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# Electrical 

September I, 1944

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# Electrical Review 

# Coal－Mine Modernisation 

## Strong Case for Public Supply

IT is not，and never has been，the policy of the Electrical Review to take sides generally in the long－standing con－ troversy of private generation versus public supply for the coal industry，or indeed，for any other industry．This week，however， we publish the first of a series of articles dealing with the recently completed elec－ trification of a large colliery in the South Yorkshire coalfield which is of particular interest，not only to the electrical industry but also to the coal－mining industry，for it points to the solutions of certain problems which have been responsible for the non－ completion of many partially electrified collieries．

Generally，colliery electrification in this country during the past ten to twenty years seems to have become stabilised around the idea of installing the electric drive through－ out the colliery，with the exception of a portion of or all the winding plant and the air compressors．What has happened at the colliery in question must apply to many collieries throughout the country， namely，the necessity to replace out－of－ date steam－raising plant brought the management face to face with the problem of whether to provide new steam plant to replace the old，or to complete the elec－ trification of the mine on a public－supply basis．

## Disposal of Slurry

Coupled with these aspects was the fact that the slurry from the washery，for which there was no market，was disposed of in the colliery steam－raising plant，thereby dictat－
plant，steam winders and steam com－ pressors．This question has cropped up whenever the completion of mines elec－ trification has been suggested．Indeed，in the project we are describing the disposal of the slurry became a predominating factor in considering the whole scheme． In this case the installation of modern slurry－cleaning plant made possible the commercial disposal of the washery output， because the mixture of cleaned slurry and coking slack commands a price which clearly justifies economically total elec－ trification．

## Little Interference With Production

Many colliery owners and managers are hesitant to change over from private generation to public supply for fear of interference with the normal working of the colliery during lengthy shut－down periods demanded by the change－over programme． It has been demonstrated by the instance with which we are dealing that where there are goodwill，determination，courage and good planning on the part of the supply undertaking and its staff，there need be little or no interference with the mine out－ put．Rough corners were smoothed over by temporary connections to meet the demands during reconstruction，and the old plant was disconnected and the newly installed plant connected up during normal holiday periods．

Some colliery authorities do not feel disposed to leave the responsibility for electricity supply for the production of several thousand tons of coal per week to the supply undertaking，but we know that
by the use of stand-by substations supplied from alternative sources, and of suitable interconnectors, the supply undertaking may reasonably be expected to carry out the special tasks for which it exists rather better than can the colliery company whose primary concern is the production of coal. As to the important scheme on which we are focusing attention, both the colliery company and the supply undertaking are to be commended, particularly as the work has been carried out in wartime, and because the results have justified the decision which was taken in 1940. Such good work and results, and the broad outlook augur well for post-war electrification of the coalfields.

In one of his not infre-

## District Heating

 quent comments on the electrical industry, "Janus" of the Gas Times suggests that " electric power people like the look of district heating." There seems to be some confusion of thought as well as of fact here. Many electrical engineers have, it is true, displayed broadminded interest in the technical possibilities of improving the overall efficiency of heat utilisation in this way if it can be done economically. It can be in no self-regarding spirit, however, that these would accept a lowering of the efficiency of generation of electricity, as such, or forgo the utmost advantages obtainable from advances in power-station practice, on which hang the prospects of securing some of the larger power and industrial heating loads. Nor is it narrow selfinterest that would prompt them to consider yielding to rival agencies any opportunities that arise for meeting the potential spaceheating and water-heating requirements of the public.
## Air-Cooled Condensers

The most novel feature of the " power trains" described on another page is the use of air-cooling for condensers. In the war-devastated areas for which the generating units are intended to provide electricity for essential needs (perhaps only 2 or 3 per cent. of pre-war outputs) there may be a scarcity of cooling water. Although the low vacuum results in a relatively high steam consumption, the additional quantity of water called for on that account would be only a very small fraction of the amount required by condensers of the orthodox type. One disadvantage of air cooling is illustrated by
the allowance of two trucks for its accom-modation-twice that found enough for the turbo-alternator and its associated auxiliaries.

## Although carbon

## Brush Contacts

 brushes have been in common use for well over half a century, little has been published regarding the physical and chemical characteristics of the dark film which forms on a commutator. Investigations carried out by the General Electric Co., Schenectady, appear to show that the accompanying reduced friction and wear are not due to any lubricating quality of graphite but primarily to water vapour derived from the atmosphere by reversible adsorption. Before this happens, however, another film, seemingly a grease (also from the atmosphere), has to be removed from the rubbing surfaces. Unless that is done test results are likely to be unreliable.IT is generally con-

## Post-War Power

 sidered that there will be no surplus of generating plant in this country after the war; indeed more will be required. Conversely, in the United States, according to Mr. C. W. Kellogg, president of the Edison Electric Institute, there will probably be large blocks of power seeking outlets. The reason given for this is the immense increase in power consumption for war production which has far outstripped the highest anticipated civilian demand. In the past four years the increase in America's annual output is said to have risen by 68 per cent.; here the rise has been about 50 per cent. But, as we have shown, practically all our increase has been on account of industrial production; the civilian load has remained almost stationary. The Americans have not had their present severe restrictions on civilian apparatus sales in force so long as we have had ours. Consequently they have not our great dammed-up demand which when released should absorb all the power available.Nobody will disagree,

## Cheapening Electricity

 unless it is the gas industry, with Sir George Mowlem Burt, chairman of the Building Research Board, regarding the desirability of making electricity available to householders at "something under a halfpenny a unit all-in " after the warHouseholders would no doubt also find itan advantage to have, say, their coal bills or their 'bus fares halved. But the matter is not so simple as that. As in every other business some attention must be paid to the financial implications. Prices of electricity were being steadily lowered until the war intervened and even since its outbreak increases, if any, have been small compared with other commodities-despite the fact that the price of coal has more than doubled. With continued technical developments towards still higher efficiency and with increased utilisation of electricity, it will undoubtedly be possible to reduce tariffs on an economic basis, provided rises in coal costs are checked. In the meantime we doubt very much whether in view of their low consumption the cost of, say, a "unit" a day for a refrigerator or a "unit" a fortnight for a washer is likely to "break" the consumer.

Discussions on rural

## Incomplete Data

 electrification in the lay Press reveal an ingenuous disregard of economics and also an inability to get the facts straight or complete. A contributor to recent correspondence on the subject in the Spectator says that the company supplying electricity in his rural area has asked him to pay $£ 710$ for the provision of a supply. Another correspondent quite justly asks whether this represents the total cost or only a proportion and if the latter how much the proportion is. If the figure of $£ 710$ is the total cost of the extension it would appear that the applicant is some way from the existing system, while if it is merely a proportion the distance must be greater still. Even if it be agreed as a general principle that rural supply should be subsidised, either by other consumers of the supply authority or by the State, there must surely be a limit.Another correspondent

## Invalid <br> Comparisons

 compares the prices which he once paid in Hampstead with those charged in Devonshire where he now lives. He says that the Hampstead prices were much lower although the distribution was underground and not by the less expensive overhead method. He does not, of course, compare the number of consumers per mile of line in the two areas. He also says: "One reads that electricity is much cheaper in America and some parts of theContinent." One might just as easily read that electricity in some parts of rural England is cheaper than in any comparable district in the world.

Manufacturers inArgentine terested in trade with Trade Policy Argentina are wondering what the post-war prospects are likely to be; or, in other words, what will be the attitude of the Argentine Government towards them. The situation is governed by two more or less conflicting factors: the existence of an immense holding in Argentina of gold and foreign exchange and the intensive industrial development which has been proceeding during the war. At the same time the country has been "starved" of many things which it would have been able to import in peacetime and tremendous arrears will have to be made up when the belligerent nations are again able to resume more normal production. It is unlikely that Argentine industry will be able to meet all these needs but where there is any chance of its doing so it is likely to be heavily protected by tariffs. Some comfort may perhaps be derived from a recent statement by the Central Bank of the Argentine Republic that " the high degree of industrial development reached by this country is not incompatible with the maintenance of imports at a high level."

A notable feature of

> New Zealand's Imports the import trade returns of New Zealand for the first quarter of the current year (the latest available figures) is the fact that the United States supplied insulated wire and cable of a greater value ( $£ 132,227$ ) than that sent from the United Kingdom $(£ 79,619)$. This country held its position as principal supplier of electric motors, having provided machines to the value of $£ 33,390$ of a total of $£ 44,018$; in this case the United States is credited with $£ 5,769$ and Canada with $£ 3,931$. As regards electric lamps, while Canada provided the greatest number $(444,710$ valued at $£ 4,402)$, the United Kingdom was responsible for the greatest value ( $£ 12,886$ for 158,341 lamps). As usual, the United States was the chief source of radio equipment (including valves), accounting for $£ 101,358$ of a total of $£ 153,467$; the United Kingdom's share was only $£ 14,567$.

# Colliery Electrification 

## Public Supply Completes Modernisation Scheme

BEGUN in 1877, Treeton Colliery is an old pit by years, but, in the words of the mine manager, it has been made into a new one by modernisation schemes during the past few years. Our aim in this and subsequent articles is to show what an important part electrification has played in this modernisation.

The colliery is one of a group of three mines of the Rothervale Collieries Branch of the Linited Steel Companies, Lid., situated in the South Yorkshire coalfield. At one time three different seams were worked and coal was wound at two shafts from three separate levels, but now the whole of the mine output is worked from one shaft and from one level, as the result of careful planning in deepening the shafts and intersecting the seams with cross measure drifts. The pit bottom is now about 400 yd . deep. As at present constituted, there are three seams being worked-Haigh Moor, Barnsley and High Hazel. Originally Wathwood, High Hazel and Barnsley seams were worked at levels of 180, 240 and 336 yd. deep, respectively.

Haigh Moor is a comparatively new seam and was commenced from the new pit


Now the whole of the mine product is worked from one shaft (downeast) : pit cop (left) and pit bottom (right) of downest shaft
bottom at the $400-\mathrm{yd}$. level. The working face in the Haigh Moor is only 400 yd. from the pit bottom, and it is a 3 ft .6 in . seam in two sections divided by an 8 -in. layer of dirt. The seam is at present worked with two $250-\mathrm{yd}$. double-unit conveyor faces, but on account of the shortage of labour is
regarded as more in the nature of standby workings at the present time.

The Barnsley seam is now about $2 \frac{1}{2}$ miles from the pit bottom and it is being worked beyond a fault which brought its level below that of the original working, with the result that it can now be reached from the common working level. It has two faces, one 230 yd . long and one 140 yd . long, and it has a 4 ft . seam of coal. The High Hazel seam workings are about $2,000-3,000$ yd. from the shaft and have three doubleunit faces, each about 220 yd . long, and the coal seam averages about 2 ft . 10 in. thick.
There are two shafts to the mine,

one is used for winding men and materials only, and the other for winding coal and men. In terms relating to the ventilation of the mine, these are the upcast and downcast shafts, respectively, that is, the coal shaft is the air inlet for the mine while the man shaft serves as the air outlet passage. All the main roads for the transporting of coal are served directly from the downcast shaft in the ventilation scheme and there are separate main return airway roads for each seam.

The coal from the three faces of the High Hazel seam is conveyed by three endless rope haulages to a main haulage in the main High Hazel road, which is about 2,400 yd. long. This main haulage first dips from the pit bottom with a gradient of about 1 in 10 and then rises with a gradient of about 1 in 12. The High Hazel seam has an output of about 900 tons per day. In the case of the Barnsley seam the system of haulage is similar to that in the


The upeast shaft is used for men and materials other than coal : pit top (above) and pit bottom (left) of upeast shaft
consisted of one $500-$ kW and one $1,000-\mathrm{kW}$ turbo-generators, which were built in 1910 and 1913 respectively, and because the exhaust from the winders and air compressors was not sufficient for these, some live steam was also used. The boiler plant consisted of eight Lancashire and one water-tube boilers, which were old, and

High Hazel seam. The belt gate conveyors are followed by endless rope haulages which supply the main endless rope haulage which in turn delivers the coal to the pit bottom. The present output of the Barnsley seam is approximately 450 tons per day.

Before the modernisation scheme at present under review was commenced a few years ago, the colliery was already partially electrified with private generation, the ventilating fan, coal screens, washery, underground haulages and pumps being already electrically driven; but with the final scheme of electrification the whole of the colliery has been turned over to public supply. The steam winders and some
steam air compressors had been retained, and the exhaust steam from these was used for the generation of electricity and for heating boiler feed water. The electricity generating sets
 necessary. True, the turbo-generators could have been run for some time longer, but only at a lower efficiency than modern practice dictates.
At the same time underground developments which we have indicated, i.e., the concentration of all coal winding at the downcast shaft, called for an increase of winding capacity and a more powerful winding engine at that shaft. The problem which faced the colliery owners, then, was whether to provide new steam plant for electricity generation, air compression and coal winding, or to completely electrify the mine and take a public
supply from the Yorkshire Electric Power Co. An important point which had to be considered was the fact that the existing boilers had been consuming the whole of the slurry

safer, as with all the main haulage roads in the intake airways it is not necessary to pass coal from the intake to the return airways with consequent loss of ventilation. The arrangement is also more economical as only one pit-bottom staff and one surface staff are necessary to deal with the complete output, as compared with two pit-bottom staffs and two surface staffs
All the coal haulage roads
are served in the ventila.
tion scheme directly from
the downeast shaft : end-
less rope haulage return
wheel, discharge end of
gate conveyor right, and
small haulage system for
marshalling tubs
where two shafts are used for coal winding.

Above all, assurance had to be obtained that in the change-over there should be little or no interference with
from the washery; this raised the problem of how to dispose of the slurry, should a public supply be taken. Actually this became a predominating factor commercially in considering the full electrification scheme, and the question was solved by the introduction of a Coppee slurry cleaning plant which will be described in a later article.

The total cost of the completion of the electrification scheme with public supply for the whole of the mine was

The modernisation scheme included the replacement of the steam winders : the illustration shows the new winder at the upcast shaft
shown to be about 44 per cent. of the total cost of replacement of the steam-driven plant and boilers, while the working costs under the electrification scheme after taking into account the revenue obtained from treated slurry, showed a very considerable reduction. The use of all the main haulage roads as intake airways is a direct result of winding all the output from one shaft. There are many advantages in doing this, the principal one being that it is

during the transition period, and how the final change-over of the power house and the winders, which actually necessitated some shutting-down, took place within the limits of normal holidays,

# Organisations of the Industry-XI Cable Makers' Association 

By the late Llewelyn B. Atkinson, Hon.m.I.E.e.

IN so far as it relates to the manufacture of cables for lighting and power purposes (heavy current cables) the history of the insulated electric cable industry is intimately interwoven with that of the Cable Makers' Association, and before dealing with the latter a brief review of the genesis and the founders of the industry will be of interest. The necessity for insulated wires and cables followed immediately on the invention of the electric telegraph, and so Wheatstone in 1840 insulated wires with tarred rope or yarn; Morse in 1842 produced wires braided and saturated with tar and pitch; in 1845 Werner Siemens used gutta-percha; and in England india-rubber was experimentally being used as an insulator by Henley, Glass \& Elliott, and S. W. Silver \& Co. By 1849 several makers had laid experimental cables insulated with gutta-percha underground, and short lengths under water. Iron wire armouring was added by Crampton in 1853, these developments being steps leading to the technical evolution of deep sea cables which in 1857 made the Atlantic cable a possibility-the first was laid in 1858, but it soon broke down and it was not until some years later that a permanently successful cable was inaugurated. These developments led to the construction of cablemaking plants by companies such as Henley's, Glass \& Elliott, S. W. Silver \& Co., Siemens Bros., and Hooper, all of which, or their successors, remain in the industry to-day.

In 1880 and onwards came the developments which ushered in the new electrical era, namely, the construction of large dynamos and the use of heavy currents for electric lighting and power purposes. At the commencement india-rubber insulated cables were used, though in one or two large installations gutta-percha was adopted. But at that time india-rubber was very expensive ( 4 s . to 5 s . and even at one time 10 s . or 11 s . per lb.) and so cheaper methods were sought. Edison produced a system with copper rods spaced in iron pipes and filled with bituminous compounds, and Crompton and Latimer Clark laid cable systerns composed of bare copper rods carried on porcelain


Col.Sir Thomas Purves, Director of the C.M.A.

