

POWER NEWS

BUSINESS ITEMS • APPOINTMENTS • FOREIGN FIELDS
WASHINGTON NOTES • NEW DEVELOPMENTS • CONVENTIONS

Tide Power Still Holds Interest In England

The Severn tide-power project is still being considered in England, but prospects do not look favorable for building it in the near future. One has been proposed, however, for installation in Menai Strait between Anglesey Island and Northwest Wales mainland. This project would have the advantage of continuous power generation, by providing storage in two reservoirs formed by three dams.

One of these dams would be built at northeast end of the strait near Bangor, a second dam would be built about halfway along the strait and third at its southwest end, at Belan Point. A power plant is to be installed at the center dam. Reservoirs formed by the dam at Bangor will be kept at its highest possible level by filling it at high tide. At Belan Point the reservoir will be kept at its lowest possible level by emptying it at low tide.

At high tide, with Bangor reservoir full and Belan Point one empty, the plant at the middle dam is started. Level in Bangor reservoir drops and that in the other rises, until tide level drops below that in Belan Point reservoir. Gates in the dam forming this reservoir open and its level goes down with the tide. When tide level starts to rise Belan Point gates close and level in this reservoir starts to rise because of discharge from the turbines.

All this time level in Bangor reservoir is dropping. When tide level equals that in this reservoir, gates open and it fills with rising tide level. At high tide this reservoir is again full. During this cycle there is always a head difference between the two reservoirs to insure operation of the power-generating units. Average plant output is estimated at 8000 kw.

Britain Operates Second Atomic Pile In 1948

LONDON: High-power atomic-energy pile, to be constructed at atomic-energy research establishment at Harwell, near Didcot, Berkshire, is expected to be in operation about the middle of 1948. G. R. Strauss, Minister of Supply, told the House of Commons recently.

Britain's first atomic pile, a small-scale low-energy proposition, has been in operation at Harwell since late this summer. It is producing "about enough heat to run one electric fan," Professor P. B. Moon, secretary of the Atomic Scientists' Assn.

(Continued on page 170)



Scale Model of New 7500-Kw Mercury Turbine

A. R. Schiller (left), president, Public Service Co. of New Hampshire, and T. S. Knight, General Electric commercial vice-president, view a scale model of new GE 7500-kw mercury turbine. Two of these units are being furnished for the 40,000-kw Paducah Service station at Paducah, N. H., expected to be one of the most efficient in the world. Each of the two complete mercury elements consists of a mercury boiler, a 7500-kw 1200-rpm turbine-generator and a condenser boiler. Steam output of each condenser boiler is passed through a superheater element in the combustion space of the mercury boiler. Steam flows are then combined at 600 psi, 825 F., to feed a 25,000-kw 3600-rpm steam turbine direct-connected to a hydrogen-cooled generator. This model was exhibited recently at 23rd annual New England Conference at Boston.

COMING EVENTS

Feb 2-6—American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers, 8th International Heating and Ventilating Exposition, Grand Central Place, New York 17, N. Y. Charles P. Roth, manager, International Exposition Co., Grand Central Place, New York 17.

Feb 19-20—Prime Movers Committee, Pennsylvania Electric Assn., mid-winter meeting, Alexander Hotel, Hagerstown, Md. R. L. Hallman, Pennsylvania Power & Light Co., Hazleton, Pennsylvania.

Mar 1-4—American Society of Mechanical Engineers, spring meeting, St. Charles Hotel, New Orleans, La. Ernest Hartford, executive assistant secretary, 29 W 39th St, New York.

Mar 9-11—Western Pa. Safety Engrg Conference & Exhibit, Hotel William Penn, Pittsburgh, Pa. Harry H. Brainerd, executive manager, Chamber of Commerce Building, Pittsburgh 19, Pennsylvania.

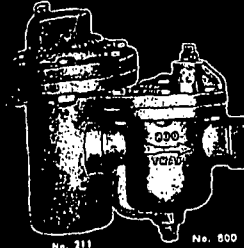
Apr 1-3—American Institute of Electrical Engineers, Great Lakes district meeting, Des Moines, Iowa. H. H. Henline, secretary, 33 W 39th St, New York 18, N. Y.

Apr 3-11—New England Electrical Show, Mechanics Bldg., Boston, Mass. Campbell-Fairbanks Exposition, Inc., 929 Park Sq Bldg., Boston, Mass.

Apr 5-8—National Assn of Corrosion Engineers, Hotel Jefferson, St. Louis, Mo. A. B. Campbell, executive secretary, 905 Southern Standard Bldg., Houston 2, Tex.

Apr 5-8—National Oil Heat Exposition, Chicago Coliseum, Chicago, Ill. C. F. Curtin, secretary-treasurer, Room 1837, 30 Rockefeller Pl., New York 20, New York.

Apr 28-30—American Institute of Electrical Engineers, Northeastern district meeting, New Haven, Conn. H. H. Henline, secretary, 33 W 39th St, New York 18, N. Y.



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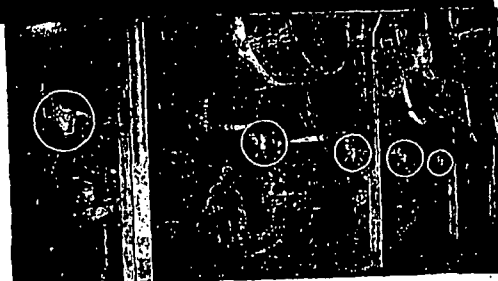
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