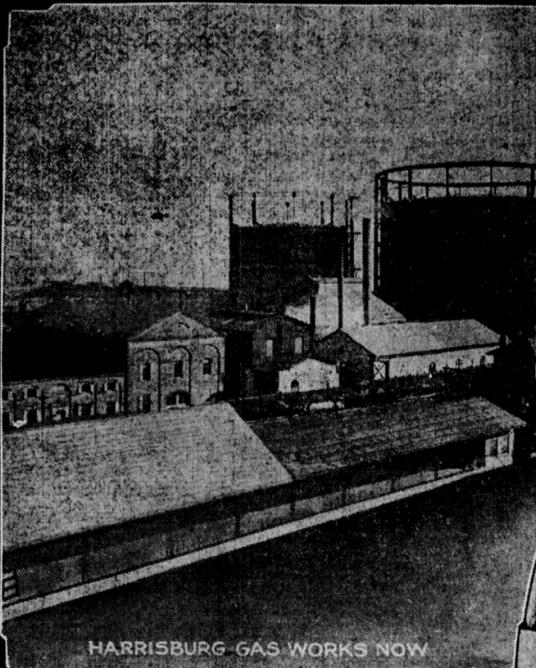
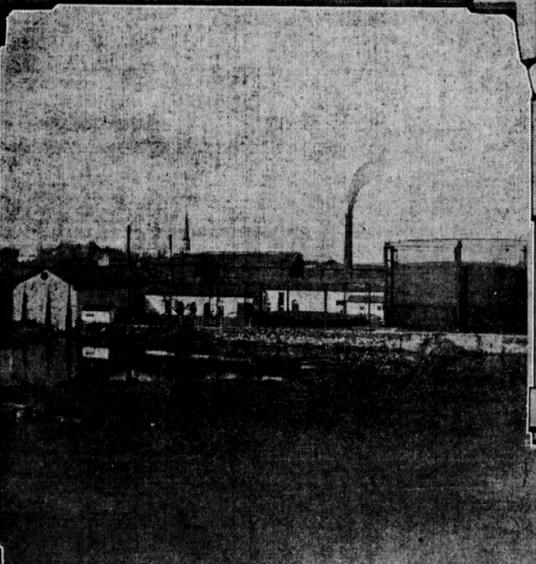


HARRISBURG GAS

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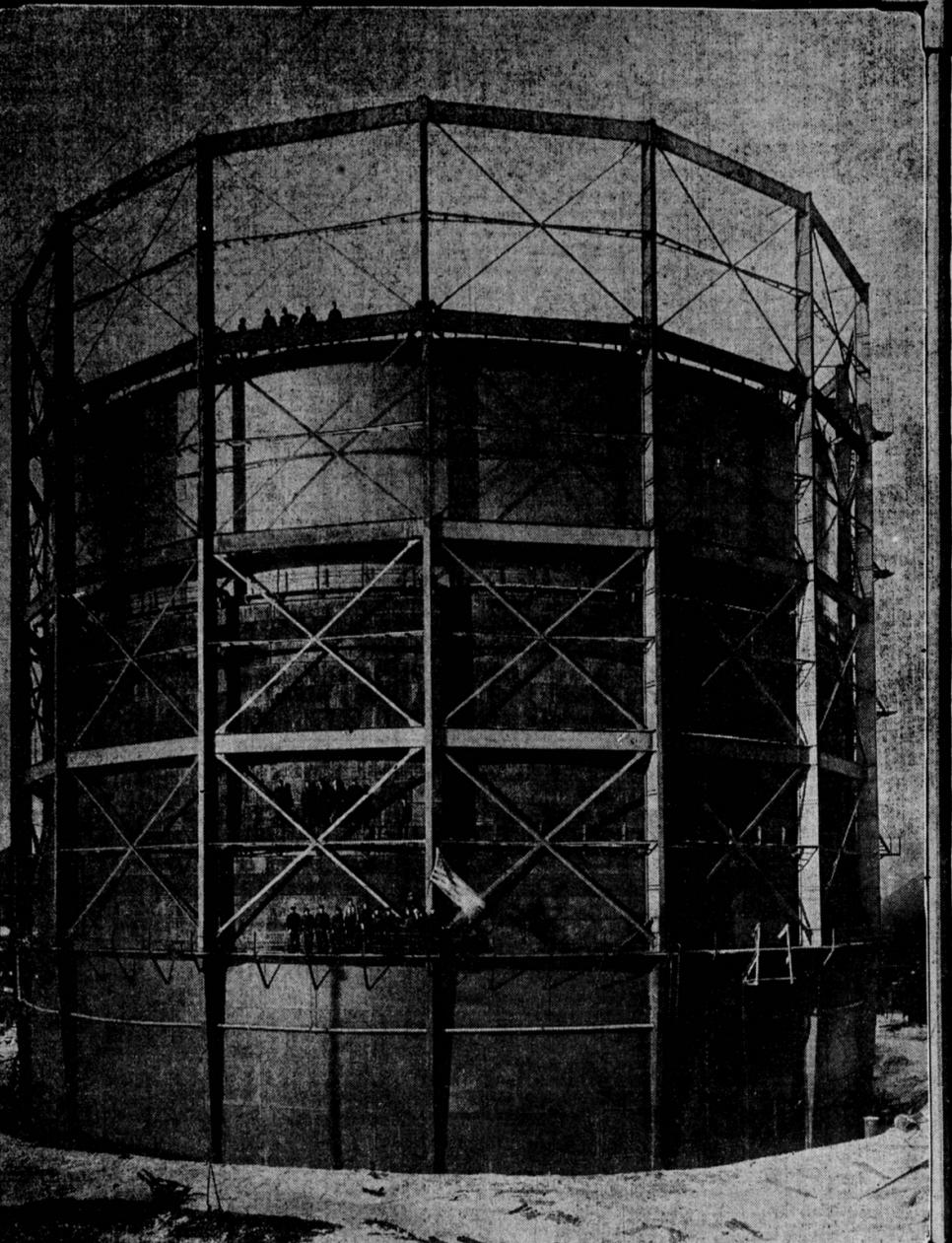
HARRISBURG GAS WORKS NOW