> Mr. Atkinson, the author of this article, which was originally published on February 10th, 1939, died in August of the same year. The footnote appended to this reprint brings the article up to date by referring to the wartime activities of the C.M.A.
insulators supported and protected underground by iron or earthenware ducts.

The next advance was the production in the early 'eighties of the Callender system of insulating by the use of a bitumen compound, vulcanised so as to render it less plastic, and thus a cable was produced which was far cheaper than the rubber insulated cable. A further advance in or about 1889 was made when Ferranti introduced his high-voltage concentric cable, with paper impregnated with tarry matter as the insulator. This cable was made in lengths of about 20 ft . with tapered joints. It was a technical success but did not lend itself readily to laying otherwise than in exceptionally straight runs. The principle was extended, however, by American inventors who, in 1889, developed a cable insulated with impregnated paper applied in multi-layer strip form, enclosed in a lead tube so that the cable was flexible, the paper layers sliding on one another when the cable was bent. This type of cable was developed in England by a company founded for the purpose, viz., the British Insulated Cable Co., and in course of time practically all the British cable manufacturers took up the manufacture of this product.

So by 1890 the situation was that rubber-insulated cables had become the standard practice for internal wiring of buildings and generally for short connections, and that india-rubber or bitumen-insulated cables or paper-insulated cables were being used for underground mains, the last two generally in troughs filled in with bitumen. Later, lead-covered cables were laid direct in the ground or drawn into pipes, relying on the lead covering to protect the insulation from moisture. Notwithstanding great efforts to introduce other types, these three held the market with no serious competition for many years, indeed still do so, though the use of bitumen-insulated cables has now been practically given up.

By 1899 the number of units manufacturing rubber-insulated cables had so far exceeded in potential output the actual consumption that serious price cutting commenced and there were clear signs that this was leading
to a deterioration in quality. It was soon recognised that if steps were not taken to check this there might be serious breakdowns in the rather new public supply, with the result that people would lose confidence and the rising industry receive a disastrous check. As a result of conferences between the heads of the industry it was resolved to adopt and maintain certain specified standards of quality. A little later a committee of manufacturers was formed who decided to sell at identical prices, a policy which has been followed ever since. It was agreed to form an associalion to guard and guide these functions and generally to promote the interests of the electrical industry, and so the Cable Makers' Association began.

## Foundation Members

The original members of this Association were, in alphabetical order: British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Callender's Cable \& Construction Co., Ltd., Connolly Bros., Ltd., W. T. Glover \& Co., Ltd., W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., India Rubber, Gutta Percha \& Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., Johnson \& Phillips, Ltd., London Electric Wire Co. and Smiths, Ltd., Siemens Bros. \& Co., Ltd., Telegraph Manfg. Co., Ltd., and Western Electric Co., Ltd. (now Standard Telephones and Cables, Ltd.).

Since then, as the industry has expanded, the following have become members: Anchor Cable Co., Lid., Craigpark Electric Cable Co., Ltd., Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., Edison Swan Cables, Ltd., the Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Greengate \& Irwell Rubber Co., Ltd., Liverpool Electric Cable Co., Lid., Macintosh Cable Co., Ltd., Metropolitan Electric Cable \& Construction Co., Ltd., PirelliGeneral Cable Works, Lid., St. Helens Cable \& Rubber Co., Ltd., and Union Cable Co., Ltd.

At the date of the formation of the Cable Makers' Association there were practically no associations of manufacturers in this country, indeed the very idea at the back of such an association was counter to the generally held tenets of business, which envisaged absolutely ruthless competition between the units in an industry; indeed so much was that the case that it was doubtful whether such an association, embodying agreemients as to conditions of contract, prices, relative outputs, etc., was not illegal as being in restraint of trade, and to solve this difficulty the C.M.A., as it came to be called, was registered as a trade union.

At this date, however, the economic doctrine of the value of unrestricted competition was beginning to show signs of losing its general applicability. The lowering of prices till no profit margins were left led to lowering of quality, pressing down of wages, neglect of maintenance of plant or
of installing new plant, limitation of or neglect of research and general impoverishment of the industries. In addition, the attack on the British market by organised industries in other countries under trusts and cartels, which was being severely felt, could only be adequarely met by a counter attack in the countries concerned, which could only be made successfully by a powerful manufacturers' association.

The Association's work provided a stabilised industry which was gradually able to devote its attention to the rationalisation and improvement of its products. When the British Engineering Standards Institution was founded the C.M.A. co-operated with it in the standardisation of minimum qualities and in the publication of the B.S. copper wire sizes, which contained about 60 sizes of conductors considered as standard. During the war of 1914-18, when stocks of copper had to be. kept as small as possible, new standards were proposed by the C.M.A. and afterwards accepted as British Standards by which the number of sizes of wire necessary to produce all standard sizes of built-up conductors was limited to fourteen. Standardisation of sizes of stranded cables and insulation and protective coverings followed. By this time the C.M.A. was recognised by other industries and by Government Departments as the authority representing the insulated cable industry, and took part on their behalf in many of the co-operative efforts during the war. For example, the surplus of copper for all industries outside of war industries was small and was rationed month by month, and the Govemment entrusted to the C.M.A. the distribution of the monthly ration both to members and to other manufacturers.

## Government Committee's Conchasions

After the war, owing to the considerable increase by this time of trading combinations in all industries, the Government appointed a Committee to investigate trusts and combines, including a large number of manufacturers' and other associations, among them the C.M.A. After hearing evidence from cable purchasers and from the Association and its competitors the Commitree published its report and among its conclusions were the following :-
"The Cable Makers" Association has been fargely instrumental in creating and maintaining the prosperity of the industry in this country, and its operations have been favourable to the improvement of quality."
"From the evidence we have heard we have no cause to believe that any of these Associations (C.M.A.) have acted unreasorably, etc."

Meanwhile, the C.M.A. was developing its efforts to improve the rechnique of its members and their products, and a special
organisation for mutual exchange of information was set up under the title of "Cable Research" which in effect allows any member of this organisation to have information of and use the best processes of fellow members. The improvements that were thus effected have been remarkable and of immense value to the customers of the C.M.A. In addition to the important research laboratories of members of the Association, working independently and yet as a team, the C.M.A. was one of the founder members of the British Electrical and Allied Industries Research Association, utilising this body to carry out more general and fundamental researches, and has always supplied an important proportion of the necessary funds.

The results of all this research in which the C.M.A has had the leadership can be realised only by looking back a few years. At the earlier time cables for $10,000 \mathrm{~V}$ were looked upon as a high limit, later 20,000 , $30,000,60,000 \mathrm{~V}$ were successive steps, and to-day 132,000 - and even $200,000-\mathrm{V}$ cables are available.

In quite another direction the C.M.A. lent its aid to the foundation and financing of the British Electrical Development Association. As this Association grew up it was seen that its functions were more properly to be allied to and managed by the electricity supply industry, and the manufacturers by agreement withdrew.

## Co-operation with Other Bodies

The Cable Makers' Association has cooperated with and taken part in joint committees of the other organisations operating in the electrical industry, e.g., the British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers' Association, Electrical Contractors' Association and Electrical Wholesalers' Federation, with useful results to all parties concerned. After the war, when the relations of employers with their workpeople were, to say the least, difficult, and after the publication of the Whitley Report recommending the setting up in all industries of joint councils of employers and workpeople, the C.M.A. had considerable discussion with the trade unions involved, and eventually it was agreed to form the Joint Industrial Council for the Cable Making Industry, on which employers not members of C.M.A. have also been included, and this Council, which has now operated for 19 years, has proved of the greatest value in removing causes of friction in the factories of cable manufacturers. The cable industry, even before the Government had taken the matter up, had put into force through the Joint Councif an annual holiday with pay for its workpeople, and was well to the front in the adoption of welfare arrangements for its employees.

The thirty-nine years' experience of the Cable Makers' Association has shown that it has worked not only for the benefit of the manufacturers, who have realised a strong financial position, but also for its workpeople, who have had stable and well-paid employment, and for the cable users who have had the benefit of a constantly improved product supplied at a reasonable price. An important national benefit is that the members of the C.M.A. have developed the world's largest export trade in electric cables, thanks to the efficiency of their production and to the tremendous prestige which their quality standards enjoy, both at home and abroad.

## Officers of the Association

The first chairman of the Association was Mr. Henry Edmunds (one of the founders), of W. T. Glover \& Co., Ltd., with Mr. Albert Howard as secretary. In course of time nearly all the leading members of the industry have occupied the chair. In 1916 Mr. Howard died and Mr. Llewelyn B. Atkinson, Hon. M.I.E.E., Past-President of the I.E.E. and past chairman of the R.S.A., then a director of W. T. Glover \& Co., was appointed secretary for the period of the war. After the war he resigned his other appointments and became director of the C.M.A., a position he held until his retirement in 1936. His place was filled by Col. Sir Thomas Purves, past President of the I.E.E. and late Engineer-in-Chief of the British Post Office, and during nearly the whole of the period since 1918 Mr. W. G. Stiles, F.C.I.S., has been secretary.

Footnote.-During the present World War the demand for cables of all kinds required for Service purposes and for maintaining the life of the community has reached unexampled proportions and has been complicated and thwarted by shortages of materials normally considered to be essential, and the C.M.A. has striven to assist the national effort by every means in its power. It has placed the whole of its resources and of its accumulated knowledge at the disposal of the Government and also at the disposal of all the cable makers of the country outside its own membership. It co-operates actively and continuously with the Cable Planning Organisation which has been set up in the Ministry of Supply, and with the official controllers of the wide range of materials required by the industry. Its commercial representatives and its scientific and manufacturing technicians are serving without intermission on numerous committees, sub-committees and panels, Governmental and otherwise, which are determining and providing for production programmes, and dealing with the difficult and complex problems arising from the progressive development of effective substitutes for materials which are not at present available. An adequate supply of electric cables is vital to every major activity of the war and this supply has been, and will be, satisfactorily maintained.-T. F. P.

## Power Trains

## Essential Supplies in Reconquered Territories

BRIEF reference was made in the Electrical Review of April 21st to mobile generating plants for providing essential supplies in reconquered territories. In a recent address before the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Mr. C. M. Laffoon (Westinghouse Electric \& Manufacturing Co.) gave some further technical details of this plant. Two sizes are now being assembled, viz., $\quad 5,000-\mathrm{kW}$ and $1,000-\mathrm{kW}$ ratings. For the larger, eight wagons, each 50 ft . long, are required -two each for the steam-raising plant and for the condenser and one each for the generating unit and switchboard, the air compressors and feed pump, the feed water and the workshop and crew's quarters. Each train will be supplied with coal and ash-handling equipment.

## Steam-Raising Plant

Each steam-raising wagon contains a $40,000 \mathrm{lb}$. per hr. two-drum, bent-tube waterwall boiler designed for steam conditions of 660 lb . per sq. in. and 750 deg. F. with feedwater entering the economiser at 200 deg . F., together with superheater and economiser. Air-operated soot-blowers and locomotive type stoker, two $9,900 \mathrm{cu}$. ft. per min. motordriven forced-draught fans and one twospeed $46,000 \mathrm{cu} . \mathrm{ft}$. per min. induced-draught fan form part of the equipment. Rated output is to be given when burning lignite of 7,300 BThU per lb., 22 per cent. ash and 24 per cent. moisture.

Two feed pumps, driven by $3,600-$ RPM turbines, with steam conditions similar to those for the main turbines, deliver 208 gal . per min. of water at 200 deg. $F$. against a total head of $1,770 \mathrm{ft}$. Make-up water, $2,400 \mathrm{lb}$. per hr. at 32 deg . F., is furnished by an evaporator which is supplied from water-treating plant by means of a small electrically-driven pump. Air for operating the stokers, coal spreaders and soot blowers is provided by three $100-\mathrm{HP} 400-\mathrm{cu}$. ft. per min . compressors, one electrically driven by a $720-\mathrm{RPM}$ induction motor and the others by steam turbines through reduction gear. An air-storage tank, cooling tower and pump are also mounted on the same wagon. The feed-water car, which is thermally insulated and provided with heating coils, has a storage capacity of $10,000 \mathrm{gal}$. and contains also two motor-driven $225-\mathrm{gal} . / \mathrm{min}$. booster pumps.

The generating set comprises a $5,000-\mathrm{kW}$ $3,000-\mathrm{RPM}$ turbine requiring $80,000 \mathrm{lb}$. of steam per hr., at 600 lb . per sq. in. and 750 deg. F., and exhausting at 2 Ib . per sq. in. gauge. The 50 -cycle $6,250-\mathrm{kVA}$ alter-
nator is wound for 6,300 and $10,900 \mathrm{~V}$. Auxiliaries are fed from a $750-\mathrm{kVA}$ aircooled transformer connected to the generator through fuses and to the $380-\mathrm{V}$ load through a circuit-breaker mounted within the transformer housing. A $75-\mathrm{kW}, 380-\mathrm{V}$ Diesel-driven alternator is installed for starting. The metal-clad switchboard comprises $15-\mathrm{kV}, 600-\mathrm{A}, 150-\mathrm{MVA}$ oil circuitbreakers controlling the alternator and four feeders and auxiliary-transformer fuses.

The condensers are cooled by air at temperatures ranging from -40 to 95 deg . F., and controlled in its flow by three-piece covers on the air intakes, the number in use being determined by the outside ambient conditions. Eight condensing sections are installed in each car. Four blowers in each case draw air through the condenser to a plenum chamber at the centre and discharge it upwards. A single-stage ejector prevents collection of air in the sections to form ice. By dividing the tubes (of galvanised steel) into five groups of two rows each per section with an orifice in series, the steam distribution is evened; the fifth is an air cooler. The condensers have a total fin surface of 90,000 $\mathrm{sq} . \mathrm{ft}$. and a tube surface of $10,500 \mathrm{sq} . \mathrm{ft}$. They require $800,000 \mathrm{cu}$. ft. per min. of cooling air, the temperature of which rises by 90 deg . $F$. at full load.

## Smaller Type

The $1,000-\mathrm{kW}$ power train consists of a boiler car, a turbo-alternator car, a coolingtower car and coal-handling equipment, each of which is mounted on two four-wheel tracks. The B. \& W. boiler is rated at 16,000 lb . per hr . with steam conditions of 420 lb . per sq. in. and 730 deg. F. and the equipment includes a locomotive type over-feed stoker, steam stoker-feed engine, $50-\mathrm{HP}$ electric induced-draught fan, steam-driven feed pump, water-treating plant, coal hopper and waterstorage tank. The main turbine operates with an exhaust pressure of from 2 to 5 lb . per in. abs. and is connected through reduction gearing to a $1,000-\mathrm{RPM} 6,300-\mathrm{V}$ 50-cycle alternator. The $1,100 \mathrm{sq}$. ft. air-cooled condenser, of the three-pass semi-radial-flow type with non-divided water boxes and motordriven condensate pump, is mounted on the same wagon, which also accommodates a motor-driven feed pump, switchgear rated at $600 \mathrm{~A}, 8,500 \mathrm{~V}$ and 50 MVA (including breakers for two $6 \cdot 3-\mathrm{kV}$ feeders), a $125-\mathrm{kVA}$, $380-\mathrm{V}$ fuse-controlled air-cooled auxiliary transformer and a $5-\mathrm{kW}$ petrol set for starting and emergency power service. The cooling tower is of the two-cell induced-draught type.

# Meter Maintenance 

# Proposed Arrangements for Short-circuiting Prepayment Gear 

TIHE general adoption of domestic consumers' service units may create additional problems in maintenance of prepayment meters on site unless modifications are made to the present method of connecting meters. In the case of most supply undertakings it appears to be the practice, especially when faults occur outside normal working hours, for the fuseman to short-circuit the faulty meter. A temporary supply to the consumer is thus afforded until such time as the meter can be changed or a meter mechanic can call and remedy the defect. Most of the proposed design of domestic control units so far put forward would render this procedure exceedingly difficulr, since easy access is lost in the general tidying up of service arrangements. In some cases the complete removal of the meter from the unit would be necessitated.

