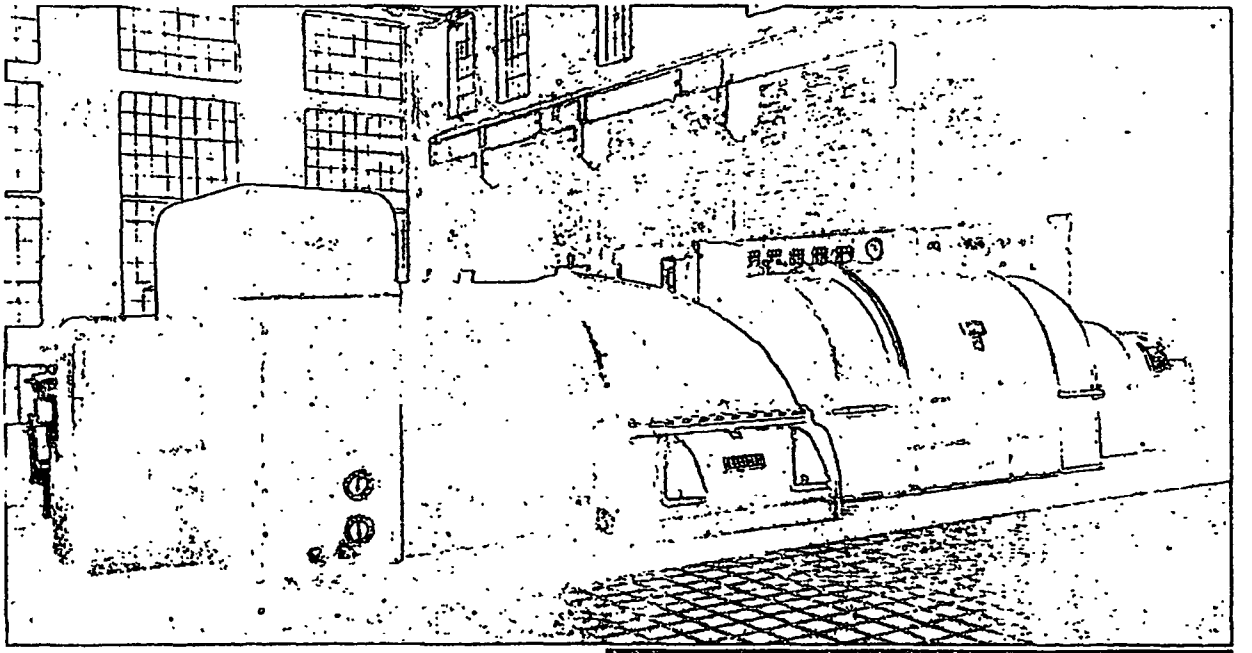


Close-up of the new Elliott 7500-kw turbine-generator unit. The turbine, designed for 400 psi, 750 F inlet steam, is equipped with three extraction openings, only one now used. Below right, another view of this unit.



The new 7500-kw turbine-generator unit with its Elliott surface condenser visible immediately below it.

The coal storage area and equipment, including a Caterpillar bulldozer, was increased so as to provide more adequate storage facilities.

In March, 1944, a survey of adjacent industries was begun to determine the feasibility of supplying steam to the major local industries located within a half mile radius of the power plant. It had become evident by this time that as the profit margin per unit sold decreased, due to fixed sale prices and rising costs, sales would have to be increased in order to maintain a safe operational margin.

The steam survey indicated that the power plant could sell industrial steam in a limited area in order to increase plant load factor and efficiency, and to reduce the unit labor cost per kilowatt. This business, which now has a gross revenue of over $114,000 per year is mutually profitable to the Power Plant and the local industries. Steam distribution provides a service at reasonable cost, with man-power savings; and abatement of a local smoke nuisance.

Since 1946 the Piqua Plant had supplied approximately 60 per cent of the energy requirements of the Pioneer Rural Electric Co-operative, Inc., which organization supplies rural areas in three adjacent counties. Now all their requirements are supplied, Pioneer having just constructed a 33-kv transmission system which made distribution of the energy economically feasible.

The acquisition of the Pioneer contract and the sale of industrial steam on a long-term contractural basis provided the foundation for the long range expansion program.

In 1943 a study of street lighting conditions was begun, although new fixtures and luminaries were not available at that time. To date every street has been mapped and the engineering completed. Over 600 new street lights have been installed and 1000 more will be placed in service during the next three years to give the City better lighting service.

Engineering on a new plant addition was officially begun in July, 1944. The general program was

Water-box end of Elliott 12,000-sq ft two-pass divided water-box, spring-supported surface condenser.

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