

NEW POWER SYSTEM

Central Plant Going Up to Supply All Mines in Black Mountain Fields.

It has not been so long ago that Sir William Ramsay, the distinguished English scientist, pointed out that by making electric power at the mouth of the coal pit, a great saving in cost could be effected. It is in line with Sir Williams's conclusions, though not exactly suggested by them, that there now is in progress in Southwestern Virginia, the construction of an enterprise which its projectors believe will not only demonstrate that power can be made on the spot where the fuel is mined, and transmitted by wire at a tremendous saving to consumers, but that it will be demonstrated that it is much cheaper to make electricity by the use of steam, than to generate it by water power.

The cost of transportation is a most important factor in the cost of coal to the consumer. Where the owner of the mine gets a dollar for his product, the railway is likely to get from a dollar and a half up for carriage, so that the fuel for a steam electric plant ordinarily makes the production of electricity more expensive by this means than where water power is used to turn the dynamo.

The owners of the Black Mountain coal fields in Virginia are building at St. Charles, Lee County, Va., which is in the center of that mining district, a big power station. Primarily it is to be a central station to furnish electricity to the various mines. There are seven or eight of these coal mining operations in the fields, each with its own power station—for electricity plays an important part in coal mining, and next year there will probably be that many more going. Each electric station requires engineers, electricians and firemen. A central plant will effect a great saving not only in wages, but in other ways. The central station was decided to be necessary, and when that had been determined upon, it was decided to go further.

One of the owners of the company had at one time manifested a great interest in water power. He had in mind a river which seemed to have possibilities. He employed engineers to look over the lay of the ground and to prepare specifications for a dam, sluices, and a complete power plant.

Then he invited contractors to make bids. The lowest turned in was for \$250,000. This looked expensive. He wanted about 3,000 horsepower, which seemed about the capacity of the water from the river could furnish. Before going ahead he decided to make tests of the stream for a year, to see what sort of supply of water he could count upon. When a drought came late in the summer, the stream shrank to small proportions, and it was shown that he could not count upon getting more than 1,000 horsepower from his river during the months of July and August. Then he decided to look into steam.

For a plant of identically the same horsepower, electrical machinery and all, the only difference being that the second was to use steam for driving the electric generators instead of water, he discovered he would have to spend over \$100,000 a difference of at least \$50,000 in the initial cost of the plant. Six per cent. of this, he reasoned, was \$33,000, yearly interest on the extra cost of the hydro-electric plant, which must be reckoned, aside from the extra capital invested, as equivalent to an added yearly cost of operating the more costly plant.

The result was that when the Black Mountain coal people decided to build a central station, they determined to go in also for the manufacture of electricity to sell. They figured that fuel at the mouth of one of their mines cost them less than \$2 a ton, electricity can be pro-

duced by the use of steam more cheaply than by water power. The new plant is being constructed on the unit system, and it is said that it can be enlarged indefinitely. The towns of Knoxville and Bristol are within easy reach, and it is figured out that electricity can be generated and delivered to them much more cheaply than it can be turned out on the spot. The new central station is to be in operation early in January, in next year, and it will be capable, it is said, of turning out several hundred thousand horsepower.

Through most of the country bordering on the mountains and stretching down into South Carolina and Georgia, the Southern Power Company and many other enterprises have been building hydro-electric plants and covering the country with power transmission lines. The Black Mountain people say they are not coming into rivalry with the water power plants, but will complement them.

Among those interested in the enterprise are C. M. Warner of 72 Wall Street, C. H. Zehnder, of 140 Cedar Street, the Sandfords of Knoxville, Tenn., Capt. A. F. Lucas, of Washington, D. C., Bewley & Durst, and Benjamin L. Dulaney, of Bristol, Tenn.

Mr. Dulaney, who is at the Waldorf, said yesterday:

"You will find that many hydro-electric companies have to build auxiliary steam plants," he said, "because of the irregularity of the flow of water in many streams. Then, too, the further you get away from your power station in transmitting your electricity, the weaker is the current. The electricity, we propose to furnish will complement the electricity of the water-power companies. We shall be auxiliaries, not rivals. It will be a sort of joining hands."