The short-circuiting of prepayment meters means a loss of revenue which can amount to an appreciable sum in the course of a year. This practice tends to encourage certain individuals deliberately to foul the meter and so obtain a free supply of electricity, particularly at week-ends. Incidentally, it is very difficult to deal with this type of consumer, and he creates endless trouble. It is
of the element to terminal 4. To short-circuit the meter the leads from these terminals must be brought together, which is not possible unless there is some flexibility in these connecting leads.

Fig. 2 illustrates how the switch of the meter can be bridged by a link placed externally across terminals 3 and 4 of the connecting block without disconnecting the meter leads. The terminal cover can then be replaced and sealed in the normal way while the registration of the meter is maintained. A slipping clutch drive should, however, be provided between the meter element and the prepayment mechanism to avoid damage to the gearing. This method necessitates an alteration to the present standard meter block and would no doubt increase manufacturing costs. Also, it would not be practicable to adapt existing meters and some confusion might exist when meters with different terminal blocks were changed.

To overcome these disadvantages (Fig. 3) the switch could be placed in the neutral across terminals 2 and 3 and bridged by placing a link across those terminals. The inclusion of a switch in the neutral is unorthodox, but it should be remembered that the overriding purpose of the prepayment


Alternative methods of connecting household prepayment meters
fairly safe to state that about 90 per cent. of prepayment meter failures are caused by faulty operation of the meters by consumers themselves and it should therefore not be considered that the provision of some positive means of short-circuiting the prepayment gear would be an admission of poor design.

With the existing standard arrangement of connections (Fig. 1) a lead is taken from terminal 1 to the switch through the series coil
mechanism is for load interruption and it is not used for safety isolation as in normal wiring.

The advantages of the third arrangement are easy access and freedom from risk of shock when installing and removing the shortcircuiting link, which remains under seal. The registration of the meter is maintained. Alterations are not necessary to the existing standard terminal blocks and existing meters
can be easily converted. Production costs of meters should not be increased; in fact they might be reduced, since one type of series coil could be used for ordinary and prepayment meters. Installation inspectors and meter fixers would be able to make sure that the meter was correctly connected and had not suffered damage in transit without the necessity of inserting coins.

The prepayment gear would be at neutral potential and the safety of the consumer from shock, when inserting coins, would be assured in the event of insulation failure in the switch mechanism.

Against these advantages must be considered the possibility of a supply being maintained with the prepayment switch opened
and a neutral earth in the house wiring. This, however, would be immediately disclosed by a discrepancy in the account, since the supply would under all conditions be registered and, in any case, the consumer would be liable for payment of the difference of account. A neutral earth so discovered would also assist the installation department's efforts to maintain a sound installation.

A further improvement of the proposed arrangement would be the use of a credit-debit gear similar to the type used in two-part tariff meters. The consumer would then be obliged to clear arrears which had accrued during the short-circuiting period before a supply could be obtained, thus making it unnecessary to render auxiliary accounts.

## Plant Labelling

By J. H. M. Sykes

THE visitor to the majority of the power stations and substations in this country cannot fail to be impressed by the large number of pieces of apparatus which either bear no label at all or only a mysterious inscription, such as "Circuit-breaker No. 23" or simply the maker's name (which is seldom omitted) together with an inadequate data plate.

While the engineer who is accustomed to work with the plant in a particular station has become, by custom, conversant with the function of every portion of it, an essential consideration should surely be that a relief engineer or a stranger temporarily imported or, indeed, any engineer who has reason to work in the station should be made very clearly aware of the purpose of every single piece of apparatus. The ordering of spares, too, is also greatly facilitated if certain essential particulars are given on the data plate. The following suggestions, therefore, are put forward from the maintenance engineer's point of view.

The ideal labelling scheme comprises two labels, although in many cases they could be combined. The first is the manufacturer's data plate; the second is the user's label. (The manufacturer may supply a standard component, such as a transformer, which is used by the undertaking for many different circuits).

The customer's name-plate, to take atypical example, would be something of this style:-"Trickle charger for main operating battery for No. 4 Bank of $33-\mathrm{kV}$ switchgear. Commissioned December, 1930."

The manufacturer's data plate would run on these general lines:-" Jones \& Co., West Street, London, W.2. Trickle charger for $110-\mathrm{V}$ battery (metal rectifier pattern with automatic regulation); maximum charge rate 40 A . AC supply 230 V 50 cycles single-
phase. Serial number 12345, type x.y.z. AC input fuses (25 A) (marked 'AC input'); DC output fuses ( 50 A ) (marked 'positive' and 'negative ') : Manufactured December, 1929."

The labels should answer the following questions:-What it is; its capacity; the system voltage, number of phases and frequency; serial number and type, and manufacturer's name and address; dates of manufacture and commission; function in the system in which it is used; if applicable, its diagram of connections and its B.S.S. reference (as in the case of a transformer); phase rotation and colouring; direction of rotation; points of isolation, as in the case of a trickle charger; input and output fuses; size or setting required for protective fuses or circuit-breakers. For oil-filled apparatus, the total quantity of oil should be stated. Large units of plant, where special transport arrangements are necessary, should carry an indication of their weight when stripped for transport.
The material for the labels will vary from that used for small relays to the outdoor data plates on power transformers, but in general engraving on chromium plated brass is eminently satisfactory. A point for especial attention on outdoor plant is that the labels should not be in such a position that they are likely to be obscured by painting, and they should be legible when the gear is alive.

Nowhere has the old axiom that familiarity breeds contempt had a more prominent application than in the general lack of clear labelling, both by manufacturers and users much time would be saved and, indeed, in time of breakdown, many minutes of shutdown might be avoided if this relatively small but none the less important point in power station and substation design were given careful attention.

# Phase Indicator 

## Simple Method of Construction

SINCE a phase indicator is only required at infrequent intervals, it is a case of insufficient use not always justifying the expense of an instrument that is rarely needed. Such an instrument is very simply made of three bobbins of wire, the iron circuit, a revolving disc, and a wooden box. The iron circuit can be quite simple, as iron losses and heating do not require to be considered when the instrument will be in circuit for only a few seconds at a time.

The phase indicator I have made and tried has a piece of $\frac{1}{8} \mathrm{in}$. iron 3 in . square as the base with a $\frac{3}{16} \mathrm{in}$. hole for the bottom pivot bearing drilled in the centre of it . On a 2 -in. diameter circle round this hole three holes were drilled and tapped to take $\frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$. bolts, 60 deg. apart, the bolts to be screwed into them forming the poles. Two more holes in this plate, which should be big enough for wood screws, were made in suitable positions so that it could be fastened in a box when it was complete.

The bolts to screw into the plate are three $2 \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$. by $\frac{1}{t}$ in. hexagon headed and insulated for the wire in the following way. First, the ends were made of presspahn by cutting six discs each 1 in. diameter and punching holes in them at the centre. These holes are made by putting the disc on a piece of lead and by striking with the hammer an old $\frac{1}{4}$ in. bolt where the hole has to be, a clean cut hole results; the piece cut out is left embedded in the lead.
When the discs are finished pass two short pieces of thread through each pair and put them on the bolts; the thread is there to tie up

## By W. M. Gore

 after a nut has been put on. This done, the discs are separated and empire cloth is wrapped round the bolt between them, after which the coil is wound with thin wire until it is level with the discs. The size of wire is not critical and anything above, say, 28 SWG will do. Before taking the coils out of the chuck, cover them with empire cloth and tie up the threads to keep them compact, after which they can be removed and varnished.While the varnish is drying, the bottom pivot can be put in the plate; it consists of a ? in. screw threaded in and fastened with a lock-nut. This screw should be countersunk
 the coil after winding. Now fix a wheel brace in the vice and put the threaded part of the bolt in the chuck after it has been wrapped with paper or copper foil to prevent damage to the threads. The bolt should be so held in the chuck that when winding is complete there will be sufficient thread showing to screw into the base plate
on the top with a small sharply pointed drill so that a recess is formed for the spindle of the disc. The top pivot is made in a similar way, but is suspended by a strip of brass bent in the form of a square with one side cut away so that it can be fixed diagonally to the base in the manner shown in the diagram.

A disc is now cut 3 in. in diameter from copper or aluminium, or an old relay or meter disc can be utilised. The spindle is made from a $\frac{1}{8} \mathrm{in}$. screwed stud, both ends of which are sharpened to sink into the recesses made in the pivots. A nut on this screwed stud at each side of the disc allows the latter to be fixed in the correct position, which is as near the poles as possible without rubbing.

## Assembly

The bolts, with their coils on, each have a $\frac{1}{4}$ in. nut screwed on them and are screwed into the base plate until all three heads are level; then the nuts are locked to the plate with a spanner. The plate is turned over and any protruding bolts are filed down. Next, the bottom pivot can be finally adjusted and locked, and any protrusion underneath can be levelled down. The top stirrup is now fastened down to the base, and the disc put on, then the top pivot, adjusting to get an easy
motion as near to the pole pieces as possible.
The instrument can be put in a small wooden box on which three lampholders are fastened, one on each of three sides. The fourth side has a terminal on it to which is connected one wire of each coil so that it forms the star connection. The remaining wires from the coils are taken, one to each lampholder, and from each lampholder is taken a length of flexible wire for the test lead. Therefore with three $60-\mathrm{W}$ lamps in the holders and the three leads connected to a three-phase supply the lamps will indicate that all phases are alive and the neter will indicate the phase rotation. Connection to a known supply enables the leads to be marked "R.Y.B." and an arrow can be drawn on the disc to show clockwise direction, viewed through a glass window fastened on the top of the box. The instrument can be used for different voltages by changing the lamps.

## American Notes

## Important Federal Power Plans

AREVIEW of the Federal power developments projected by the United States Government appeared in a recent issue of the Electrical World. Among them were mentioned the St. Lawrence Waterway from which it is hoped to develop $2,000,000 \mathrm{HP}$; Ohio Basin (possibly $341,000 \mathrm{~kW}$ ); Umatilla, Columbia River $(600,000 \mathrm{~kW})$; Snake River, Idaho ( $155,000 \mathrm{~kW}$ ); Hungry Horse Dam, Montana ( $150,000 \mathrm{~kW}$ ); Upper Missouri River Basin ( $758,000 \mathrm{~kW}$ ); and Willamette River, Oregon (207,000 kW).

Proposals are afoot for placing the responsibility of marketing all power developed from these Federal projects upon the Department of the Interior.
Our contemporary says that the principle of river development for flood control, navigation, irrigation and electric power is firmly established as an element of Federal policy. River development is a necessary and logical concern of the Federal Government and moreover "if the principle had no virtue at all, it would still remain a political boon too rewarding ever to be relinquished, regardless of the party in power."

## American Power Position

Mr. C. W. Kellogg, president of the Edison Electric Institute, in his address at the recent annual meeting of the Institute, said that in the four years ended in May last the annual output of electricity in the United States had grown from 137,000 to 230,000 million kWh -an increase of 68 per cent. The load factor had improved from 53.3 to 64.4 per cent. and the maximum demand from 29.3 to 40.75 million ${ }^{\mathrm{kWW}}$, or 39 per cent. Plant reserves aggregated 8.75 million kW. Although production costs were higher the charge per kWh to customers had gone steadily downward.
Looking ahead, Mr. Kellogg expected new sales records through the replacement of
"overworked electrical servants" and from the several hundred thousand new homes which would be constructed each year. There would also be higher levels of illumination, expansion in commercial cooking and air conditioning and the development of many new applications of electricity.
It appeared that the wartime peak was already passed and there was a downward trend. Civilian activities bore a much smaller relationship to war activities now than they did at the close of the last war. Even if civil industrial production reached the highest level ever attained in the United States the decrease in war production should still leave large amounts of electrical energy for sale.

## Cooker Design

Mr. C. W. Kellogg also referred to proposals for the improvement of electric range (cooker) design and construction. Among the recommendations which he mentioned were uniformity of top openings for surface units to facilitate the installation of various sizes of units; a 50 per cent. safety factor for all current-carrying parts; screw levelling device for the feet; simplification of oven units to make replacement easier; frames to be enamelled or made of stainless steel or non-ferrous metal; standardisation of oven unit connections; and improvement of oven door bearings, springs and hinges to withstand years of hard usage.

## Consolidation of Organisations

At the same meeting it was decided to appoint a committee (and to ask the other bodies concerned to do likewise) to examine the possibility of consolidating four existing electricity supply organisations into one. The other parties are the Association of Edison Illuminating Companies, the Council of Electric Operating Companies and the Advertising Committee.

# CORRESPONDENCE 

## Letters should bear the writers' names and addresses, not necessarily for publication. Responsibility cannot be accepted for correspondents' opinions.

## Freedom of Choice

SINCE I sit on the same side of the fence as Mr. Purse I read his article with considerable interest. I doubt very much if the renegade members of our fraternity influence the matter, and certainly their opinion is of no serious account.

The situation as I see it at present is reminiscent of "Cinderella," the title role being taken by the coal industry, with the gas and electricity industries as the unpleasant sisters, and the Government as the irresponsible Baron. The consuming community seems to me to be playing the part of "Buttons" but I feel it would do better to aspire to the munificent role of "Prince Charming.
Let me not be thought flippant on a serious subject for it seems to be an ideal analogy. Moreover, a "happy ever after " ending is possible if-a big " if" perhaps-the matter is viewed in its true perspective.

Coal is essential to both the electrical and gas industries, completely so in the case of the latter, but the possibility of a certain amount of water power helps the electrical industry somewhat. Coal varies widely in its characteristics, but much of it contains byproducts obtainable through the medium of the gas industry, leaving a coke residue which has a heating value nearly equal to the coal as mined. Primarily, therefore, to mention one instance, it is a serious matter that the burning of coal at about 5 per cent. efficiency on an open fireplace is allowed to continue in order to pamper to the Englishman's traditional but misplaced love of the open fire.
The gas industry in pursuing its present policy, is in the main entitled to both appreciation and sympathy in an unequal struggle. On the other hand the electrical industry finds itself in an excellent strategic position and I venture the view that by educationnot propaganda-the community at large can be made to realise that the proper exploitation of electricity will do much to raise the standard of living and also provide the greatest contribution to social security.
Repeating that coal is fundamental and prophesying the demise of gas as a domestic commodity, it is essential in the interests of the nation that the gas industry shall survive to safeguard the by-products, it therefore seems to me that the proper thing is the amalgamation of these three basic industries. The slogan "One for all and all for one"" is far preferable to "Freedom of Choice." Education not propaganda is the
essential, and all three industries should combine in this.

I appreciate fully that such a colossal undertaking cannot be achieved by mere suggestion, but this war has at least taught us what can be done by teamwork.

Birmingham, 28.
G. H. Hirons,

Associate I.E.E.

IN his provocative article in your recent issue Mr. Purse has, as you imply in your leader pages, put the "cat amongst the pigeons" by suggesting that consumers in post-war houses should be forced to decide on " all-gas" or "all-electric." If a householder should prefer gas for cooking, as many still do, does Mr. Purse think that this consumer will be satisfied with gas lighting and willingly go without such conveniences as electric irons, mains radio, vacuum cleaners, etc.?

He accuses the gas authorities of "special pleading " on behalf of their commodity, but is doing exactly the same on behalf of electricity. He further suggests that the gas concerns should confine their activities to industrial expansion and, to what they can " pick up," by additions in existing houses. I wonder what reply the gas companies will make to this suggestion!

Taking what I consider to be a fair view of the situation, the following facilities will have to be provided to satisfy public require-ments:-(1) Electricity for lighting, radio, vacuum cleaners, irons and occasional space heating. (2) Gas points for cooker and wash boiler with, say, a conduit run for electric cooker, if required.

On the question of cost, if the gas companies are prepared to pipe all houses for cookers free of charge to the consumer, as most of them did in pre-war times, this expense will not enter into the matter.
London, S.W.1. F. W. D. ADcock,
A.M.I.E.E.

