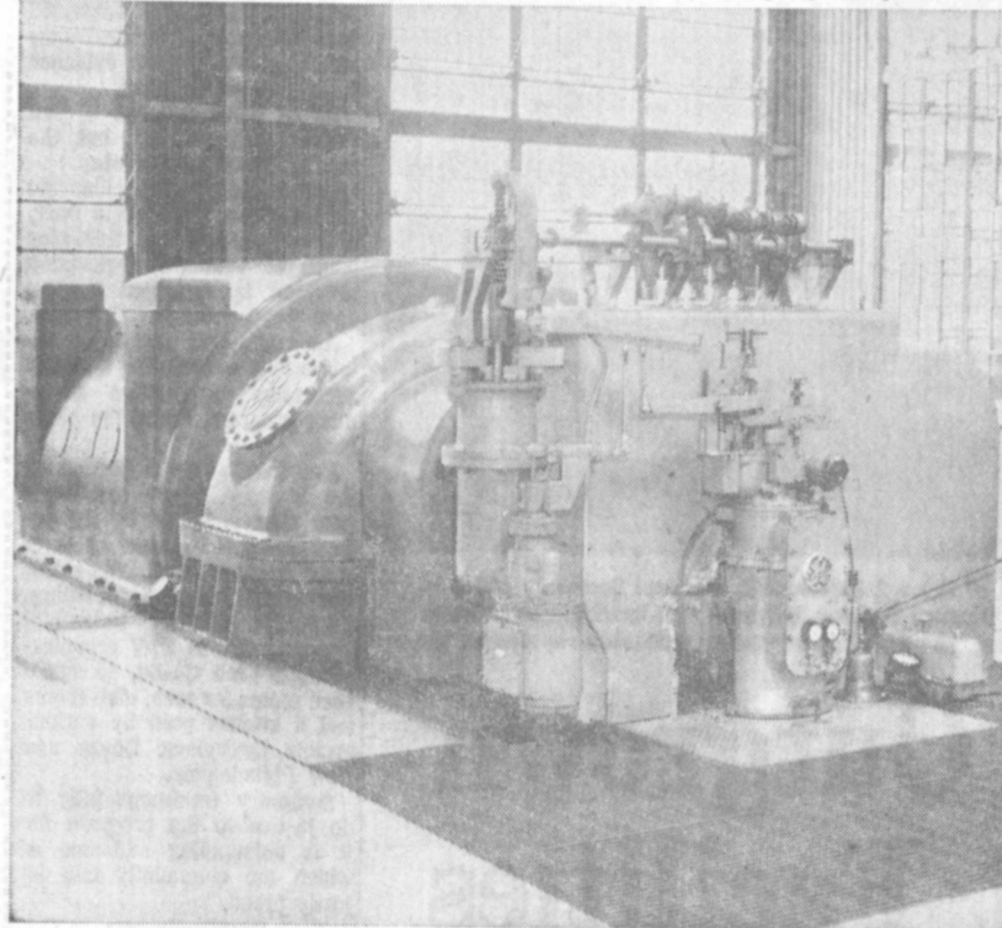
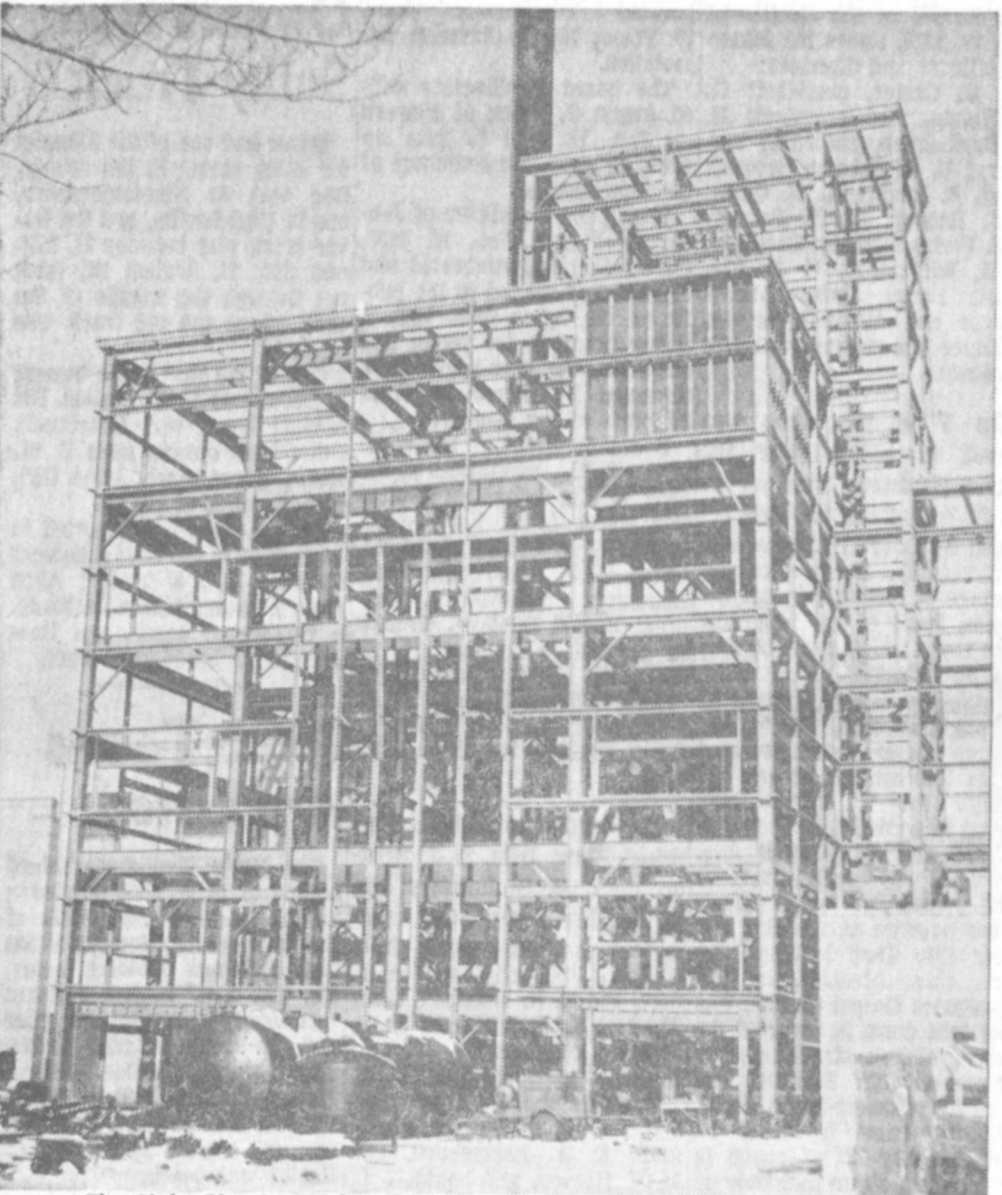