HARRISBURG GAS WORKS IN 1900



L.S. WILLIAMS
MANAGER
HARRISBURG GAS
COMPANY



100,000 CUBIC FOOT HOLDER - PUT INTO SERVICE IN 1911

There was a time, and not so long ago, when the torch bearer was as important as the taxicab driver of to-day.

His torch light flitted about the dark streets of city and town to light citizen and traveler on his way.

Until a century ago the torch was a chief means of outdoor lighting and the bearer was a necessary personage. But science is cruel to the few and magnanimous to the multitude. A single scientific discovery took the torch from the hand of its bearer and placed it back of the door to accumulate the evidences of disuse.

This scientific discovery was gas. And gas was laughed at as a foolish fancy—something merely to be played with for amusement. The torch bearer scoffed, and the people believed he was right in his scoffing.

"Surely this personage of thousands of years cannot be supplanted now by a mere toy," they said.

That was a century ago. Look about you. It does not occur to you now to question the practicability and economy of gas for lighting the streets and the houses.

Yet, no one could foresee what you can see to-day, and you cannot foresee what the next generation will see, but do not take the attitude of the torch bearer and refuse to see what is actually at hand.

Gas has experienced marvelous development. When gas became practical as an illuminant, it was looked upon merely as an illuminant, because it had been sought for to fill that great void, but other voids than darkness have developed.

The cost of fuel and power has opened new avenues for the economical use of gas until it is in demand in over a thousand different ways in the home, store and factory. Gas is capable of effecting every branch of home and industrial life, and it is to the advantage of all who need light, heat or power to understand the many uses of gas.

So in this story we are going to discuss some of the most vital points and uses of gas and tell how the Harrisburg Gas Company handles the gas situation.

Gas in the Home

Gas is one of the most potent forces in home life to-day. Its importance as a home factor has been the result of careful development, and the element of economy has been uppermost in the minds of the scientists who have effected the many appliances and accessories.

Convenience is only for those who can afford it, is an often repeated statement. There has never been a doubt about the convenience of gas. In every respect it overshadows the appliances which were in use in the home before it came.

For this reason gas appliances are in demand in all branches of home life as soon as they are ready for the market.

The main concern of gas companies and manufacturers of appliances was that each and every appliance should be more economical than its less convenient competitors, and economy has been developed in practically every appliance offered for use in the residence.