## Domestic Plugs and Sockets

0NE hesitates to add to the multiplicity of suggestions put forward regarding the standardisation of socket outlets and plugs. As, however, the whole subject is now apparently " in the melting pot," and is being approached with an open mind by the Electrical Installations Study Committee, I would venture to suggest that consideration be given to the adoption of a " jack" type plug and socket. Such a unit has been used by the Post Office for many years on portable telephone extensions, and
for light-current work appears to have been satisfactory.

I think it is safe to assume that in the not too distant future almost all our requirements for heat, light and power will be met electrically and the insertion and withdrawal of plugs will become as common an operation as the tuming on and off of taps. Facility of use will, therefore, be a most important factor and in this connection it can hardly be said that the insertion of three pins into three sockets is a simple and quick operation.

The design of a " jack " type plug suitable for currents up to 15 A should present no great difficulties. and although the cost may ke a little greater than the existing types, it would have the following merits:-(a) Maximurn simplicity of operation : (b) it can be so designed that if any conductor is reversed in the socket the insertion of the plug automatically blows the circuit fuses: (c) the axis of the socket would be paralle] to the wall instead of at right angles as in most existing designs, thus permitting a more compact design, and giving greater ease of operation. (d) the barrel-shaped plug top would conveniently accommodate a small cartridge fuse: and (e) the socket would be almost complete proof against the insertion of metal objects by children. as the earthed contacts would be nearest the mouth of the socket, with the live contact at the extreme end.

It would be interesting to know if any of your readers have had experience of the use of this type of plug and socket on normal public supply voltages.

Castle Douglas. Kirkeudbrighr. A. N. Botr.

## Compressed-Gas Insulation

SOME information was presented in the Electrical Review of February 5th, 1943. regarding the insulating properties of compressed gases which had been advanced by H. M. Hobart. At the St. Louis Technical Meeting of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers held from June 26th to 30th last. Mr. Hobart submitted a paper on High-Voltage Compressed-Gas Power Transformers * in which he pointed out that in conventional apparatus the bulk of solid insulation is subjected to very low and uneconomical stresses: e.g.. slot-linings of high-voltage stator windings operate at 30 to 60 V per mil, whereas in laboratory tests they have withstood seseral thousands volts per mil.

With compressed gases and high frequencies tenfold frequency and ten times as large a kW A accompany the same flux, thus reducing the size and cost of transformers to about one-seventh. High frequencies increase speed. quality, safety and economy in welding work. An $A C$ arc is more stable and produces a tetter weld at the higher frequencies:
therefore greater speed and lower voltages may be used. Lower voltage and higher skin effect greatly reduce shock hazards to operators. Core temperatures have hitherto been limited to about 90 deg. C. in order to avoid sludging of oil.

With compressed gases transformer cores can be operated at from 300 to 325 deg. C. with corresponding reduction in core loss and greater economy in core material at higher frequencies and flux densities than are at present possible. Instead of 130 cu . ft . of air per minute per kVA for 55 deg . C. rise allowed in air-blast transformers, only $1-8 \mathrm{cu}$. ft. of compressed sulphur-dioxide at fifty atmospheres would be needed. $\mathrm{SO}_{2}$ costs only 6 cents a pound and. free from moisture, is quite non-corrosive.

The paper discusses dielectric strength of transformer oil and tests on four gases between two spheres of 2,500 mil diameter with a 100 mil gap at pressures of $1,20,40$ and 60 absolute atmospheres, and includes five exploratory designs for compressed-gas power transformers of from 20,000 to 100,000 kVA at 60 to 1,200 cycles per second, carried far enough to disclose trends clearly, and using aluminium conductors.

Herne Bay.
Theodore Stevens.

## Adequate Installations

IAM glad to see Mr. Illingworth tackling the problem of the electric kitchen. particularly since he arrives at an unquestionably sound conclusion regarding a kitchen service cable. He makes it obvious that we must henceforth divorce the kitchen from the rest of the house, but I hope his practice of lavishing sockets on the kitchen at the expense of the remaining rooms will not become common. Why, after being so generous in the kitchen, does be allocate only ten sockets to the rest of the house ? Surely there is a better reason than that ten is the balance between the number he has used in the kitchen and a " mystic seventeen."

Giving the housewife relief from kitchen drudgery does not mean that she must be denied comfort elsewhere in the house. Yet one outlet per room, plus one for luck downstairs, is as bad as the pre-war inadequacy over which the present battle of the outlets is raging. Our objective in this battle can be described quite simply as a matter of providing facilities for the use of electrical appliances both when and where they are needed. If, with this in mind, the same careful thought that Mr. Illingworth has given to the kitchen is applied to the rest of the house it will be found that a minimum of four outlets is needed in the main rooms: when alternative furniture arrangements are taken into account this figure may be as high as six. Such a scale can be provided with existing B.S. 546 sockets wired on the fused
room-circuit principle illustrated by the accompanying diagrarr.

Any scheme that raises the cost of such facilities beyond the reach of the modest dwelling is an unacceptable scheme. Not only is it a moral responsibility and sound business - particularly to the electricity under-taking-to guard against this but anything less will lead to our facing, for the second ume, an indictment of having incited the public to dangerous improvisation with: piles of adapiors and tangles of flexible. Nor will the housewife be placated by an exdlanation that the
100 ner cent. interchangeable " socke! will serve for any appliance she wants to use if, in practice, she finds she has to disconnect the fire when she wants to use her sewing machine or dispense with the lamp she needs for her needlework when her husband plugs in for the news. Nor will a vacant outlet at the fireplace give her anythring but irritation when she wants a light on the desk at the other end of the room

The only true solution to this problem is numbers. By fostering the illusion that 100 per cent. interchangeability is a substitute for numbers we are heading for disaster, for that way lies complication the cost of which precludes the solution. I wonder whether this is how the " mystic seventeen " crept in to spoil Mr. Illingworth's otherwise excellent piece of planning.
Oxshoft, Surrey. L. Newton Davey.

## An Exhibition Centre

THE export question is one of high ranking importance in the future of this country, to which the slogan "Export or bust "" may aptly be applied.
If Great Britain is to remain one of the principal shopping markets of the world it must meet and counter competition from newly industrialised countries. The amenities pro.Ided for the British Industries Fair, which was divided between London and Birmingham, were hopelessly inadequate. The month of February, notoriously the worst in the English calendar, seems to me to have been ill-chosen. The limited number of overseas visitors who attended could scarcely have been impressed, since the art of salesmanship is closely linked with that of showmanship.
I consider that. as an important ieature of
the reconstruction programme of Greater London, there should be a permanent exhibition centre. This could be situated in one of the London parks, or at some site within easy reach of the centre of London. There are large areas in Regent's Park little used by the general public. In such a position could be built a permanent exhibition and amusement centre without equal in the world. By * amusement centre "I do not mean to imply the Gargantuan fun fair element associated with the Wembley Empire Exhibition. The

## PERSONAL and SOCIAL

## News of Men and Women of the Industry

TTHE Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Fuel and Power, Mr. Tom Smith, has recently been appointed chairman of the Heavy Electrical Plant Committee of the Ministry. The photograph reproduced with this note was taken during a visit by Mr . Smith to the headquarters of the South Wales and South West England Area of the Central Electricity Board as part of a tour of inspection of the area. Mr. Smith is accom-
became welding engineer to Joseph Lucass, Ltd., a post which he held until recently joining the Sclaky Co. Offices and showrooms are to be opened in Birmingham ; in the meantime Mr. Bushell is operating from his home at 158. Baltimore Road, Perry Barr, Birmingham.

Mr. F. C. Orchard, chief engineer and manager of the Hornsey Corporation Electricity Department, is to be the guest of honour of the London panied by Major E. Cadbury, D.S.C., D.F.C., controller of the Ministry's No. 7 Region (South West England), and Mr. J. T. H. Legge, manager of the Area.

Siemens Electric Lamps \& Supplies, Ltd., announces a number of changes in its branch organisations. Mr. E. A. Ward, the present Manchester branch manager, is being transferred to Cardiff to succeed the late Mr. C. J. Neale. Mr. A. J. Barry, the Sheffield branch manager, is moving to Manchester to take charge of the Manchester and Liverpool branches, while Mr. W. H. Jackson, who for some years has been in charge of the Nottingham depot, is to be branch manager at Sheffield in place of Mr. Barry.

Mr. George R. Yates, superintendent of Bolton Corporation electricity undertaking's fittings department, is retiring on superannuation after forty-six years' service, and a presentation was made to him on August 25 th by his colleagues. Mr. Harold Wilcock, his assistant, has been appointed to succeed him.

Mr. S. B. Williams, editor of the Electrical World (New York), has been elected president of the American Illuminating Engineering Society.

Mr. A. E, Bendixson, secretary of the Power Investment Corporation, Ltd., has been elected a director of the company.

We very much regret the transposition of the word "late," through no fault of Mr. Brammer's, in connection with the reference to Mr. W. W. Lackie in the article on the Association of Supervising Electrical Engineers in our issue of August 18th. We should of course have said "late of the Electricity Commission" and we are delighted to hear that Mr. Lackie is in the very best of health in his retirement in the country.

Mr. R. Bushell has been appointed Midland Counties representative of Sciaky Electric Welding Machines, Ltd. After experience in the building of resistance welding machines at the works of British Insulated Cables, Ltd., and in their installation and maintenance, Mr. Bushell


Major E. Cadbury, Mr. Tom Smith and Mr. J. T. H. Legge at the headquarters of the Central Board's South Wales and S.W. England Area

Master Builders' Association's Northern Area at a luncheon on September 13 th at the Salisbury Hotel, Barnet. He is to speak on "The Use of Electrical Tools in the Building Industry:"

Dr. H. Moore, C.B.E., is retiring from the position of director of the British Non-Ferrous Metals Research Association and the Council of the Association is inviting applications for the post at an initial salary of $£ 1,750$ per annum.

## Obituary

Mr. H. K. Heyland.-The death is reported of Mr. H. K. Heyland, chairman of the Compagnie Generale d'Electricite de Lourenco Marques.
C. H. Merz Memorial.-As a permanent memorial of the outstanding achievements and personality of the late Dr. C. H. Merz his partners decided to commission a portrait of Dr. Merz in oils by Arnold Mason, A.R.A., and to present to King's College, Newcastle-onTyne, an inscribed tablet by Laurence A. Turner, R.S.A., Hon. A.R I B.A., with a portrait medallion by Allan G. Wyon, F.R.B.S. The portrait has been accepted by the Institution of Electrical Engineers. It may be seen at the Institution and later it may be on view at the Autumn Exhibition of the Royal Society of Portrait Painters. The tablet can be seen at 32, Victoria Street, S.W.1, at any time during the next few weeks.

We may remind readers that Dr. Merz lost his life in an air raid on London in 1940.

# COMMERCE and INDUSTRY 

## Purchase of Iron and Steel. High-frequency Hardening.

## Iron and Steel Authorisation

THE Iron and Steel Control (Ministry of Supply), Ashorne Hill, near Leamington Spa, has issued a new guide to the authorities to whom application should be made for authorisation for the purchase of iron and steel. For the requirements of authorised electricity undertakings in respect of power stations and transmission and distribution systems up to consumers' terminals (but not for the requirements of consumers) applications must be made by the undertakings to the Electricity Commission. In the case of Northern Ireland the authority is the Ministry of Commerce, Belfast.

The Ministry of War Transport is responsible for authorisations in connection with tramway and trolley vehicle undertakings, but not for new vehicles or spare parts for the latter. In the case of requirements lother than those for the Admiralty and electricity supply undertakings) for the manufacture of a specified range of industrial electrical equipment, i.e., motors, generators and alternators up to 250 HP or kW , with associated control gear, convertors and frequency changers up to and including 40 kW and low- and medium-voltage switchgear authorisations should be obtained from the Machine Tool Control, Caxton House, Tothill Street, S.W.1. This islalso the authority for requirements for portable power tools and electric welding equipment (including coated electrodes).

Requirements of iron and steel for the production of cable drums and for plant and maintenance of plant of cable manufacturers are dealt with by the Directorate of Signal Equipment, Iron Trades House, S.W.I.

## Henley Scholarship

W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., and its subsidiary companies are offering a four-year scholarship, tenable at the Gravesend Day Technical School, for competition among the sons of Henley employees. The scholarship will be awarded annually on the results obtained in the entrance examination held at the Technical School in March every year. Candidates must be between the ages of 11 and 12 on August 1 st preceding the examination, and those entering for the examination in March. 1945, must have been born after July 31st, 1932, and before August, 1933. The scholarship will enable the son of a Henley parent to obtain a full-time course at the Technical School leading up to


Fluorescent lamps give shadowless lighting in a coil-winding shop
matriculation standard. It will provide a sum of $£ 15$ per annum to cover fees and incidental charges. Full details may be obtained from the Gravesend Technical School.

## Fluorescent I.ighting Installation

It recently became necessary to re-light completely an important war factory. Philips fluorescent lamps (type MCF/U $80 \mathrm{~W}, 60$ in.) were used throughout in Veritys type VS. 6936 "Maxlume" fittings, the installation being carried out by Pinching \& Walton, Lid. The new lighting has been of particular benefit in
the coil-winding shop, where shadowless illumination on the spools is provided, as shown in the illustration, by lines of fittings situated 5 ft . aver the working plane, giving $20-25 \mathrm{ft}$.candles on the benches. Output has been increased, and working conditions improved. In the drawing office of the same works similar fittings have been installed over each drawing board with extremely satisfactory results.

## Contract Price Adjustment Formulx

We are informed by the British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers' Association that the following are the latest figures for its contract price adjustment formulæ: (a) "Rates of Pay": the rate of pay for adult male labour at August 19 th shall be deemed to be 90 s .6 d . (b) "Costs of Material " : the index figure for intermediate products last published by the Board of Trade on August 19th is 176.1 (against 176.3 ) and is the figure for the month of July.

## Electrical Manufacture in Brazil

Plans are under way in Brazil to erect, immediately after the war, a large plant for the manufacture of electrical equipment in the San Paulo arca. It is also believed that the output
of lamps, wire, fuses, switches, transformers, irons, welding equipment, some types of electric motors, lighting fixtures, radio parts, conduits, insulated cables, vacuum cleaners, heaters, and dry batteries will be increased.-Reuter's 7 Trade Service.

## Orders for Battery Vehicles

The Brush Electrical Engineering Co., Ltd., has received orders for eleven $2 \frac{1}{2}$-ton battery electric refuse collecting vehicles-six for the Birmingham Salvage Department and five for the Sheffield Clcansing Department.

## Lothians Company's Farm Display

A display at the Haddington showrooms of the Lothians Electric Power Co. has created considerable interest among the local farming community. Mr. C. H. A. Collyns, the acting general manager, tells us that a special feature has been made of the "Essex" mill, and behind

Buxton-with-Lomas, who died after coming in contact with an overhead line while clumbing on the roof of his father's cattle lodge, a verdict was recorded that "death was due to accidental electrocution through the boy touching the cable that he did not realise was dangerous." The boy had been warned not to climb trees and farm buildings. A. terminal pole was fixed on the gable end of the cattle lodge and the overhead line was about a foot above the ridge of the corrugated iron roof.

## High-frequency Hardening

Excellent results are reported by Black \& Decker, Ltd., from the installation of highfrequency ( 400,000 cycles per sec.) inductionheating equipment of the valve-oscillator type for the hardening of steel components of gears for portable electric tools running at speeds up to 20,000 RPM, including armature pinions with only twelve teeth, 40 diametrical pitch.
Heating each component individually in the


Farm exhibits at the showrooms of the Lothians Company coil and quenching it almost immediately in a vertical position has minimised distortion, thus removing a cause of harsh gear running and possible consequent noise. The effect of the hard skin and comparatively soft core, with an absence of scale on the tooth flank, has been to improve products. Moreover, components not originally in mind can be hardened by the new equipment, e.g., splined shafts can be hardened at the wearing portions only.
Formerly as many components as possible
the 3-HP motor driving it is a backeloth showing the company's main distribution lines. A novel use has been made of inverted glass pin-type insulators which can be seen in the foreground with oats in the outer shed and the flour obtained from the mill in the centre shed.

## Northampton Polytechnic

Details of the day, evening, part-time and week-end courses for the 1944-45 session of the Northampton Polytechnic, St. John Street, London, E.C.1, which are starting shortly are now available from the Principal, Mr. S. C. Laws.

