slightly during this period.
3. Add electrolyte to restore the correct level. Insure that the small vent holes in all plugs are open. Loosely replace caps to prevent acid "spitting".
4. Charge battery at a rate of 5 amperes or less until the voltage of each cell is between 2.5 and 2.7 volts, and the cells gas freely.
5. Check the temperature of the battery electrolyte from time to time. If the permissible temperature of 40° C (105° F) has been exceeded, reduce the charging current.

6. After charging, check specific gravity (1.285 or 32° Bé) and adjust if necessary. If acid or distilled water are added, the battery should be connected to the charger again for a short time to insure good mixing.
7. Replace vent plugs not earlier than two hours, if possible later, after the charging process has been completed (to allow gas to escape). Wash off electrolyte and dry the battery.

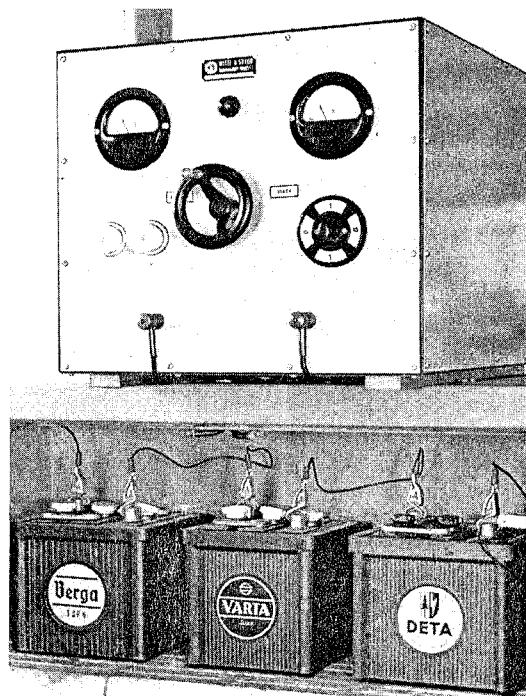


Fig. 39

### Note

Never quick-charge a new battery.