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Bangor Hydro Electric News: January 1929: Volume 2, No.2 -- New Headquarters Issue

Bangor Hydro Electric Company

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THE BANGOR HYDRO - NEWS - ELECTRIC

Vol. 2. No. 2

January 16, 1929

Bangor, Maine

OUR NEW HOME



BANGOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC NEWS

PUBLISHED EVERY MONTH
FOR AND BY EMPLOYEES OF

THE BANGOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMPANY

Vol. 2

Bangor, Maine, January 16, 1929

No. 2

Chief Ed., G. M. Stetson

Mng. Ed., H. C. Dearborn

News Ed., P. A. Mann

❖ Editorial ❖

We Thank You

Your editors appreciate the fine showing made by the departments in the Bangor Division and the outside divisions in the matter of turning in department and division news for the month of January.

The success of this paper is determined by the inter-Company news that is made available among employees within the Company, and the activities of divisions and departments are of far more interest to our employees than the general articles that your editors prepare; and we hope that with the start that has been made showing almost every division and department represented, this effort will continue through every issue.

Yearly Figures of Commercial Department

The final figures for the year 1928 in the Commercial Department show Millinocket leading in merchandise business with about \$20.00 per residential meter in merchandise sales, a remarkable figure for any property. Ellsworth remained in the lead for new business with \$7.73.

The Company as a total of its nine merchandising stores, shows a gain of almost \$2.00 per meter in its 1928 business compared with the 1927 total.



December

District	Sales per Res. Meter
Harrington	\$2.09
Eastport	1.77
Lincoln	1.67
Old Town	.96
Machias	.94
Millinocket	.91
Bangor	.71
Ellsworth	.50
Bar Harbor	.07

For the Year

Millinocket	\$19.01
Eastport	13.36
Ellsworth	12.91
Harrington	12.54
Machias	9.56
Bar Harbor	9.02
Bangor	8.90
Lincoln	8.65
Old Town	6.27



December

District	Rev. per Res. Meter
Machias	\$.64
Millinocket	.51
Lincoln	.39
Bangor	.32
Old Town	.32
Ellsworth	.29
Bar Harbor	.29

For the Year

Ellsworth	\$7.73
Millinocket	7.46
Machias	6.82
Lincoln	6.11
Bar Harbor	4.56
Bangor	4.33
Old Town	3.84

Xmas Party



Dearborn Given A Fine Present

Friday night, December 21, the annual Christmas party of the Bangor office employees took place at our Recreation Hall, artistically decorated for the occasion.

Mr. Graham, in a few opening remarks, welcomed the group to this 1928 Christmas party, and in a few words expressed his appreciation of the continued loyalty that his employees had shown through the year.

Santa Claus, in the person of Mr. Dearborn, opened the evening with the distribution of presents from a beautifully decorated Christmas tree. There were gifts for all, with attractive favors and plenty of Xmas candy.

Mr. Graham in appreciation of the enthusiasm and honest effort that was being shown at the party and at all of our previous parties by Mr. Dearborn, presented "Joe" with a gold pen and pencil set, in behalf of the members of the Bangor office.

Bunny Russell and his orchestra played for the dance.

Mr. Frank L. Coombs, Bangor Collector, Is Pensioned

Effective January 1st the Collection Department of the Bangor office lost an old and valued employee when Mr. Frank L. Coombs took his place on the pension list.

Mr. Coombs was born on October 22, 1855, and on August 8, 1918, he came into the employ of the Company as a freight solicitor while our Bangor and Old Town freight service was still new, and in this work continued until the service was discontinued in May, 1924. Immediately afterward he came into the Collection Department, at that time under Mr. Libby, as a collector of light and power and merchandise accounts in and about Bangor.

His genial disposition about the main office made for him a host of friends among our employees and customers.

Forrest Bean in Hospital

Mr. Forrest Bean, salesman in the Millinocket Division, is rapidly recovering from an appendicitis operation at the Eastern Maine General hospital.