## Portable Cross-cut Saw

Reference was made in the article on electrofarming in the Electrical Review of August 18th to a portable electrically driven cross-cut saw. The makers were said to be Mawdsley's, Ltd., but this company tells us that while it supplied the motor, the saw was made by T. H. \& J. Daniels, Ltd., Stroud, and sold by J. Clubley Armstrong, Abford House, Wilton Road, S.W.1.

## Fatality on Farm

At the inquest on Geoffrey W. Sylvester Case, six-year-old son of Mr, and Mrs. F. E. Case, of
were made by the company of pre-heat-treated steel in order to avoid subsequent heat-treatment operations. Now all steel components are manufactured in a fully annealed condition, finished parts being hardened where necessary. On that account alone a 40 per cent. reduction in machining time has been obtained.

## Ex-Services Welfare Society

A letter received from Mr. Everett Howard, secretary of the Ex-Services Welfare Society, 51-53, Victoria Street, S.W.1, urges bigger firms themselves to give disabled men sympathetic training much as they at present take on apprentices. Experiences at the Society's Leatherhead training centre, a self-contained commercial concern, are referred to, and an offer is made to co-operate with any organisation now reviewing this problem of rehabilitation.

## Fire Fighting Demonstration

A demonstration was given at the Motherwell and Wishaw electricity works on August 16 th of means by which fires on live electrical gear can be safely attacked, provided normal precautions are taken. Mr. W. D. Brassington, the burgh electrical engineer, says that this demonstration is believed to have been the first
held in the West of Scotland in which $11,000-\mathrm{V}$ gear has been sprayed without the fire fighter taking elaborate precautions to ensure his own safety by the use of rubber gloves, boots, etc. The operator of the methyl bromide extinguisher stood on the ground about 6 ft . from the bare copper bus-bar. The same extinguisher was used on $440-\mathrm{V}$ three-phase apparatus. The demonstrators from the National Fire Protection Co., Ltd.. also showed how oil fires could be effectively attacked. Approximately 70 representative industrialists attended the display.

## The A.O.E.C.

Due no doubt to prospects of the Government's introducing legislation affecting the organisation of the electricity supply industry, membership of the Association of Officers and Staff Members of Electricity (Power and Supply) Companies of Great Britain (A.O.E.C.) shows an increase of over 55 per cent. during 1943 on the already increased membership of the previous year. Mentioning this, the Association's annual report, which the secretary, Mr. E. J. Gibbons, Kingsway, Sutton Road, Seaford, has just sent us, adds that the new members have been drawn from about twenty-seven additional companies, which were not before represented in the Association, and these new companies cover several hitherto untapped parts of the country.

## E.C.A. Headquarters

The Electrical Contractors' Association has temporarily transferred its headquarters to 12 , Southgate Street, Winchester.

## Trade Announcement

The Bristol service and sales organisation of Brook Motors, Ltd, is now at 28. Baldwin Street. Bristol, 1 (telegraphic address: Brookmot, Bristol ; telephone: Bristol 24427).

## Trade Publications

Frank Whitelegg, 90 Robin Hood Lane, Sutton, Surrey.-New price list (C) dealing with mechanical revolution and stroke counters with up to five figures.
Chance Brothers, Ltd., Smethwick, Birming-ham.-Technical data sheets on sealing glasses for electronic and X-ray tubes.
Copics of these publications can be obtained from the firms concerned by bona fide trade applicants.

## American Radio Production

The United States War Production Board has announced that production of civilian radio sets will not be resumed until after Germany surrenders. Then, however, there will probably be sufficient supply of raw materials to permit civilian production without quota restrictions, since the amount of steel, copper and other raw materials needed by the radio industry is comparatively small.-Reuter (Washington).

## New Outlook for Managements

Mr. Alan P. Good, managing director of the Brush Electrical Engineering Co., Ltd., told a foremens conference at Sheffield last week that managements must undergo a change in outlook hefore they could educate the working man to undergo a similar change. If they
could rehabilitate a man who had suffered mental or physical injuries through the war. he said, they could fit for employment men who. through some industrial or personal problem, were not able to do the work of an ordinary man. Every employer would have to carry a number of men who, physically or mentally. were not fitted to do a full day's work. No longer would it be possible for an employer to use only the good men and let the poorer worker, or the less energetic, rot on the scrapheap of unemployment. The managements had lost for all time the old scourge which kept less responsible labour working hard-the fear of dismissal.

## TRADE MARK APPLICATIONS

THE following applications have been made for trade marks. Objections may be entered within a month from August 23 rd. Veda. No. 627116, Class 9. Electric flexible conductors, wire and cables.-Jones, Stroud \& Co., Ltd., Vida Mills, New Street, Long Eaton. Derbyshire.

Crypton. No. 627818, Class 9. Apparatus for charging electric batteries; electrical testing instruments and apparatus; apparatus and instruments (not included in other classes) for testing engines and parts of vehicles, etc.Crypton Equipment, Ltd., George Street, Bridgwater.

Mary Ann. No. 628477, Class 6. Electric flat irons, kettles and tea infusers.-British Electric Domestic Appliances (1938), Lid., 105-109, Judd Street, London, W.C.1.

Optionic. No. 628699, Class 9. Scientific and optical instruments and apparatus; electrical instruments and apparatus (not included in other classes); parts (not included in other classes) of all these goods.-T. Beech \& Sons (Glassworks), Ltd., 3-25, North Road, Preston, Lancs.

Durasigns (design). No. 629014, Class 9. Neon advertising signs.-Steels Electrical Products, Ltd., 4, Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.I.

Minton. No. 628808, Class 11. Electric table lamps, lamp shades, lighting fittings, etc., all being goods made of porcelain or earthen-ware.-Mintons, Ltd., China Works, Stoke-onTrent.

Lignex. No. 629276, Class 11. Separators for electric accumulators.-Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Exide Works, Clifton Junction, near Manchester.

## INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

GENERAL inquiries from readers relating, to sources of electrical goods, makers' addresses, etc., are replied to by our Information Department through the post. Inquiries should be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

Our extensive records enable us to reply to most queries, but occasionally we ask for our readers'assistance in tracing names and addresses not known to us. We should be glad to have such information regarding the following :-

Davies Kellar, Ltd., manufacturers of torches.

## Lamp Publicity

## "Mazda" and Siemens Plans for the New Lighting Season

$\mathrm{A}^{\mathrm{s}}$S the autumn approaches lamp manufacturers are busy completing plans for their publicity campaigns for the 1944-45 lighting season.

Mazda " advertisements appearing in the national, provincial, trade and electrical Press will emphasise the need for light and fuel saving, efficient production, and welfare betterment through good lighting. A "Research behind Lighting" series of advertisements in the engineering and industrial Press demonstrates veiry effectively how B.T.H. research aids industry. The Control of Paper Order has limited display publicity, but by means of the silk screening process and the use of book cloth, another new and effective "Mazda" window piece in colour-red, yellow and black - has been produced. This takes the form of a canvas panel measuring 7 ft . by 26 in . with wood strips top and bottom. The illustration shows the panel in use in a typical small window with the current "Mazda Factory Display ", placed on one side.

The large painted road signs, placed in prominent positions on many of the main roads leading out of London, still draw attention to the famous "Stay Bright Longer " lamps. "Mazdalux" industrial fittings and equipment are described, illustrated and priced in the Business Guide L. $749 / \mathrm{M}$ recently issued and to this a broadshect " Mazdalux Industrial Lighting


New " Mazda " window display
Equipment, for Light Conditioning by B.T.H. Engineers" (L. $742 / \mathrm{M}$ ) is a companion publication.

## The Siemens Campaign

In the interests of national economy the Siemens lamp publicity for the coming season is of necessity curtailed. Subject to limitations on space, display advertisements will appear from time to time in the national and provincial Press, and will link up with the Ministry of Fuel propaganda on fuel economy.

In view of the urgent necessity for speeding up output in all essential industries, special attention will be devoted to improved lighting in factories with Siemens lamps and lighting equipment, and to this end display advertisements will appear in the principal trade journals stressing the economy of good lighting in making possible increased production, and at the same time offering without obligation the skilled advice of the company's lighting engineers on all matters appertaining to scientific factory lighting.

An attractive hanging display bill 20 in . by 30 in ., in full colours, en-


Siemens lamp display bill titled " Make Light of Fuel Economy with Siemens Lamps," is printed on the backs of obsolete posters, to comply with the control of paper regulations. It forms the central feature of a window display.

Limited supplies of last year's "Judge" showcards with lamp prices can also be had from the company. Price-lists are available to the trade on request.

## Theft Charge

ASERIES of thefts between 1941 and 1944, involving nearly $£ 1,400$, by the chief accountant of the Mid-Lincolnshire Electric Supply Co., Ltd., was alleged at the Grantham Borough Court last week, when William Thomas Lings, of Totlea, Harrowby Lane, Grantham, was committed for trial at the next Quarter Sessions on four charges of larceny from his employers and three charges of falsification of accounts to the extent of £14 10s. 11 d .
Defendant, who pleaded "Not Guilty" to all the charges, was allowed bail himself in $£ 50$, and two sureties of $£ 25$ each.

Receipt vouchers showing that amounts of varying sizes had been paid out to Lings by the petty cashier were produced and it was alleged that instead of using the moneys on behalf of the company Lings had kept them for himself. On one occasion, the prosecution stated, sums had been withdrawn ostensibly for payment to a sister company, but the auditor denied that this company had received these amounts. The charges of falsification of accounts related to Lings' own consumer account with the company. He was charged with crediting himself falsely on three separate occasions.

## Rural Supplies

## Experiences at Letchworth

IN our description on April 21st of the post-war planning exhibition held at Letchworth we gave some details of past achievements and contemplated after-the - war developments of the electricity undertaking in the Garden City area. Since visiting this exhibition Mr. Charles Gould, M.I.E.E., chief electrical engineer to the First Garden City, Ltd., has given us the opportunity of seeing something of the work undertaken in the undertaking's 40 -sq. mile rural area, a Special Order to supply which was obtained in 1924 and an Extension Order in 1925.

While the system as a whole has been built up on more or less conventional lines, minor differences and preferences are interesting. When supply to the rural area was first commenced, to Baldock, DC at 500/250 V was employed. After six years this was converted to a three-wire split-phase AC system at a pressure of $480 / 240 \mathrm{~V}$, which was
changed in 1936 to $415 / 240 \mathrm{~V}$ three-phase four-wire, transmission being at $11,000 \mathrm{~V}$. To-day practically the whole of the area


Hammer mill for grinding cattle meal at Manor Farm, Willian

Typical rural substation, with 100 kVA transformer, at Campton
is covered, with ring mains everywhere except for a few odd loops unfinished because there are no consumers in the areas concerned.

Of the sixty or so substations and switching points which are provided the majority are of the brickbuilt outdoor type, which are gradually superseding kiosks. Even in the rural or "outside" area a high proportion of the mains is underground (twenty-four miles out of thirty-five 11 kV , and forty-six miles out of forty-eight l.v.). Where overhead lines are used pole-mounted transformers and switches are not favoured, as being inconvenient for inspection and maintenance, and only two instances of their use are to be found, these in the least populated areas.
Occasionally difficulties have been
experienced with faults due to lightning and birds. These have been largely overcome by the use of single-shot automatic reclose gear on the circuit-breakers. For some of the worst stretches of line the adoption of repeater switches is under consideration. Fallures due to lightning are also minimised by rearranging circuits in August and September, the periods when it is most prevalent, to reduce interference with certain converting plant employed for the power station auxiliaries. Insulating sleeves are also used on overhead line pole cross-arms to reduce outages due to birds, the clearances on the standard $11-\mathrm{kV}$ lines being considered insufficient.

The popularity of electricity in the areathere are now 10,671 consumers (Garden City 5,330, outside area 5,341) out of a potential number of 12,500 and they now use about 40 million kWh a year-can be traced to a considerable degree to the goodwill which the undertaking has painstakingly built up by comprehensive service. This applies both to domestic and to industrial consumers. The latter, absorbing no less than 70 per cent. of the undertaking's outnut, cover steel foundry and heavy engineering work, the manufacture of road freighter trucks, accounting machines, woodwork, bookbinding, printing, perambulators, corsets, hosiery, radio valves, scientific instruments, photographic materials, various light engineering products, copper tubing, water heaters and geysers, bacon, oiled silk, mastic roofing, articulated trailers, cycle com-

Milk bottling and capping machinery driven by two l-HP motors at the Letchworth \& District Co-operative Society's model creamery
ponents, asphalt, sand and gravel quarrying. More than four-fifths of the factories are in the Garden City area.

Considerable attention has been paid to the needs of the farming community and out of the fifty-two larger farms ( $200-2,000$ acres or more) no fewer than forty-six are now taking supplies. Incidentally, due to the planning policy of the company, which owns the freehold of the whole of Letchworth, there are actually twelve farms situated in

A $60,000 \mathrm{gal}$. per hour pump driven by a 195-HP motor at one of the First Garden City's waterworks
use of electricity is rapidly growing, examples of all the usual appliancesmilking machines, grinders, crushers, etc., being plentiful.

Pumping stations in the rural area are now being changed over to electrical operation whereby very reduced costs are obtained by the water and sewage authorities as compared with engine-driven installations. The saving is, of course, mostly in the very small maintenance required by electric motors, apart from the reduction in energy costs. A special study has been made of industrial canteens and practically all of them have been equipped by the undertaking. Schools are lent cookers free of charge for
instructional purposes by the undertaking. Actually a drive to popularise electricity in the rural areas was curtailed by the war. At that time, however, the low agricultural wages were a handicap and market gardening was not so very profitable. To-day, with vastly improved conditions in these areas, a tremendous number of new appliances could be hired or sold if they were available. As it is apparatus already sold or on hire in the rural areas includes 189 cookers, 44 water heaters, 26 wash boilers, 157 kettles, and 101 irons. These figures do not, of course, bear comparison with, for instance, 2,400 cookers in the rest of the area. Boding well for the future of rural development is the fact that
the domestic two-part tariff and hire charges are exactly the same in town and rural areas. The charges are moderate, the average working out at $1 \cdot 28 \mathrm{~d}$. per kWh .

The company will supply any electrical appliances and machinery asked for and its installation department has won for itself such a good reputation that its assistance is frequently called for to undertake contracts outside its own area. Often industrial consumers leave in the undertaking's hands not only the electrical installation work but also the choosing of the plant as well.
We should like to thank Mr. Gould and his chief assistant, Mr. W. A. Brown, for their help in preparing this article.

# Wiring Post-War Houses 

Lessons from Experiments at Birmingham

THE new materials and methods of construction which will be employed in post-war houses are providing interesting problems in electrical installation work. The recognised methods and standards are proving quite unsuitable to meet the new requirements and it has become necessary to develop an entirely new technique, particularly in relation to prefabrication.

Typical of the difficulties of the post-war planners are those encountered by the City of Birmingham Electric Supply Department in the installation it is carrying out in a pair of experimental houses which are now being completed for the Public Works Committee to designs prepared by Mr. H. J. Manzoni, the city engineer and surveyor. To give both electricity and gas an opportunity to demonstrate their comparative merits it was decided that one of the houses, a three-bedroom type, should be left to the Electric Supply Departrent to equip, while the Gas Department should be responsible for the other, which is a two-bedroom type, both houses, of course, being lighted by electricity. In addition, gas points and plug points in the various rooms and wiring and gas pipes to the cooker and wash-boiler positions are provided in both houses.
By this arrangement not only can electrical apparatus be shown in the "electric" house, and gas equipment demonstrated in the "gas" house, but at a later date when the houses in question are actually occupied, each tenant will be able to utilise either or both types of service for various purposes according to his particular choice. In both houses there is in
the living room a solid-fuel fire of special design which not only warms this room and, by means of a special flue, one of the bedrooms, but also provides the domestic hot water. A gas point is provided for lighting this fire.