"There is absolutely no limit to the power we can eventually turn out at St. Charles, because units can be added as fast as needed to any extent, and in this respect, too, the steam plant has a great advantage over the water plant.—New York Times.

Road Work Progressing.

The road work now being done in the vicinity of Coeburn and in other parts of the county is making good progress, and the greatest complaint being heard is that contractors can not find all the men they need. This time is near at hand when more funds will be needed to make these much needed roads and put them in much better condition for winter, and for that reason we would like to have the Board of Supervisors ask for an order at once calling for an election for the additional bond issue in order that the roadwork will not have to be delayed on account of funds. If the road from St. Paul to Norton by way of Coeburn and Tacoma were now completed the people along that route would have but little trouble in getting their produce to market. The people and the Board realize that to do this work right it will require an additional bond issue and no time should be lost in voting the additional bonds.—Coeburn Journal.

E. H. Fulton Dead.

Bluefield, Oct. 11, 2 a. m.—E. L. Fulton, a prominent attorney of Wise, Va., died this morning at 1:35 at Hotel Matz, this city. He had been in Bluefield since September 17th, more or less sick. He had been suffering with fever a week, but his illness was not regarded as serious until within the last three days. His father, and mother were with him when he died.

Mr. Fulton was 32 years old. He practiced law in Wise with his father, the firm being Fulton & Fulton. His father is Judge E. M. Fulton.

Resolutions

Of The Wise County Teachers' Association, Norton, Va., October, 3-5, 1912.

Resolved, 1st, that we tender our most sincere thanks to the officers and members of the Norton Baptist Church for the use of their House of Worship in which to hold our evening sessions.

2nd, to Miss Reynolds and the other members of the Baptist choir for their rendition of delightful musical selections.

3rd, to all other members of the congregation who, in any way, contributed to the success of the conference.

We, the teachers of Wise county, assembled in the capacity of the Wise County Teachers Association, believing that our present Supt. James N. Hillman, has faithfully and efficiently performed the duties of his office, and believing the best interest of our schools can be best served by continuing him in office, do heartily endorse his administration and unanimously recommend his reappointment.

Whereas, more than half the children of Wise county are in rural communities and enrolled in rural schools; and whereas, these children are not getting their share of the money, expert supervision, or efficient instruction, we believe that the country child should be given the kind of training that will lead him to remain there—the kind that will help the country people to become self-supporting, self-respecting, efficient and intelligent citizens.

Therefore be it resolved, that we deplore the condition of many of our rural schools, that we recommend the building of modern school houses, consolidating the efficiency of the school and the welfare of the children, that we favor creating a Rural Supervisor, who shall be a teacher selected on account of his or her fitness, in each Magisterial District, that we recommend that a greater number of better equipped teachers be employed in these schools, and that these teachers be required to teach the fundamentals of Domestic Science, Agriculture and Manual arts.

Resolved further, that in order that the country children may always be represented, at least one of the three trustees in each Magisterial District, be selected from a rural community.

Believing that the tendencies in the educational work of our county is to slight the primary and grammar grades for the High School department, therefore recommend, that we, as a teaching body, discourage these tendencies by insisting upon the proper teaching force, and by using every effort to secure kindergartens in all our schools of four or more teachers.

In Memorium.

Whereas, since our last meeting, it has pleased the great Creator of Heaven and earth to call to her reward our faithful, consecrated and efficient co-worker, Miss Leila Ewing Beatty, and

Whereas, Wise county has lost from its teaching force the influence of a life that had just begun to live a life, whose faith in God, hope in immortality and charity for all mankind will ever keep green her memory in the hearts of those who have been associated with her either as pupils or fellow-workers.

Therefore, be it resolved, 1st. That we bow in humble submission to the will of Almighty God who doeth all things well.

Second. That while we will miss her presence, we are glad that this Association can point to her service as being that of a true teacher, and

Third, that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this meeting, published in the Big Stone Gap Post and also sent the family, as an expression of our appreciation of her life, and with our deepest sympathy for them in their hour of bereavement.

Sandy Valley & Elkhorn

New Coal Road Fully Completed from Shelby to Jenking, Ky.