Mr. Bean expects to return to Millinocket very soon.

OUR NEW HOME

Company Occupies Quarters at State and Exchange



Moving days are over, and we are settled at our new home in what was the First National Bank building at the corner of State and Exchange streets, Bangor. The building itself is comparatively new, although extensive alterations have been made within the bank in preparation for our occupancy.

On the first floor are located the offices of Mr. Silliman, Mr. Dole, Mr. Dearborn, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Comins. These offices locate the area that served as the main quarters of the bank. In the rear of this first floor are the Directors' Room and Library.

Leading from the first floor, and on the mezzanine floor, are the offices of President Graham and Miss Stetson.

The second floor is used by Mr. Shumway and Mr. Daggett, Mr. Libby and Mr. Tupper, and Mr. Mann, Office Manager.

On the third floor are located the Engineering and Accounting Departments.



EXECUTIVE OFFICES—FIRST FLOOR—This view shows the corridor and office entrances on the first floor. Mr. Silliman's office is in the right foreground, and Mr. Dole's in the left foreground.

The basement is used for general filing and the stock of office supplies.

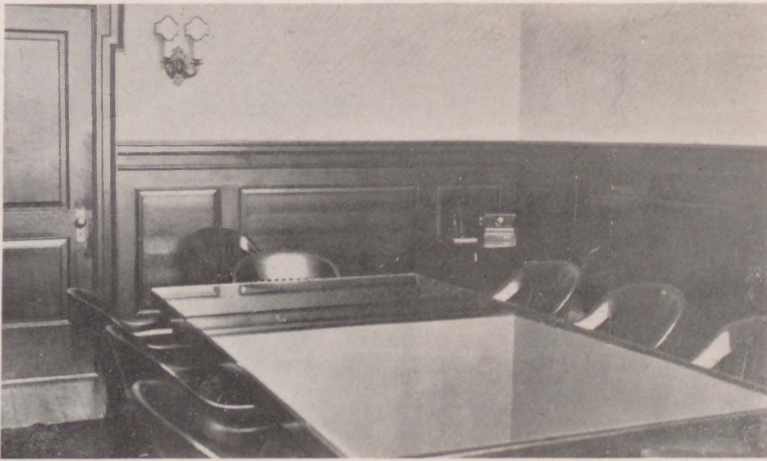
Many of the most modern improvements in office design have been incorporated in the building. One of the very latest types of automatic elevators has been installed, its operation requiring simply the push of a button. The newest protective devices safeguard its use.

The interior lighting is almost entirely of the latest type, causing a minimum eyestrain.

The electric sign is a combination of the raised glass letter type and the neon gas sign. The neon portion of the sign shows a vivid red letter during the day as well as at night.

The new location has relieved the crowded condition of our Graham building locations, and is thoroughly appreciated by the office members of our organization.

OUR NEW HOME—DIRECTORS' ROOM



DIRECTORS' ROOM—The Directors' Room of our new building is located in the right rear corner of the ground floor.

Miss Stetson's Father Dies

The death of Mr. George P. Stetson, the father of Miss Gladys Stetson, occurred at his home in Bangor on Monday, January 14th. Mr. Stetson was known to a large number of our employees, and the news of his passing was received with very deep regret.

To Miss Stetson go our deepest sympathies in the loss of her father.

Millinocket News

(M. L. Witham, Reporter)

We wish to congratulate the Old Town district on winning the contest last month.

The New England Telephone & Telegraph Company has started to rebuild its lines in East Millinocket. Appears to be a busy winter for some live crew.

Miss Doris Buck and Mrs. Mirabel Witham had a week's vacation during the past month. Both enjoyed a quiet rest at home.

Our salesman, Mr. Forrest Bean, has undergone a slight operation in the Eastern Maine General hospital. We all hope for his speedy recovery.

A crew from the Davey Tree Expert Company are in Millinocket this week.