In planning the equipment of the "electric" house, the Electric Supply Department has decided against the idea of using it as a means of demonstrating the numerous ways in which electricity can be utilised. Instead, it has concentrated on furnishing an efficient installation which, while providing for all essential services with an adequacy of plug points, does not commit the householder in the lower-income scale to the use of apparatus

> The use of new materials and methods in house construction may demand an entirely new technique in electrical wiring, as instanced in the case of the experimental houses described
which he cannot really afford to run.

Thus, while the installation includes an electric cooker, wash boiler, and a $3-\mathrm{kW}$ thermostatically controlled circulator in the lagged hot water tank for boosting purposes or for use when the solid-fuel fire is not alight, a refrigerator is not being fitted, although the wiring arrangements are such that a supply for this purpose could be provided if required. Consideration was also given to installing a heater in the drying cupboard which has been provided, but this was thought to be undesirable at present, as the class of tenant anticipated would not in all probability be prepared to meet the running costs involved. Here again, however, the wiring has been arranged so that a heater could be installed later.

A feature of the houses which has largely determined the planning of the electrical installation is the use of a steel framework.

This steelwork, which for the two houses weighs about $3 \frac{1}{2}$ tons and takes two days to erect, is made up of four different sizes of electrically welded lattice members. On channels fixed to the concrete foundation there are boited stanchions. On these, girders supporting the upper floor are mounted, somewhat smaller girders being used for carrying the ceilings of the upstairs rooms and for the roof supports. In the "gas" house normal brickwork is employed for the outside walls, but in the "electric" house an experiment is being made with the use of asbestos sheeting.

The inner walls of both houses are con-


The steel framework and (right) the houses nearing completion, showing brick and asbestos coverings
structed of 2 ft . by 1 ft . breeze or foam slag blocks, $2 \frac{1}{2}$ in. thick for the inner lining of the cavity walls and 3 in. thick for the partition walls, which are skimmed with plaster. The ceilings consist of plaster boards nailed into position with the usual coating of plaster. The downstairs floors are laid direct on concrete, while for the upstairs floors, the opportunity is being taken to experiment with different types of flooring, which in the case of the "electric" house consists of concrete blocks, over which is placed a surface of asphalt, and in addition,

Cabots Quilt," for sound insulation purposes, is inserted between the downstairs ceilings and the upper floors.

Realising that there is considerable uncertainty as to the availability of normal types
of cable, etc., after the war, the Electric Supply Department has thought it desirable to choose materials that are practically certain to be then obtainable. Conduit is not only considered unnecessarily expensive, but it will be realised, from the unusual type of house construction already described, that numerous difficulties would be experienced in its installation. It has, therefore, been employed only for mechanical protection for bringing the cable down from the ceiling cavity to points in the breeze or foam slag walls, and also to provide the supply to the outside washhouse.

For the wiring H.S.O.S. cable has been adopted, which, in accordance with B.S.1062, can be utilised as a wartime substitute for t.r.p. cable. The service cable is brought into the house through an asbestos tube incorporated in the building construction, and is carried to the special meter cupboard on the one-step-high landing at the foot of the stairs immediately beside the front door. An experimental type service unit installed here provides for single-pole fusing. From these fuses the wiring is taken to the ceiling cavities where it is attached by means of buckle clips to the wooden

bearers fixed to the girders and supporting the ceiling beneath. All chases, slots and fixings were provided during the construction of the building.

Due to the nature and type of the material to which the various fittings were to be fixed
many experiments were necessary to ascertain the quickest, cheapest and best method of securing the wooden boxes which house the accessories. Special fixings were incorporated in the building for such items as the cooker control unit, etc. The boxes for the switches and for the sockets are secured by screws


Construction of upper floor, showing wiring
entering the side of the box into the breeze or foam slag blocks, so that there would be no direct pull on the threads.

Should this type of fixing be adopted on a housing scheme in future, involving a considerable number of houses, it may be necessary to use some form of template to ensure that the box lines up with the finished plaster surface, but with the two present experimental houses it has been found sufficient to pack the box to prevent displacement when the screws are tightened up. The extra deep recess in the wail makes necessary the use of deep wooden boxes and these are found very useful for looping purposes.

All these switches and sockets are of the allinsulated and flush type. The sockets are all of the $15-\mathrm{A}$, three-pin type to B.S.546, with the exception of the special socket for the kettle incorporated in the cooker control unit in the kitchen, which is a $5-\mathrm{A}$, three-pin type to B.S.546, at present the standard unit adopted by the Department for this particular purpose. Except those in the kitchen, the sockets are unswitched, the plugs being fused where necessary for the smaller appliances. The safety factor is taken care of by the employment of shuttered sockets, generally fitted at skirting board level. In the kitchen, however, the sockets are fixed for convenience at table top height and are controlled by switches.
No fixed fires have been installed except in the kitchen where there is a $1-\mathrm{kW}$ radiator
above the table. A clock point with fused plug is provided in the kitchen. Two-way switching is provided for the hall and landing lights and there is a $15-\mathrm{A}$, double-pole threeheat switch with pilot lamp for the thermo-statically-controlled circulator. A special built-in three-way lighting fitting has been designed to illuminate the drying cupboard, the rear of the hall, the larder and the cupboard under the stairs. A door bell is supplied through a transformer. The lighting wiring is divided into two circuits, and the cooker, wash boiler and circulator are wired on separate circuits. The wiring system for the plug points consists of three separate circuits, each wired with $3 / .036$ cable. This was considered preferable to adopting a ring main, not only as additional plug points in future should be unnecessary due to the adequate provision already made, but close investigation showed that the method employed would save cable and facilitate looping. In any case, the full advantages of a ring-main system cannot be realised until the industry has agreed on the various standard accessories which are necessary for such a system.

There are altogether ten plug points in-volved-living room three, kitchen one (in


## Method of fixing wooden switch box

addition to kettle point), first and second bedrooms two each, smallest bedroom one, and landing one. The grouping of the plug points has been arranged on the basis that the maximum load which can be reasonably anticipated on each circuit will not exceed 3 kW , having in mind the particular locations where the sockets are situated and the simultaneous use to which they might be put, and is as follows:-(1) living room, three plug points; (2) smallest and first bedrooms, three plug points; and (3) second bedroom, landing and kitchen, four plug points, clock point and $1-\mathrm{kW}$ fire.

We are indebted to Mr. F. W. Lawton, chief engineer and manager of the Electric Supply Department, and members of the staff, in particular Major R. H. Rawll, sales and development engineer, for facilities and assistance in the preparation of this article.

## Progress in Manufacture

$A^{N}$exhibition which Hoover, Ltd., staged last week to enable members of its organisation to visualise the progress made not only demonstrated the company's versatility and adaptability but also showed the remarkable advances that had been made in stepping up production and reducing man-hours on particular processes.

In connection with the production of rotary transformers, one especially compact unit with a rating of 20 W in its original form weighed 6 lb . but by successive stages the weight has been reduced to 1 lb .5 oz . The development of basic designs has proved very successful and from one type of unit eight others have been produced, using twenty-six standard components. Now the range of rotary transformers covers units of all types, including unit, water-tight and open construction. The range of fractional-HP motors has also been extended and developed. To indicate some of the war-time uses of the company's normal products, a standard vacuum cleaner was shown converted for blowing hot air for paint drying in aircraft repairs, while a "Dustette" unit was seen as adapted for supplying cool air in cabins.

Directions in which time, labour and some-


## Automatic telephone unit for testing complicated wiring systems

$\mathbf{A}^{\mathrm{s}}$
tools and it was particularly interesting to see how dies for core laminations were built up in sections. Radiography is used for checking castings and for assembly. Electro-deposition and transfer moulding are two processes that are finding increasing applications. The purity of mouldings is carefully watched and the acctone extraction test is a routine feature. For testing dimensions the "Lumigage" is one of the devices developed, while for complicated systems of electrical wiring an automatic telephone system unit has been adapted to test cightyfive circuits at one setting at approximately ten circuits per second for circuit tests and one circuit per second for insulation tests.

## Informing Our Allies

 S a result of four visits to England and the Continent-the first in 1934 and the last just before the war-Mr. Davis M. DeBard, vice-president of the Stone and Webster Corporation, N.Y., has made many contacts with electrical engineers in this country, which he has maintained by correspondence.During the past four and a half years he has, he informs us, received ninety-three news letters from twenty-four correspondents residing in Great Britain. These letters have been copied and circulated among Government officials, electrical manufacturers and supply undertakings throughout the United States and are read regularly by about 35,000 people. Some of them have been published in technical and other magazines.

Mr. DeBard's visits were first prompted by an interest in the electrical sales to medium and low income consumers and the information gained in this way and through his subsequent mail resulted, he believes, in stimulating the pre-war major-appliance companies in the United States.

More recently the data obtained have related to the operation
times expensive machinery have been saved include the adoption of centreless grinding of armature cores, the use of a special band linishing machine for eliminating the hand filing of armature core slots, a novel method of putting collars on armatures, the development of a special machine for indexing commutators, modifications of armature winding apparatus, improved ways of finish turning commutators, the use of wheel crushing methods, the standardisation of tool and production methods, and the making of a great deal of special machinery and tools for such purposes as cutting long lengths of cable, and burning off the insulation of polyvinyl cables. A new technique will revolutionise commutator production.
The very large quantities of articles required has resulted in the mass production even of
of undertakings and industries under war conditions, including transport, electrical communications, coal conservation, black-out lighting, labour conditions, factory, operation and repairs to bombed areas in addition to various nonelectrical matters such as rationing and taxation, post-war plans and the rebuilding of London.

Such information has, Mr. DeBard believes, done something towards creating a fuller understanding of each other by the peoples of the two countries, the public in the United States having been particularly impressed with our experiences during the Battle of Britain, with the bravery of reparir men and operators during bombings and with the way in which the supply of electricity has been kept going to war plants-all of which have served as a stimulus to the personnel of utility undertakings in his own country.

## ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

## Guaranteeing Payment of Accounts. Purchase Option Extensions.

Cardiff.-Principle of Guarantees.-The question of guaranteeing the payment of electricity accounts has arisen at Cardiff in connection with small holdings. At a meeting of the Corporation Small Holdings Committee a letter was read from the electrical engineer of the Cardiff Rural District Council stating that his Council had under consideration a proposal to construct electric lines for the purpose of affording electricity supply to two farms and eleven small holdings. This would involve substantial capital expenditure by the R.D.C., which would accordingly require guarantees from the farmers and small holders concerned to consume electricity to the aggregate minimum value of $£ 130$ per annum for a period of five years. The electrical engineer asked whether the Corporation would be prepared to guarantee the required minimum payments so far as the small holders were concerned. The Committee decided to ask the city treasurer to report on the matter.j
Falmouth.-Period Extended-The Electricity Commissioners have extended for three years the forty-two-year period at the expiration of which the Corporation may purchase the undertaking authorised by the Falmouth Electric Lighuing Order, 1903.

> Felling-on-Tyme. - Proposed Street Lighting Conference.-The Urban District Council has proposed that a conference of all local authorities on the south side of the Tyne should be called to consider the question of main road lighting. A conference of the Felling, Gateshead Whickham, Newcastle and Lamesley Councils has already been held, but Felling Council contends that the area covered by these councils is not sufficiently comprehensive.

Merthyt Tydfil.-Purchase Rights.-The Electricity Commissioners have extended for two years the period ended July 31st, 1944, at the expiration of which the Corporation may exercise its rights to purchase that part of the undertaking covered by the Merthyr Tydfil Electric Lighting Orders, 1899 and 1914, situated within its jurisdiction.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne.-Extension of Time.The Electricity Commissioners have made Orders extending for two years the period ended July 3rd, 1944, at the expiration of which the Corporation may purchase the undertaking of the North-Eastern Electric Supply Co., Ltd., authorised by the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Electric Lighting Order, 1893, and the Newcastle-uponTyne (Kenton Extension) Electric Lighting Order, 1911, and the undertaking of the Newcastle and District Electric Lighting Co., Ltd., authorised by the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Electric Lighting Order, 1891.

Rotherham. - REINSTATEMENT OP STREET L.AMPS - Alderman F. A. Barlow, chairman of the Highways Committee, has informed the Conncil that the reinstatement of electric street lamps will be a comparatively simple matter and all of them should be restored to normal lighting within a week of the suspension of the present ban. The reinstatement of gas lamps would be
much more difficult: in side streets many had been seriously damaged and new fittings would be required.

Stirling-Bulk Supply Agreement.-The Town Council has approved a bulk supply agreement with the Scottish Central Electric Power Co. Hitherto a certain amount of electricity has been produced at the Council's own generating station.

## Overseas

Canada.-Increased Electricity ProducTION. During the first six months of this year, production of electricity by the central stations totalled 20,529 million kWh , compared with 19,674 million kW h in the corresponding period of last year.

China.-Power Supply in Chungking.-In Chungking electric power and lighting are based on the demands of the area's former population of about 300,000 , at a time when industrial development was inconsiderable and there was little reason to expect any substantial increase in either population or factory activity. There are two steam-driven turbo-generators each of ${ }^{\circ}$ $4,500-\mathrm{kW}$ capacity of British make owned by the Chungking Power Company, which at the same time purchases electricity from Chinese military arsenals. According to the Foreign Commerce Weekly (Washington), the demand for power considerably exceeds the supply, as the population has risen to nearly one million, and industry has greatly developed. Consequently the company plans to install new plant of $30,000-\mathrm{kW}$ capacity as soon as its importation is possible. Meanwhile supplies to domestic consumers are rationed. The Chinese National Resources Commission proposes after the war to build a hydro-clectric station of $100,000 \mathrm{HP}$ on the river Tatu in western Szechwan, about 200 miles from Chungking.

## TRANSPORT

Huddersfield. - Extension of Time. - The Minister of Transport has made the Huddersfield Corporation (Extension of Time) Order, 1944, extending for three years the time for the commencement of trolley-bus services along certain routes as authorised by the Huddersfield Corporation (Trolley Vehicles) Act, 1936. The time limit was previously extended for three years in 1941.

Southend-on-Sea. - Transport Co-ordina-IION.-Preliminary agreement for the coordination of services in the borough, and extending to Wickford, Battlesbridge and Vange, has been reached between the Corporation Transport Committee, the Westcliff Motor Services Co., Ltd., and the Eastern National Omnibus Co.

Stockton-on-Tees.-Co-ordinatied Operation. -The Town Council has considered a report by the Town Clerk on the negotiations with Middlesbrough Corporation and the Tees-side Railless Traction Board regarding the co-ordination of Tees-side transport, and has decided to continue discussions on the subject.

## FINANCIAL SECTION

## Reports and Dividends

Thorn Electrical Industries, Ltd. In the course of his speech at the company's annual meeting on August 25 th, Mr. Jules Thorn (chairman and managing director) said that during the period under review their sales of "Atlas" lamps again showed a satisfactory increase, although they had been faced with many production difficulties, principally due to labour supply problems. They had kept abreast of developments in lighting engineering and after considerable work in their research laboratories had succeeded in producing a fluorescent lamp, the quality of which, they were confident, was as good as that produced by any of their competitors. Restrictions on the sale of these had prevented them, so far, from benefiting from the large amount of work which had been done. In view of the great importance that the export trade would have after the war they were taking active steps to extend their organisation for considerably increased business in this field. Referring to the production of civilian wartime radio receivers by the Ferguson Radio Corporation, Ltd., he said that they hoped to be able to begin selling these during the current year. Concerning domestic electrical equipment, the position had not changed since last year, but it was their intention to enter this field again on a substantial scale after the war.

Vactric, Ltd., reports that the net profit of the parent company for the year ended March 31st amounts to $£ 43,325$, which compares with $£ 44,357$ for the preceding year. To this is added $£ 9,002$ ( $£ 6,512$ ) brought in and $£ 4,924$ ( $£ 7,176$ ) for reserve no longer required, making a total of $£ 57,251$ ( $£ 58,045$ ). From this are deducted $£ 4,366$ ( $£ 31,065$ ) for taxation, $£ 8,950$ (nil) written off cost of shares in subsidiary, $£ 2,168$ ( $£ 2,425$ ) net preference dividend, $£ 3,888$ ( $£ 15,553$ ) cumulative sinking fund, and $£ 5,625$ (nil) interim ordinary dividend, leaving $£ 32,254$. As reported last week a final dividend of 15 per cent. is to be paid, making $22 \downarrow$ per cent. (nil) for the year.