Cooking With Gas

The first field, after light, in which gas excelled for use in the home was as a cooking fuel. Years ago gas ranges were developed, which were more economical even for the average

housekeeper and far more so for the woman who had learned the best methods of using the gas range.

The recent development of newer and better types of ranges has given gas still further advantages of economy as a cooking fuel. The simplicity and convenience of these ranges makes it possible for the housewife to exercise many hints in saving. It is not difficult to learn how to use the gas range economically as it is merely a matter of cooking practically everything in the baking and broiling ovens while doing the baking, broiling and roasting.

In its efforts to help the housekeeper to minimize her cooking fuel cost, the Harrisburg Gas Company maintains a special corps of instructors who go to the residences of consumers when requested and there demonstrate the best and most economical use of gas.

Heating Water With Gas

The success of the gas range, its economy and satisfying results for the housekeeper, opened a new field for gas as a fuel. The question now was one of heating water economically so the housewife could banish forever the coal bucket, kindling box and the ash pan. The gas circulating water heater was soon developed to fill this demand, and it has proved especially adaptable because it can be adjusted to the hot water tank formerly used with a coal range.

With this water heater the housekeeper can heat enough water in a few minutes for the dish washing, and even enough for a bath can be heated for less than a cent's worth of gas, and there is no bother with coal fires.

Automatic Gas Water Heaters

The Automatic Instantaneous Gas Water Heater is one of the most astonishing of all gas appliances. It is so accurate in its results that it is almost human. In fact, it never forgets and the human is liable to forget. It requires no thought on the part of the housekeeper and is always ready for service.

The automatic is placed in the cellar. When a hot water faucet is open in the bath room, kitchen or laundry the gas is automatically turned on

and lighted, and the water is heated instantly as it passes through a long copper coil. The closing of the hot water faucet instantly shuts off the gas and expense stops.

The Harrisburg Gas Company, and the water heater companies as well, backs this heater with its guarantee, and what the company guarantees, it makes satisfactory.

The economy and convenience of this water heater has given its extensive sales in all cities because hot water is as necessary in the home as heat, and it is a great convenience to be able to get hot water instantly at any time of the day or night without the bother or worry of starting the fire.

Gas Appliances

The development in the use of gas in residences did not cease after the invention of these most necessary appliances. Invention marched steadily on until there is a gas appliance for nearly every purpose, which gives more convenience and more economy than can be furnished by any other form of heat or illuminant. Where the housewife formerly used 5 or 10 cents' worth of fuel for her ironing, she can do it with a gas iron to-day at a cost of one-third of a cent an hour, or about 1 cent for the three hours' ironing. Thousands of these gas irons are being used in the homes of Harrisburg people with more satisfactory results than were obtainable in the days of the old flat iron.

Coffee percolators, chafing dishes, toasters, waffle irons, cake griddles and a variety of other small appliances and accessories find their place in modern Harrisburg residences.

Few residents would think of discontinuing the use of gas for lighting. Both the illuminant itself and the lamps and fixtures used in connection with it are deserving of the term "modern." The clear, white gas light can be had from an incandescent gas lamp at approximately one-third of a cent an hour. It is always necessary to have a good gas light for reading and all close work. When the modern type of gas lamps are used the consumer has the comfort of a light that is restful and easy on the eyes.

Gas in the Industries

In its industrial uses gas is just now assuming the place it should have

taken years ago. The invention of gas engines, furnaces, burners, boiler heaters, forges, etc., has made gas practically indispensable in many manufacturing plants. This is especially true where speed, economy and accuracy of results are demanded. Many of the leading manufacturing plants of the city either use gas as their only fuel, or for the greater part of their work.

As power for operating engines, gas has especially proved its efficiency. Recent developments in the construction of gas engines have made them so economical in consumption and so reliable in operation that they are fast replacing other engines.

For special application, gas seems to have no limitations. New industrial fields are opening daily and gas companies are being called upon constantly to perfect the engine, special burners or heater to meet the demand.