Our line crew are looking forward to a busy winter at East Millinocket, rebuilding the town.

Mr. K. Cosseboom and Mr. Moore were in Millinocket last week on business.

We had a very exciting fire in Millinocket January 3rd. The belfry on the Town Fire Station was destroyed by fire.

We are not sure but we think that Doc (Walter) Haines, one of our line crew has stopped deer hunting.

Our Street Railway Shows the Way

(C. H. Johnson)

In these days of automatic equipment, there are many things which take place which pass us unnoticed. All of us have ridden on the street cars and have noticed that a switch

would automatically shift, and without going into details we have often wondered how this could happen. Street railway men know well that this is taken care of by a piece of equipment known as the Cheatham switch. We will explain the use of this switch a little later, but the thing that we wish to note particularly is the fact that it remained for one of the employees of the Bangor Hydro-Electric Company to put an improvement upon this switch which makes it operatable in all kinds of weather. Our Street Railway Department, through our Mr. R. W. Hatch, has developed a very ingenious device which is being used on these switches to make them operatable in cold weather.

The Cheatham switch, as it is known, is operated by the car operator. If he wishes to go to left, he uses the power, and if he wishes to go to the right, the power is thrown off. This action of the operator throws the switch, which is electrically operated.

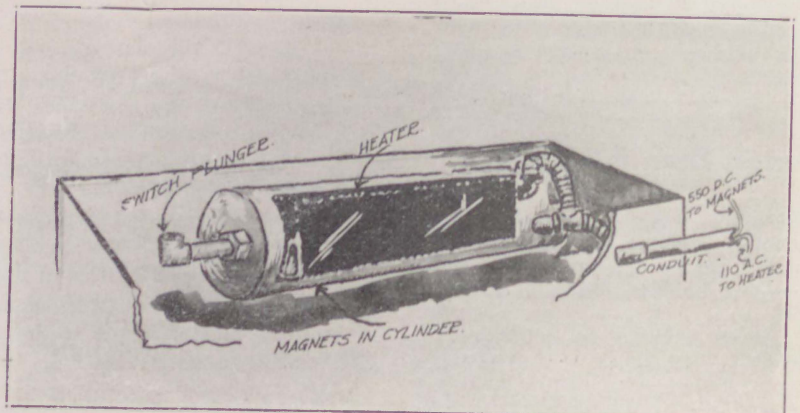
The first of these switches was put in place on our lines in May, 1917, but it was the old Collins switch. These Collins switches were gradually replaced with the Cheatham switch. On cold nights in winter, after the last car had gone to the barn, we found that the switches froze up, so that we would have to use a blow torch on them the following morning to thaw them out before they could be operated, and to

do this, men had to go out and make a circuit of all these switches between three or four o'clock in the morning.

In 1926, our Railway Department, with Mr. Hatch as the experimenter, installed a heater in the switch located at Fourth and Hammond streets. This heater worked successfully, but was found to have some faults in regard to changing the heating unit, which was placed inside the cylinder, in case the unit burned out.

From this first heater, others were designed and improvements made, until the present heater, which is shown in the illustration, was developed. We now have in operation nine of these switches and all of them, except one, are equipped with these heaters, which operate entirely satisfactorily.

We are most interested in the fact that our Railway Department has developed an improvement which is being observed and copied by other street railways all over the country. In numerous places where these switches have been installed, places where the winter conditions are here, it has been found necessary to replace the automatic switch with hand-operated switches, because the difficulties have not been overcome. Our Railway Department has successfully overcome these difficulties, and we are using the switch throughout the entire year. This fact has been noised abroad throughout the country and representatives from the factory have visited us in an endeavor to find out how we could do this. It is worthy of mention that no patents have been taken out or applied for on this improvement, and Mr. Hatch and our Street Railway Department have given the benefit of their discoveries to the industry. Mr. Bowen, of the Cheatham Switch Company, told us this was a great improvement and complimented us upon the development of this improvement. He said that some concerns have been unable to use the switch in the winter because of it freezing up, and also stated that the factory people would make arrangements to inform all of the concerns using the switch in severe climates, that the situation was being satisfactorily handled by the Bangor Hydro-Electric Company, and that through the courtesy of this company he would be able to furnish them with the details of the equipment which we are using.