The Engineering \& Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd. Speaking at the annual general meeting on Monday, Mr. S. A. Marples, the chairman, stated that the demand for the company's lighting fittings had been well maintained and contracts had been fulfilled of a highly technical nature for Government requirements. Post-war equipment for all fields of lighting was having attention, not only for industrial, commercial and street lighting, but in other new spheres for the home and export markets. During the past year turnover had increased, despite a decrease in the man-hours worked.

The West London \& Provincial Electric \& General Trust, Lid., is again paying an interim dividend of 2 per cent.

The Clyde Valley Electrical Power Co. is again paying an interim dividend of 3 per cent.

The British Power \& Light Corporation, Ltd., is maintaining its interim dividend at 2 per cent.

## New Companies

C. H. MacVey (Glasgow), Ltd.-Private company. Registered in Edinburgh August 9th. Capital, $£ 600$. Objects: To carry on the business of radio, electrical, mechanical and general engineers and suppliers, etc. Directors: G. C. J. Robson, Kingsmere, 29, Garscadden Road, Glasgow; and A. E. Macintosh, 281, Blackness Road, Dundee. Registered office: 182, New City Road, Glasgow.

Car Electrical (Humber), Ltd.-Private company. Registered August 10th. Capital, £1,000. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of, and dealers in, magnetos, dynamos, starters, batteries, etc. Directors: J. S. Shaw, Highbury, King Tree Avenue, Cottingham, East Yorks; J. L. P. Pinkney, 25, Salmon Grove, Cottingham Road, Hull; and W. A. Kelley, 73, Roslyn Road, Anlaby, Hull (all directors of John Shaw \& Co. (Electrical) Ltd.). Registered office: Vane Street, Hull.
D. A. Deeley (Electrical), Lid.-Private company. Registered August 12th. Capital, $£ 500$. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of, and dealers in, dynamos, motors, armatures, magnetos, batteries, insulators, electrical plant and supplies, etc. Directors: D. A. Decley, 15, St. Mark's Crescent, Maidenhead, and two others. Registered office: 1, Quality Court, Chancery Lane, W.C.2.

Electrical Noise Suppression, Ltd.-Private company. Registered August 10 th. Capital, $£ 100$. Objects: To carry on the business of locating, identification and suppression of electrical and acoustic interference from power plants, electrical machinery, radio apparatus, etc. First directors: Wing Commdr. E. P. Wells and Victor Hall, both of Lendor, Wych Hill Estate, Woking, which is the registered office.

John Sargrove, Ltd. - Private company. Registered August 17th. Capital $£ 100,000$. Objects : To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in radio, electric lighting and heating, domestic and other apparatus and appliances, engineers, manufacturers, etc. Directors: J. A. Sargrove and Mrs. M. R. Sargrove (both directors of Sargrove Electronics, Ltd.), Willowdene, Dockett Eddy, Shepperton-on-Thames. Registered office : 5561, Moorgate, E.C. 2 .

Ascot Electrical Co., Ltd.-Private company. Registered in Edinburgh August 17th. Capital, $£ 500$. Objects: To carry on the business of electricians, mechanical engineers, suppliers of electricity for light, heat, etc. Directors: A. J. McCartney, 15 , Kildonan Terrace, Glasgow, and J. A. Geddes, 154, West Regent Street, Glasgow. Registered office : 154, West Regent Street, Glasgow.
Stevens Wholesale (Hounslow), Ltd.-Private company, Registered August, 21 st. Capital £200. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of, and dealers in, wireless sets and valves, batteries, electrical and mechanical

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WARD\&GOLDSTONE LTD. PENDLETON. MANCHESTER. 6.
apparatus, etc. Directors: H. J. Stevens and Vera M. Stevens, both of 69 , Carlton Avenue, Feltham, Middlesex. Registered office: 295, Staines Road, Hounslow.
T. K. Electrical Controls, Ltd.-Private company, Registered August 2/st. Capital f500. Objects: To carry on the business of electrical, constructional, mechanical. marine, motor and general engineers, etc. Directors: H. F. King and Mabel A. King, both of 28, Thornhill Road, Heaton Mersey, Stockport, Lancs. Registered office: 28, Thornhill Road, Heaton Mersey, Stockport, Lancs.

## Companies to be Struck Off Register

Unless cause is shown to the contrary the following comparies will be struck off the Register at the expiration of three months from August 22nd:-Great Eastern Electric Co., Ltd. (the company registered on March 30th, 1939, not another company of the same name believed to be carrying on business at the present time) : Battery Supplies (Electrics), Ltd.; Diamond Lamp Shade Co., Lid. ; and Gordon Primary Cells (Foreign), Litd.

## Companies? Returns

## Statements of Capital

British Insulated Cables, Ltd.-Capital, $£ 4,000,000$ in $£ 500,0005_{\frac{1}{2}}$ per cent. "A", preference stock, $£ 500,0006$ per cent. preference stock, $£ 2,000,000$ ordinary stock and $1,000,000$ unclassified shares of $£ 1$. Return dated May 4th. All preference and ordinary stock taken up, $£ 2,572,675$ paid on $£ 500,0005 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent. "A"; preference stock. $£ 372,3506$ per cent. preference stock and $£ 1,700,325$ ordinary stock. $£ 427,325$ considered as paid on $£ 127,6506$ per cent. preference stock and $£ 299,675$ ordinary stock. Mortgages and charges: Nil.
Lancashire Telephone Systems, Ltd.-Capital, $£ 10,000$ in 5,0008 per cent. participating preference and 5,000 ordinary shares of $£ 1$. Return dated January 14 th (filed July 15 th). 700 preference and 5,000 ordinary shares taken up. $£ 5,080$ paid on 700 preference and 4,380 ordinary shares. $£ 620$ considered as paid on 620 ordinary shares. Mortgages and charges: Nil.
Pertrix, Ltd.-Capital, $£ 10,000$ in $£ 1$ shares. Return dated April 10 th. All shares taken up. £ 10,000 paid. Mortgages and charges: Nil.
E.M.F. (Electrical), Ltd--Capital, $£ 5,000$ in £1 shares. Return dated November 18th, 1943 (filed July 6 th). All shares taken up. $£ 5,000$ paid. Mortgages and charges: Nil.
Automatic Internal Telephones, Ltd.-Capital, $£ 5,000$ in $£ 1$ shares. Return dated April 27 th (filed May 15th), 1944 . All shares taken up. £5,000 paid. Mortgages and charges: Nil.
Burma Electric Supply Co., Ltd.-Capital, $£ 270,000$ in $£ 1$ shares ( 120,000 ordinary and 150,000 preference). Return dated May 3rd. 120,000 ordinary and 120,000 preference shares taken up. $£ 100,000$ paid. $£ 140,000$ considered as paid. Mortgages and charges: Nil.
Electric Power \& Communications Trust, Ltd.Capital, $£ 100,000$ in $£ 1$ shares. Return dated April $17 \mathrm{th} . \quad 20,000$ shares taken up. $£ 9,314$ paid. $£ 10,686$ considered as paid. Mortgages and charges: Nil.
W. J. Furse \& Co., Lid.-Capital, $£ 35,000$ in $£ 1$ shares ( 9,000 preference and 26,000 ordinary). Return dated May 31st. 9,000 preference and 22,860 ordinary shares taken up. $£ 12,566$ paid. £19,294 considered as paid. Mortgages and charges: Nil.
Gorseinon Electric Light Co., Ltd.-Capital, $£ 100,000$ in $£ 1$ shares. Return dated March 15 th (filed April 22nd). 87.000 shares taken up. £87,008 paid (including $£ 8$ paid on ten shares forfeited). $£ 2$ remains unpaid. Mortgages and charges: Nil.

Waste Heat \& Gas Electrical Generating Stations, Ltd.-Capital, $£ 350,000$ in $£ 160,000$ ordinary stock and $£ 80,0004$ per cent. cumulative preference stock transferable in units of 10 s. each, and $£ 110,000$ in 10 s. shares unissued. Return dated April 7th. $£ 160,000$ ordinary and $£ 80,000$ preference stock taken up. $£ 160,000$ ordinary stock paid. $£ 80,000$ preference stock considered as paid. Mortgages and charges : Nil.
Brentford Electric Supply Co., Ltd.-Capital, $£ 100,000$ in 100,000 ordinary shares of $£ 1$ each. Return dated March 21st (filed April 5th). 90,000 shares taken up. $£ 90,000$ paid. Mortgages and charges: Nil.
Power \& Traction Finance Co., Ltd.-Capital, $£ 250,000$ in $£ 1$ shares. Return dated April 6 th. 50,000 shares taken up. $£ 28,001$ paid (being $£ 1$ per share on 6,002 shares and 10 s . per share on 43,998 shares). Mortgages and charges : Nil.
Switchgear Testing Co., Ltd.-Capital, $£ 30,000$ in $£ 1$ shares. Return dated April 3rd. All shares taken up. $£ 30,000$ paid. Mortgages and charges: Nil.

## Mortgages and Charges

St. Austell \& District Electric Lighting \& Power Co., Ltd. - Satisfaction in full (1) on November' 30 th, 1942 , of debentures authorised June 11 th, 1930 , and registered July 14th, 1930, securing $£ 15,000$, (2) on October 6th, 1943 , of mortgage dated September 20th, 1935, and registered April 23rd, 1937, securing $£ 5,000$, and (3) on March 31 st , 1944, of debentures authorised May 12th, 1936, and registered June 16th, 1936 securing $£ 16,000$. (Notices filed August 4th.)
A. E. Chesters, Ltd.-Charge on 2, Atherton Street, Wallasey, dated July 19th, to secure £250. Holder: F. H. Thornton, 54, Castle Street, Liverpool.
W. H. Porter \& Co., Ltd.-Satisfaction to the extent of $£ 2,000$ (full amount outstanding) on August 2nd, of debenture dated June 16th, 1931, and registered June 29th, 1931.

## Liquidation

Eckington Electric Supply Co., Ltd.-Claim ${ }_{-}^{\text {s }}$ to the liquidator, Mr. J. Gadsby, 17, Gluman ${ }^{-}$ gate, Chesterfield, by September IIth.

## Bankruptcy

J. A. Whiteman, wireless dealer, lately carrying on business at 4 , Northfields, Kilburn, as "Northfield Radio."-Application for discharge to be heard at the Court House, 20, St. Peter's Churchyard, Derby, on September 20th.

## STOCKS AND SHARES

Tuesday Evening.

ABREAK has occurred in the long succession of weeks during which this record of Stock Exchange markets has chronicled rising prices, and a persistent public demand for stocks and shares. For a day or two last week, prior to the news of the Paris liberation and the Rumanian change of heart, there was an outbreak of weakness in the prices of industrial shares, and an allround fall in the more "popular" issues. The downward reaction made cumulative progress until it was arrested by the Paris and Rumania news just mentioned. The fall was succeeded by an abrupt recovery, brought about by bargain-hunters who tried to pick up stock at the lowest prices reached. On balance, the following price-lists show nearly thirty declines against a trifling number of rises, four of the latter being in the electricity supply section.

## Electricity Supply and Traction

Bournemouth \& Poole Electric ordinary are 1 s . 6 d . better at 64 s . 6 d . and County of London-of which company the Bournemouth \& Poole is a " baby "- at 44s have gained 6d. Northmet Power shares are again in favour, rising a further 1 s .6 d . to 43s. 6d. The Overseas group is quiet. Falls occurred of 1s. 6d. in Madras Electric and 6 d . in Calcutta Electric ordinary. A couple of Canadian stocks-Shawinigan Water and Montreal Power-are easier. The popularity of the Indian group has waned with a slackening of the speculation in Calcutta Trams. From 72 s . the price of the latter fell to 67 s .6 d ., rallying to 70 s .6 d . ; around this there was a certain amount of buying, some of which came from the provinces.

## The Falls

There would seem to be no particular object in going through the catalogue of falls, since these are traceable to the same common causes-an unexpected cessation of investment, and the consequent decision, as prices eased off, of holders to sell shares upon which they could take good profits. This may seem to be a very humdrum explanation of the puzzle that bemuses (and irritates) people who ask why Stock Exchange markets should be dull at a time when the war news is so good.

Fundamentally the existing financial position is unaltered. Money unceasingly accumulates. It will have to find employment in stocks and shares. New issues are few and far between. The Government policy of cheap money is fixed. Holiday conditions will last for no more than another fortnight or three weeks. Investment, therefore, need not be perturbed by a fall which,
matched against the previous rise, is indeed of small account. The losses will be recovered when the weight of money begins, once more, to make its influence felt.

## Miscellaneous Matters

The Home Railway market has slipped back into a state of suspended animation. (The tired proprietor of the junior stocks might say that the market shows more signs of suspense than of animation.) Prices change but little from week to week. British Electric Traction deferred is 40 points down, at 1275. This sounds a heavy drop until it is remembered that if the $£ 100$ stock were represented by $£ 1$ units, the loss would be about $7 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. per share. Electric \& Musical shares, up to 38s. earlier this month, fell to 32 s . last week, rallying to 34 s . 6 d . on the next day. The radio group stood up well to the recent spasm of weakness. E. K. Cole are 6d. higher at 33s. Cossor, after fluctuations, are unchanged on balance at 25 s .6 d . and Pye deferred held their previous price of 35 s .

## Post-War Prospects

Now that the end of the war seems to be coming more clearly into sight, the endeavour to forecast the effect of peace conditions upon company results becomes of increasing consequence. On the other side of the Atlantic the likelihood of early peace has had the effect of putting down prices, the assumption being that on the change-over from war to peace work many companies are likely to encounter difficulties and declining profits. The pessimists in the United States prophesy widespread unemployment and its attendant evils. On this side of the Atlantic, as the firmness of shares in industrial companies implies, anticipation expects the end of the war to be followed by a wide expansion of business, accompanied by such a demand for all essentials as will keep employment in full swing for years to come.

## Vactric

Shareholders in Vactric, Ltd., had a very pleasant surprise in the declaration of a final dividend of 15 per cent. on the ordinary shares, making $22 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for the year. The optimists had been going for nothing higher than 20 per cent. The price of the shares rose from 17s, to a florin higher but, in the heaviness which overtook most of the well-known industrial shares, Vactric went back to 18 s . 3 d . At this, the yield on the money comes to $£ 63 \mathrm{~s}$. per cent. The price will not be marked ex the dividend, 9 d . per share gross, until the middle of September.

The change-over in the fortunes of the company has been dramatic, for in the three years 1939-1941 it had to pass the preference dividend. The arrears were paid off two
(Continued on page 322)

# ELECTRICAL INVESTMENTS 

## Prices, Dividends and Yields



[^4]

## Stocks and Shares (Continued from page 320)

years ago, and the ordinary shares re-entered the dividend list with an interim distribution of $7 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent. last August.

## Preference Shares

Preference shares of the gilt-edged class pay at to-day's prices barely 4 per cent. on the money, nor is it always possible to obtain any reasonable amount even on a $3 \frac{3}{4}$ per cent. basis of yield. When shares do come to market, the source is chiefly from executors of deceased holders. Were it not for these the fioating supply of stock would indeed be meagre. There are available at the present time 200 British Insulated Cables $5 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent. " A" preference, obtainable at 28 s . 6 d ., January and July dividends. The dividend service is covered some twenty times over, but the yield is no more than $£ 317 \mathrm{~s}$. 2 d . Cables Investment Trust $4 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent. preference, June and December dividends, are on offer at 22s. 3 d .; these pay a few pence over 4 per cent. on the money. They are redeemable in 1970 at $102 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent., 20s. 6 d . per share, or earlier by a purchase or drawings at 105 per cent., equal to 21 s . per share. Not more
than $£ 50,000$ nominal may be redeemed by drawings in any one year. The present price, 22 s . 3d., is equivalent to $111 \frac{1}{4}$ in stock, so the holder runs the risk of a possible loss of capital.

## Anglo-Argentine Tramways

The directors of the Anglo-Argentine Tramways Company have a lamentable tale to tell in the report which accompanies the figures for the year 1943 but which brings the information up to the present time. As reported in last week's issue, the Board refers to decrees that it declares to be unjustified, and that violate the agreement made between the company and the Argentine Government.