The Sandy Valley & Elkhorn Railway, 25 miles long from Shelby to Jenkins, Ky., has been completed and will be turned over to the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company which will operate the road in a few days. This new line was constructed jointly by the Consolidation Coal Company and the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. It is built in a superior manner with 90 pound rails to handle heavy coal traffic from the Elkhorn mines of the coal company in the vicinity of Jenkins, which is a new mining town built since the beginning of construction on the railroad. The cost of the line is said to have been about \$5,000,000, including its equipment of 2000 steel drop-bottom gondola cars. Langhorn & Langhorn of Richmond, Va., were the contractors.

Connection is made with the Big Sandy line of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway at Shelby, and the output of the mines is hauled over that road northward to a connection with the Baltimore & Ohio. The grades of the new road are easy, so that a heavy load can be pulled by each locomotive. Although the railroad was not entirely completed, the coal company has been able to ship over it for about a month and has been sending out an average of 2000 tons a day.

The extension of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, which is coming into the mining region from the west, is expected to be finished about December 1. There are already eight coal mines open, and when this road is ready five more mines will be developed on its line. This extension is about 90 miles long.

Patrons Urged To Visit Schools.

Richmond, Va., October 12.—On the first day of November appropriate exercises will be held in every public school of Virginia, and citizens are urged to visit the schools to observe Patrons' Day.

In many localities our school buildings are in a deplorable condition. The houses are in bad repair and the yards are grown with weeds. The people seem to take little interest in educational conditions. Teachers and parents ought to get acquainted, and a School Improvement League should be organized for the purpose of improving the school. These things can be done on November 1, if the parents will rally to the help of the school.

Last year over 600 schools observed Patrons' Day; this year nearly every school in the State will do so. The teachers are working hard to make the day a success. Will you not visit your school on November 1?

James M. Barr in Bristol.

Bristol, Va., Oct. 11.—James M. Barr, formerly at the head of the Seaboard Air Line and president of the Jamestown Exposition, was here Thursday evening, being en route for Norfolk, after a visit to the Black Mountain coal fields in Southwest Virginia. Mr. Barr has in recent years held an important interest in the coal deposits of Lee county, Virginia.

MEN WANTED.

50 MINERS wanted by Stonegap Colliery Company, Glamorgan, Va. Steady work. Highest price per ton paid in the district. Healthy camp. Excellent water. School and church facilities.

Stonegap Colliery Co. J. S. CHEYNEY, Gen'l Supt.

Associated Charities

Treasurer's Statement, Oct. 16, 1911 to Oct. 1, 1912.

RECEIPTS.	
Balance on hand	\$5.16
Prof. Young	1.00
Dr. Lloyd	2.50
Mrs. Peter Wolfe	0.50
Mr. Craft	1.00
Mrs. D. A. Goodlow	5.00
Miss Fox	5.00
Mrs. Irvine	5.00
Mrs. Bullitt	5.00
Mr. W. J. Smith	5.00
Mrs. McCormick	5.00
Mrs. Rives	1.00
Mrs. R. D. Morrison	.50
Mrs. J. M. Willis	.50
Mrs. Morris (Colored)	.10
Miss Morrison	1.00
Bible School	1.00
For Poor House Investigation	4.10
Roomage Sales	10.15
Balance, Red Cross Seals	10.15
Methodist Bazaar	2.15
Methodist Collection	1.25
Christ Church Sunday School	2.00
Epicopal Collections	30.75
Union Church Collection	11.54
Memberships	11.00
Total	\$190.81
DISBURSEMENTS.	
By Mr. Craft	\$2.00
Miss Elliott	5.00
Mrs. McCormick	2.50
Mr. Hodges	2.00
To Mr. Mullins & Co.	1.00
Woe Printing Co.	1.75
Poor House Investigation	4.10
Fuller Bros	4.25
Nickels Grocery Co.	16.19
Nickels Bros	21.36
D. C. Wolfe	1.40
Goodlow Bros	1.40
A. K. Mann	15.10
R. E. Kennedy	1.69
W. W. Taylor & Sons	4.75
J. B. Collier	8.50
Kelly Drug Co.	7.91
Lambert Bros.	0.40
W. B. Kilbourn	8.50
Mr. P. H. Hazen	10.05
Z. P. Smith, (Rent)	10.00
Dieter & Frazer (Prize)	4.48
B. S. G. & P. V. R. R.	4.06
Coal Hauling & Deliveries	18.92
Return of man from Catawba	5.90
Total	\$190.89
Balance on hand	43.95
MEMBERSHIP.	
Prof. and Mrs. Young, Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd, Mr. E. Prescott, Miss D. K. Moore, Mr. Hodges, Miss Slomp, Mrs. McCormick, Mrs. W. T. Smith, Mr. Craft, Mr. Kinmonth, Mr. Rose, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Fox, Sr. Mr. and Mrs. John Fox, Jr., Mrs. Fox, Mr. and Mrs. Nasir, Mr. and Mrs. Reeder, Mrs. Skeen, Mr. and Mrs. Irvine, Mr. and Mrs. Sutherland, Mr. A. K. Morrison, Mrs. S. A. Bailey, Mrs. Mary E. Batcher, Mrs. D. A. Goodlow, Mr. Gilliam, Mrs. J. W. Goodlow, Miss Georgia Goodlow, Mr. Murphy, Mrs. Berkeley, Mr. and Mrs. Bullitt, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Fox, Mr. H. H. Adams, Mrs. Stoehr, Mrs. E. J. Prescott, Mrs. Brown.	
Forty loads of coal, amounting to about thirty tons, were distributed to twenty houses.	
J. M. HODGE, Treasurer.	