Bangor Linemen Host To All Linemen

(By P. A. Mann)

On Friday, December 14th, 1928, the linemen from all divisions assembled at the new Recreation Hall in Bangor. At six o'clock they were seated at two tables which extended the entire length of the hall and were served a supper provided by the Bangor linemen, which consisted of:

Creamed Ellsworth Chicken
Mashed Old Town Potato
Mashed Bangor Turnip
(Charleston Special)
Bar Harbor Rolls
Machias Orange and
Eastport Banama Pudding
Millinocket Whipped Cream
La Lincoln Coffee

After they had finished eating, Mr. Hall Dearborn perched himself upon a chair and, acting as director, led the assembly in singing "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here", and the Bangor Hydro song. After a spirited contest between the two tables to see which had the most efficient singers, Mr. Cosseboom gave a short talk welcoming the outside crews on behalf of the Bangor linemen. He then called upon Mr. Edward M. Graham, President of the Company, to speak to the employees.

Mr. Graham spoke of the growth of the Company during the past fifteen years, stating that this Company started with three power houses located at Ellsworth, Veazie and Milford and that there now are nine power houses well distributed over the system. He also stated that not so many years ago the entire system was centered around Bangor, Old Town, Ellsworth and Bar Harbor, and that at the present time our transmission and distribution lines extend 140 miles east and 100 miles north.

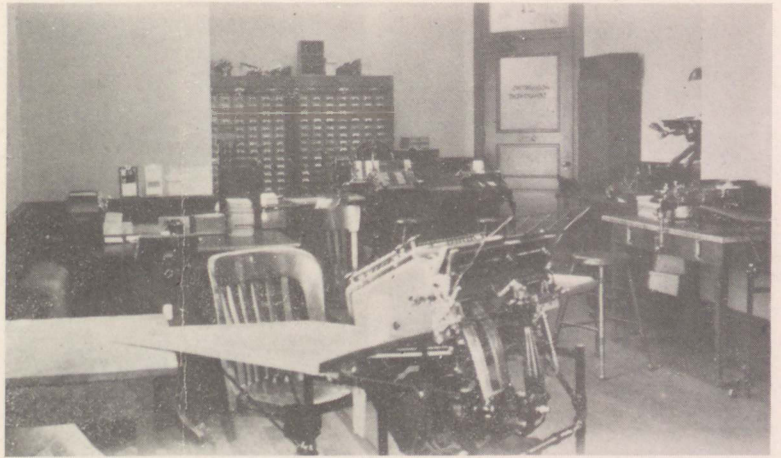
He told the line crews that he was proud of the way their work was handled, and cautioned them not to take any unnecessary risks. He said that he believed the year 1929 could pass without an accident if everyone plans his work properly.

In closing, Mr. Graham reminded the linemen that the success of the party was due to a large extent to the efforts of the committee, which consisted of Mr. Cosseboom, Miss Gladys Stetson, Mrs. Mabel Woodman and Mr. Hall Dearborn.

Mr. Cosseboom next called upon Mr. Frank Silliman 3d, Vice President and General Manager, and Mr. Silliman gave a short talk concerning the varieties of service rendered by this Company to the public.

The program was then turned over to the entertainment committee, and there appeared in the doorway of the hall a rough looking Jewish gentleman leading with great difficulty a person who might be a game warden, fireman, policeman or an admiral. The Admiral, so-called, wore a plug hat which failed to cover long, bright red hair, and evidently was either under the influence of liquor, or had just emerged from a twenty years' sleep. The two eventually reached the stage and were

OUR NEW HOME—MACHINE ROOM



MACHINE ROOM—ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT—Here are kept and operated all of the machine helps of the accounting department, including the addressographs, money counting machines, bookkeeping machines, etc.