The Argentine Government refuses to allow the increases in fares which were arranged about 40 years ago. Expenses have continually mounted: the equipment has become increasingly inadequate and, of course, it has considerably deteriorated. A scheme of arrangement was placed lately in front of the debenture holders, but until the Argentine Government gives some evidence of a willingness to play fair in its dealings with the Anglo-Argentine Tramways, shareholders can hardly hope for any real improvement.

## NEW PATENTS

## Electrical Specifications Recently Published

The numbers under which the specifications will be printed and abridged are given in parentheses. Copies of any specificarion (1s. each) mav be abrained from the Patent Office, 25, Southampton Buildings, London, W.C.2.

B.N. ADAMS.-" Electric batteries."
4894. April 14th, 1942 (563272.)
A. H. Brackensey and Franco-British Electrical Co., Ltd.-"Reflecting devices for use in advertising signs, road traffic indicators and the like." 6646. April 27th, 1943. (563419.)

Britannia Batteries, Lid., R. M. Blomfield and F. E. Burt. - " Vents of electric accumulators." 6633. April 27th, 1943. (563418.)

British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd.-
Method of and apparatus for making wiredrawing dies." 184843 . February 6th, 1942 (563360.) "Resinous condensation products." 15256-42. November 1st. 1941. (563375.) Photo-electric apparatus for amplifying and transmitting the indications of measuring instruments." 94843. January 22nd, 1942. (563424.)

British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., and B. G. Higgins--" Alternating current control circuit arrangements suitable for resistance welding machines." 14027. October 6th, 1942. (563283.)

Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., and S. Brown.-"Electric accumulators." 5410. April 5th, 1943. (563323.)
A. C. Cossor, Ltd., and A. Le Boutillier. Electrical condensers." 2046 . February 8th, 1943. (563407.) $\because$ Electrical condensers.: 9056 44. February 8th, 1943. (Divided out of 563407.) (563422.)
A. C. Cossor, Ltd., and A. H. A. Wynn. "Thermionic valve oscillators." 434044. February 8 th , 1943. (Divided out of 2045 43.) (563421.)
J. A. Crabtree \& Co., Ltd., H. F. McLoughlin, B. G. Harrison and R. W. Morgan.-"Electric switches of the ceiling or pull-operated type." 5799. April 12th, 1943 (563327.)
C. C. Craddock. -" Lighting systems." 17217. December 3rd, 1942. (563352.)

Edison Swan Elecuric Co., Ltd., and F. M. Cocksedge.-" Means for adjustably supporting tubular lamps." 3148. February 26th; 1943. (563395.)

Ferranti, Ltd., and E. D. T. Norris. " Temperaure controlling systems for electric heating apparatus." 2747. February 18th, 1943. (563311)
H. S. Molyneux-Ffennell and VacuumScience Products, Ltd. -"Signal modulaúng devices for radio-telegraph transmitters." 1980. February 5th, 1943. (563385.)
P. Freedman and Crompton Parkinson, Ltd-" Circuit arrangements for discharge lamps and tubes." 185. January 5th, 1943. (563376.)
R. S. Hastings. - "Electrode bits for electric spot-welding apparatus." 6554. April 23rd, 1943. (563414)
H. F Hedge. - Dry-battery torches or flash-lamps " 285. January 7th, 1943. (563355.) O. K. Kolb and O. F. C. Stockel.-" Selenium
rectifiers." 14448. September 3rd, 1943. (563338.)

Marconi Instruments, Lid., and E. Garthwaite.-" Tuning devices for radio circuits." 338. January 7th, 1943: (563377.)
J. Neill \& Co. (Sheffield), Ltd., and W. L. Bower.-" Magnetic work holders, separators. or the like." 6262. April 14th, 1943. (563333.) G. Oliver and B. M. Oliver.- Electric alarm arrangements for clocks." 2549. February 16th, 1943. (563367.)
W. C. Pallant, J, Booth and J. Dorras."Inspection lamps." 6540. April 23rd, 1943. (563413.)

Philco Radio \& Television Corporation.-- Recording apparatus for producing sound grooves for gramophone records." 1709242. January 7th, 1942. (563351.)

Philips Lamps, Lid., and E. G. BourneVanneck. "Electrode holders for electric arcwelding." 1882. February 4th, 1943. (563301.) Radio Transmission Equipment, Ltd., and K. A. Zandstra.-"Brazing and soldering." 3312 44. August 4th, 1942. (Divided out of 8488 41.) ( 563420.$)$

Rolfes, Ltd., H. J. Rolfes and F. C. Halliday. -" Means for safeguarding electric igniters of blasting detonators against accidental firing." 13284. September 21st, 1942. (563345.)

Sangamo Weston, Ltd.-." Electrical instruments." 6524,43 . July 16 th, 1942 . (563337.)
L. Sharp and R. Winder.-" Lineal measuring machines for electric cables, ropes, cords, tapes and the like." 15451. November 3 rd, 1942. (563348.)
D. T. Shaw.- "Fastener for insulators." 5905. April 13th, 1943. (563411.)
J. P. Simpson, J. Stewart and MetropolitanVickers Electrical Co., Ltd.-" Drawing instruments." 4871. March 25th, 1943. (563318.)
S. J. Smith. -" Moving coil indicating instruments and relays." 3659 . March 5 th, 1943. (563315.) Moving coil indicating instruments and relays." 3660 . March 5 th 1943. (563316.)

Standard Telephones \& Cables, Ltd., and A. M. Searle. "Metal rectifiers." 1858. February 4th, 1943. (563362.)
A. V. Tomlinson (Union Switch \& Signal Co.).-"Railway traffic controlling apparatus." 4682. October 20th, 1942.
G. Turnock, Ltd., and E. D. Jackson."Electric lampholders." 17368. December 7th, 1942. (563290.)
W. Wadsworth \& Sons, Ltd., and F. E. Ryder. - Control of the driving motors of electric lifts and the like." 1666 . February 1st, 1943. (563357.)

Waite \& Son, Ltd., and H. J. Waite.Lamp shades." 18595. December 31st, 1942. (563294.)

Western Electric Co., Inc.-_" Loading of transmission lines for signal currents." (Cognate applications.) 662643 and 662743 April 25th, 1942. (563417.)

Westinghouse Brake \& Signal Co., Ltd., and L. H. Peter,-" Air-drying apparatus for air compressors." 1950. February 5th, 1943 (563379.)

# CONTRACT INFORMATION 

Accepted Tenders and Prospective Electrical Work

## Contracts Open

Where "Contracts Open" are advertised in our Official Notices" section the date of the issue is given in parentheses
Manchester.-September 11th. Electricity Committee. Coal chutes, etc., and dismantling of coal conveyor plant. (See this issue.)

New Zealand.-November 28th. Public Works Department. Plant for Maraetai power station and $220-\mathrm{kV}$ substations: turbine and generator plant; transformers; switchgear; synchronous condensers; overhead travelling crane, etc.

Wolverton.-September 4th. Urban District Council. Electric pumping machinery. Plans, etc., from W. H. Radford \& Son, Albion Cbambers, King Street, Nottingham.

## Contracts in Prospect

Particulars of new works and building schemes for the use of electrical installation contractors and traders. Publication in this section is no guarantee that electrical work is definitely included. Alleged inaccuracies should be reported to the Editors.

## Aberdeen.-Extensions and reconstructions,

 including new depot at Wick, new creamery at Nairn, reconstruction of creamery at Inverness and depot in Sutherland ( $£ 40,000$ ); manager, North of Scotland Milk Marketing Board.Atherton.-Reinstatement of houses ( $£ 5,000$ ); clerk, Town Hall.

Belfast.-Junior school, Serpentine Road site, and dining centres, Model and Whitehouse schools; city surveyor, Donegall Square.

Bewdley.-School feeding kitchen, adjoining Stourport Road, and dining hall, Lax Lane; borough engineer.

Blackley.-Additions to premises; P. Cummings, architect, 25, Cross Street, Manchester.

Cardiff.-Ward blocks, Glan Ely and Cefn Mably Hospitals ( $£ 48,000$ ) ; King Edward VII Welsh National Memorial Association.

Colne.-Maternity home, Langroyd Hall; county architect, Wakefield.

Cornwall.-Accommodation for agricultural staff ( $£ 2,000$ ) ; county architect, County Hall, Truro.

Coventry.-Scheme for treatment of kitchen waste ( $£ 5,500$ ); D. E. E. Gibson, city architect, 1a, Warwick Row.

Darlington.-Alterations, Ethel Street, for the Darlington Railway Plant and Foundry Co., Ltd.; McKenzie Brothers, builders.

Fifeshire.-Central kitchen, etc., at Millgate, Cupar, for County Council; county clerk, Cupar, Fife.

Hampshire.-Hostels for children; county architect, The Castle, Winchester.

Heaton Norris.-Works canteen; Architect's Department, L.M.S. Railway, The Grove, Watford.

Huddersfield.-Nurses' home, Bradley Wood Sanatorium; borough engineer.
Isle of Wight.-Rebuilding Ryde Bettesworth Road School; county architect, Newport.
Jarrow (Co. Durham).-Installation of electric lighting in the ground floor at Croft Terrace School; J. S. Weir, borough engineer.
Macclesfield. - Extensions, Springmount Works, Rainow; Springmount Engineering Co., Ltd.

Manchester.-Restoration of premises, Market Street; C. Wild, architect, 72, Bridge Street.

Bank, Broad Street, Pendleton, for Manchester and Salford Trustee Savings Bank; J. W. Beaumont \& Son, architects, 53, Spring Gardens.

Dining centre, Rosina Street, Openshaw; city architect.

Building; Allied General Investment Trust, Ltd., 16, Albemarle Street, St. James's, London.

Rebuilding synagogue, Cheetham Hill Road; R. Martin, architect, 90 , Deansgate.

Middlesbrough.-Alterations, Wilson Street, for L. Jacobs; T. A. Crawford, architect, Borough Road.

Northwich.-Church hall, Rudheath; Rev. R. H. Johnson, The Vicarage.

Oldham.-Garage, stores, rest room, etc.; T. Barnes \& Sons, Ltd., Transport Carriers, High Strect.
Oswestry.- Swimming baths, rear of Ty-maen, Lower Brook Street; town clerk.

Oxford. - Rebuilding Eye Hospital ( $£ 100,000$ ) for the Regional Hospitals Council and Joint Hospitals Board.
Patricroft.-Works extensions; Sir W. H. Bailey, Ltd., Albion Works.

Rochdale.-Central school kitchen, Ashfield Road, and cooking and dining accommodation, Girls' High School, Greenhill; borough surveyor,
Works canteen, Arkwright Milt; Architects; Department, Lancashire Cotton Association, Ltd., Hopwood Hall, near Manchester.

Rothwell. - Houses (20); U.D.C. surveyor, Council Offices.

Rugby.-Additional nurses’ accommodation, Hospital of St. Cross; W. T. Loveday, architect, 2, Lawrence Sheriff Street.

Scarborough.-Additions to maternity home accommodation; borough engineer.

Stockport. Church Hall and Sunday School, Fenton Avenue, Stepping Hill; Rev. K. Briggs, Calvary Holiness Church, Stepping Hill.
Stretford. Extensions, Lostock Council School; W. Lionel Gray (1933), Ltd., builders, Hospital Buildings, Farnworth, near Bolton.
Surrey.-Farm Institute ( $£ 30,000$ ); county architect, County Hall, Kingston-on-Thames.

Wolverhampton. - Pumping station, etc., Willenhall Road housing site; borough engineer.

Worcestershire.-Home for defectives, Kidderminster; county archilect, 38, Foregate Street, Worcester.


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THE CHARGE for advertisements in this section is 2 - per line (approx. 8 words) per insertion, minimum 2 lines $4 /$-, or for display advertisements $30 /-$ per inch, with a minimum of one inch. Where the advertisement includes a Box Number there is an additional charge of 6 d . for postage of replies. SITUATIONS WANTED. Three insertions under this heading can be ohtained for the price of two if ordered and prepaid with the frst insertion.

REPLIES TO advertisements published under a Box Number if not to be delivered to any particular firm or individual should be accompanied by instruetions to this effect, addressed to the Manager of the ELECTRICAL REVIEW. Letters of applicants in such cases cannot be returned to them. The name of an advertiser using a Box Number will not be disclosed. All replies to Box Numbers should be addressed to the Box Number in the advertisement, c/o ELECTRICAL REVIEW, Dorset House, Stamford Street, London, S.E.1. Cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable to ELECTRICAL REVIEW 1.TD. and crossed.

Original testimonials should not be sent with applications for employment.

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24th August, 1944
562

## SITUATIONS VACANT

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1
1HE National Executive Council invite applications for the combined appointment of Technical Editor of THE ELECTRICAL POWER ENGTNEER " and DIrector of Studies of the Correspondence Tuition Scheme of the Association
Applicants should be Corporate Members of the Institution of Electrical Engineers or possess equivalent technical qualifications, should have had experience of the techrural side of the Electricity Supply Industry and. in addition, experience of technical journalism. Industrial and tach ing experience desirable, together with a background knowledge of trade unionicm and industrial relationspups.
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London, S.W. 1.
thould be returned, endorsed "Technical Editor," not later than Friday. September 15 th, 1944.

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ELECTRICAL Wholesalers recuire a Elerical Assistant, conversant with trade and materials, as handled. London Electrical Co. (Blackfriars) Ltd., Blackfriars Road. S.E. 1.

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## COMPANY MEETINGS

BROADCAST RELAY SERVICE

Continued Expansion

TTHE 18 th annual general meeting of Broadcast Relay Service Limited was held on August 17th, in Londnn.

Mr. Allan Miller, the chairman, presided.
The following is an extract from the chaiman's statement issued with the report and accounts :-
I am very glad to be able to report continued expansion in all departments of our business, all of which have reached new bigh levels of volume of business and proflts earned. Last year's droits had the benefit of Excess Profts Tax deficiencies, whereas the whole of our profits this year have been subject to Excess Profits Tax. This accounts for the decrease in the balance of proflts as compared with the previous year.

We have disposed of one our manufacturing companies in Canada on very satisfactory terms. The new item of "Nctes Receivable" appearing in the consolidated balance-sheet represents part of the cadital proceeds of this sale.

The comnany is in a strong position financially, with ample reserves, and we are giving continued consideration to post-war plans for extension and improvement of the company's business. Despite the many difficulties which exist to-day, our businesses have maintained their high standard of service and further improved their efficiency of operation.

Your directors recommend payment of a final dividend of $3 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent., free of tax, which is the same as for last year.

The resolution adonting the report and accounts was carried.

## THORN ELECTHICAL INDUSTRIES

## Demand for Atlas Lamps

THE Ordinary General Meeting of Thorn Electrical Industries Ltd., was held on Friday, 25 th August. in London.
Mr. Jules Thorn (chairman and managing director) said that during the period under review their sales of Atlas lamps again showed a satisfactory increase although they had been faced with many production difficulties. principally due to labour supply problems. They had kept abreast of developments in lighting engineering and after considerable work in their research laboratories, had succeeded in producing a fluorescent lamp. the quality of which, they were confldent, was as good as that produced by any of their competitors.

At their last meeting he had mentioned that they had received a satisfactory share of the export quotas for electric lamps and the popularity of their products overseas had made it possible for them to utilise those quotas fully In fact, but for the restriction of exports they could have shipped considerably more. They were taking active steps to extend their organisation for considerably increased business in that field after the termination of hostilities.
The company distributed the whole of the domestic radto production of the Ferguson Radio Corporation. That was still on a limited scale because the Ferguson Radio factory had been entirely employed on the production of service equipment and also because the production of domestic radio equipment had been restricted. The Board of Trade, however, having now decided that a quantity of civilian war-time receivers should be made, the Ferguson Radio Corporation had been entrusted with the production of a quantity of these and had given Thorn Electrical the distribution of them.

The net broft for the year, after providing $£ 58.000$ for taxation had amounted to $£ 24.644$. a result which was approximately the same as for the previous year. It was proposed to declare a dividend of 20 per cent. on the ordinary shares.

The report was adopted.


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