Dover's Light Plant Has Made Determined Progress

By Dan Miles
Daily Reporter Staff Writer
A by-product of Dover's Municipal Electric Plant may well be "progress" because since 1908 the plant has grown and moved steadily forward. It would take several volumes to describe the determination and positive attitude that went into the light plant to bring it to its current status, considered by power officials to be one of the best-managed municipal power plants in Ohio.



This 7,500 kilowatt turbine generator installed in 1955, is the heart of the Municipal Light Plant's power system. It is delicate as a watch and big as a locomotive.



The Light Plant's 175-foot high 1961 addition in this skeletal view (above) shows the intricate steel framework involved. The black circular tubing in the foreground is the new boiler.

A summation from Service Director H. S. Ream provides an up-to-date report.

"The Municipal Electric Plant again had a fine year in 1964. Both total kilowatt production and peak loads increased. Besides an increase in plant customers of 56 there was a considerable increase in air conditioning, electric stores, dryers and hot water heaters.

"All electric homes were supplied with current for the first time consisting of 2 residences, one-eight unit apartment building and one commercial building."

Growth in the plant was exceptional, excluding 10 years prior to 1908 when the first proposed bond issue for street lights was approved by voters but court suits and controversies delayed implementation.

Then in 1908, a new and larger bond issue was approved by voters and work was started a year later on natural gas engine plant to operate street lights only.