his presidential address November 20, 1910. "The proposition which it is our intention to bring before the people and keep bringing until they realize its importance is, not to establish a new State Library Commission, but to enlarge the powers of the present State Library Board so that its functions would not be only to have supervision and control of the State Library Board so that its supervision and control of the State Library with its traveling libraries and its legislative reference work, but that it may undertake also the great work of attempting to create libraries all over the State and to bring about in the Commonwealth of Virginia the same state of affairs that exists in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts—namely, that every town may have its own free public library."

The work which the Library Association has mapped out for itself is to secure a library organizer, whose duties will be to aid and encourage the establishment of libraries in every town throughout the State of Virginia. It is hoped that the next Legislature will appropriate money enough to carry on this work of creating free libraries—for the "Public library is an integral part of public education," and without the library system of education will never attain to that degree of excellence to which it has been brought in many States. The association had introduced in the last Legislature a bill to secure this organizer, but notwithstanding the faithful efforts of Dr. J. C. Metcalf, President of the Association, and others, the bill failed of passage. The people throughout the State can render a great service if they will impress upon their representatives in the General Assembly the great importance of this work, and urge them to start a movement which will inevitably result in bringing books within reach of every man, woman and child in Virginia.—Southern Progress.

First Aid Field Day.

Plans are rapidly being made for the great First Aid Field Day to be held in Knoxville on the morning and afternoon of Saturday, October 26, under the auspices of the Society of Tennessee Mine Foremen of which Mr. E. F. Buffat of Oliver Springs, Tennessee, is grand foreman.

In the morning exercises consisting of music, speeches, lectures and illustrations will be held in some auditorium of the main business section of Knoxville. In the afternoon the contests in first aid work by teams from the different mines will be held, for which the Operators Association has guaranteed one hundred and fifty dollars in cash prizes. These will be held at the ball park at Chilhowee park on the National Conservative Exposition grounds.

It is hoped that a fare of one cent per mile will be secured on the railroads and that operators throughout the Kentucky-Tennessee field will declare the day a holiday.

Rev. Jarvis, of Big Stone Gap, entertained the people at the church Sunday. He is an able speaker and made his sermon very interesting. The way he handled his subject, "watch" showed his ability to expound the scriptures. The word was analyzed and each letter discussed separately. The points brought out from each of the letters, "work," "action," "thoughts," "company," and "calling" and the "heart" produced a very striking effect on the audience. Those who missed this, missed a treat.—Jonesville Star.

General R. A. Ayers, democratic candidate for congress, passed through Honaker Monday en route to Tazewell and Graham where he addressed the citizens at each place.—Honaker Herald.

Shoe Repair Shop.

I am prepared to do all kinds of shoe repairing in first class and up-to-date style. My shop is on East Fifth Street in the old Senter stand, and I solicit your patronage. adv. W. H. LAWSON.

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