Steam in many manufacturing plants must be kept going in summer when other demands upon the boiler are very small. For this purpose a little gas heated steam boiler from one-half horsepower to ten horsepower is on the market. Many trades have adopted these. Automobile and repair shops use gas heated steam boilers for vulcanizing tires; bakeries for steaming ovens and crustings; brewers and bottlers for sterilizing bottles, pasteurizing liquids, distilling water; confectioners, for cooking candies; cleaners and dyers for heating benzine and drying rooms; electrical goods manufacturers for drying motor armatures; hat manufacturers for heating molds; jewelers for baking enamel and cleaning jewelry; laundries for heating mangles and drying rooms; metal workers for heating lye kettles, etc.; paper box manufacturers and book binders for heating glue; printers and newspapers for matrix drying and steam tables, etc.

The bakeries which furnish the city with bread, cakes, pies, etc., are dependent upon gas bake ovens and steaming tables. Leather goods and shoe manufacturers are dependent upon it for stamping, edging, etc. Tailors in every part of the city use gas heated irons for pressing and clothing manufacturers find a Hoffman Pressing Machine a decided advantage because of its speed.

All textile manufacturers have found gas the most desirable fuel for singeing. Tinsmiths and sheet metal workers use gas for soldering and shaping parts. In all big machine shops and paint shops paint burning torches are used for removing paint.

In fact, gas has taken its place as an indispensable part of nearly every industry and has done much to perfect construction and bring down shop costs and expenses.

Making Ice With the Gas Flame

It seems unbelievable that ice can be made with a tiny gas flame. Yet, this is being done to-day. Small refrigerating plants are being placed in a box-like arrangement, similar to an ice chest, which are capable of keeping the temperature down as low as zero. And there are small compartments in which ice may be frozen for table use or for other purposes. These little plants are proving economical and may soon relieve the housewife, the hotel keeper and confectioner of their troubles with the iceman. Another unusual invention recently placed upon the market is the Ives Daylight Producer Cabinet. Thousands of these little cabinets are being sold to manufacturers of silk, cotton, woolen and all other goods and textiles, to merchants, haberdasheries, and all other industries which find it necessary to match colors. The cabinet is arranged so that a strong gas light is passed through a series of screens which eliminate all rays which are not found in ordinary daylight. The particular advantage of the cabinet is that color matching may be done accurately whatever the condition of ordinary light.

Store and Industrial Lighting

Gas is the most economical light for stores and manufacturing plants. The gas arc gives an enormous volume of light at far smaller cost than any other illuminant, and, because of this economy, gas is most generally used in the Harrisburg lighting field.

The Harrisburg Gas Company

The present gas company has been furnishing gas to Harrisburg for thirty-one years. During that time the

company has steadily increased its efficiency and broadened its service. At all times the gas company has been a moving spirit in the civic improvement of Harrisburg, and it has done everything in its power to help make Harrisburg grow.

In every respect the company has attempted to co-operate with the city government. During the last ten years over seventy miles of streets have been improved in Harrisburg. In order that these streets might not be disturbed the company proceeded the improvements with first-class mains on the proper levels. This was done at an enormous cost, because many of the mains which had to be replaced were good for several years of service, but the gas company felt that it was for the good of Harrisburg, and its business as well, that the service mains be as perfect as possible before the streets were completed.

In addition to furnishing gas to Harrisburg, the following suburbs receive Harrisburg Gas Company service: Steelton, Middletown, Highspire, Oberlin and Enhaut, East Harrisburg, New Cumberland, Fenbrook, Lemoyne, New Market, Camp Hill, Pottsville, East Pennsboro and Wormleysburg.

Extensions are now contemplated to Enola and Fairview.

The progressive, up-to-date management of the men who have been in charge of the gas company has given the people of Harrisburg a gas service which even the largest cities of the country might well emulate. The company has extended its mains to reach nearly every part of the city until now it has practically 135 miles of mains in Harrisburg and surrounding districts. Three years ago it was necessary for the company to construct a new holder as the two old holders could barely take care of the consumption. When this question confronted the company it was thought best to install one immense holder of 1,500,000 cubic feet, because such a holder would insure a highly satisfactory pressure and a more steady and even gas service than several smaller tanks, so the large holder was installed.

No institution in Harrisburg to-day, gives the people a better, more constant and more courteous service than the Harrisburg Gas Company, and the company is always wide awake to suggestions for improvements of its service, and keeps its men keyed to the point of doing the right thing by the people at all times.

HARRISBURG GAS COMPANY

14 South Market Square