Two years later, after citizens were forced to use lanterns when a privately-owned light plant turned off street lights in December, 1909, City Council decided to add commercial and home lighting service. The city plant was put into operation that February.

This was a beginning of progress and growth that wasn't to be halted and additions and up-dated equipment during the intervening years have provided Dover residents with a modern, efficient plant.

The following are highlights

of the last 45 years for the plant:

1920—The plant was changed from natural gas to steam-driven engines.

1925—The first steam-driven turbo-generator was installed.

1927—Second steam-driven turbo-generator and underfeed stokers were installed.

1935—Submarine cables were installed under the Tuscarawas River.

1938—A entirely new power plant was erected with aid of the Public Works Administration grant and loan. Installed were a 400-pound pressure boiler, new turbo-generator unit and electrical equipment.

1942—The second 400-pound pressure steam boiler was installed.

1945—Tuscarawas River dam was built to maintain water level so plant could continue pumping water from the river.

1946—Added was a new 4,000 KW turbo-generator unit.

1950—Installed a third 400-pound pressure steam boiler.

1955—Installed a 7,500 KW turbo-generator, largest in the present plant, switchboard and submarine cable.

1961—Installed a 165,000-pound per hour, 1,000-pound pressure boiler in 175-foot high building addition at a cost of \$1,800,000.

1962—Plans were completed for relighting downtown streets.

The new plant provides sufficient electricity for the residents of Dover, but presently is carrying a 25 per cent overload.

An Akron engineering firm, Galus, Pyle, and Schomer Inc., has been retained by City Council to make a survey for new needs to meet increasing demands.

Total KW's produced in 1964 were 47,562,000. The net KW's sold to customers were 43,533,000 with the highest peak load at 9,600 KW's.

There presently are 20 employees at the electric plant, headed by Paul Wiegand, superintendent, and John Myers, assistant. Wiegand has been at the plant since June, 1920, and as he puts it: "Has seen extensive and the steady modernization."

It was said by Henry Haglock, former Daily Reporter editor, concerning the light plant: "Dover voters bounce mayors and councilmen out of office with about the same regularity as other cities, but they never turn against the light plant."

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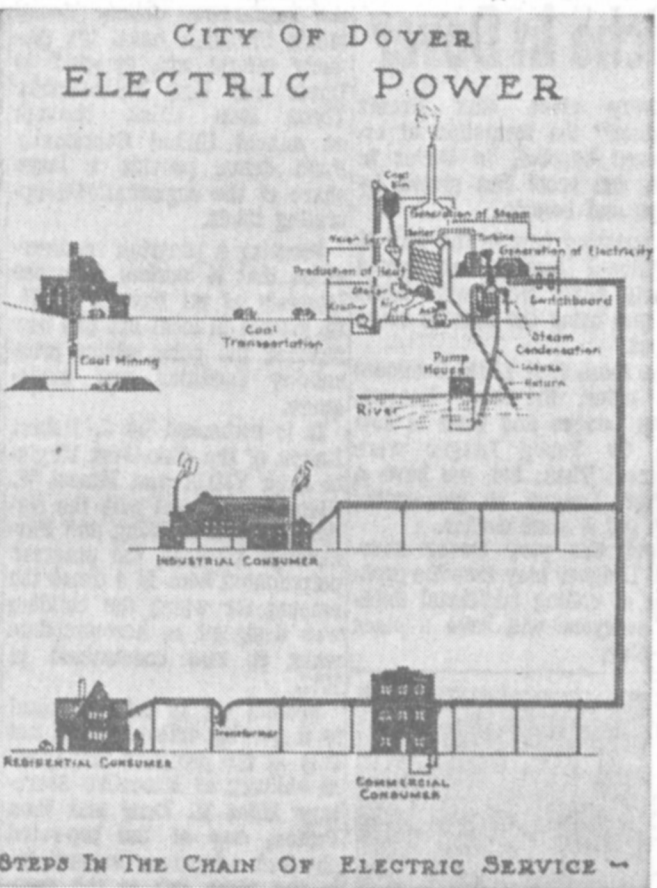
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This drawing gives a self-explanation of the steps in the chain of electric service to Dover residents.

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