Prizes Won for Lamp Campaign

At least two prizes have been awarded our Company for the results it obtained in the lamp contest run as "Empty Socket" activity in September and October of last year.

The Company was awarded the second prize of \$25.00 for Central Stations of New England, and our Old Town Division, leaders among our own divisions, took a prize in the National competition. We extend our congratulations to Manager Grose and his able merchandisers.

seated quite comfortably when the Admiral addressed the Jewish gentleman, asking him what the paper was that he had in his hand. After some discussion the audience learned that it was a copy of the Bangor Hydro-Electric News.

They opened the paper and the Editor of the News, who happened to be a guest at the party, actually blushed to hear some of the things that these two gentlemen found in the paper. They read some real colorful items and sung songs, and when the act was finished there was hardly a member of the line crews of all divisions who had not had a good-natured slam on some peculiar characteristic or misfortune which had occurred to him in the past.

Great was the applause when the tears were discovered to be Mr. Hall Dearborn and Mr. "Danny" Webster.

The next act on the program was a song entitled "The Boatswain", sung by Mr. Harold Coffin, accompanied by Mr. Wilbur Cochrane at the piano. Mr. Harry Foyer then played a few solos on the snare drums, accompanied by Mr. Cochrane.

A monologue followed, in which a stout old lady in old time dress played the banjo and sang several songs, which was very well received by the audience.

Allie Doane's son next did some

Old Town Girls

Win Xmas Contest

The young ladies of the Old Town Division won first prize in the December contest for store sales of appliances. This team of the Misses Shaw - Fayle - O'Connor led the Witham-Buck team of Millinocket who took second prize, with the Ellsworth team of Fields-McDonald-Campbell in third place.

step dancing, accompanied by Mr. Harry Foyer who played the banjo and harmonica, followed by songs by the entire gathering. Then the former "old lady" appeared as a Dutchman in a character sketch. After many inquiries it was learned that this versatile actress or actor was Mr. George Smith.

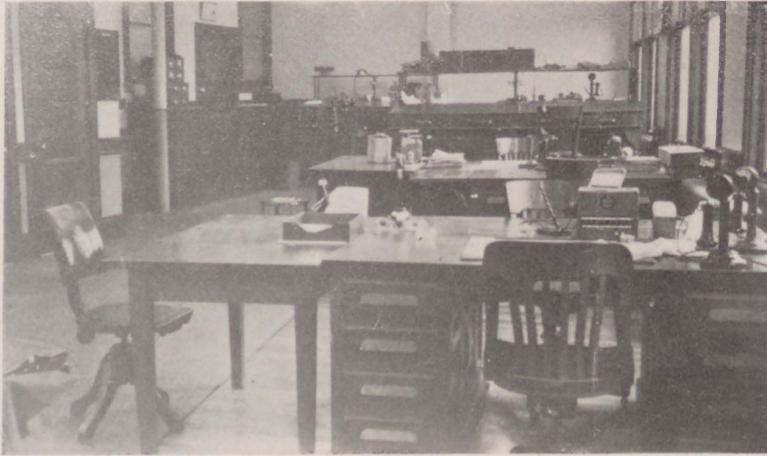
The next act on the program was Mr. Houdini Nason in a sleight-of-hand performance which was very good. The audience was much amused when Houdini removed a string of sausage from under the coat of one of the Bangor linemen.

Mr. Hall Dearborn operated the motion picture camera and showed pictures of the line crew at work on the Milford-South Brewer line on a change-over job; also pictures of the installation of the new seven foot flashboards on the Veazie dam, showing the use of the new cable handling the cement, portable coffer dams, etc. There was also a news reel.

Mr. Kenneth Cosseboom clothed as a man from the great open spaces, gave two readings which were very vivid and realistic of the life in the far North.

After a very enjoyable evening, for which the crews unanimously thanked the various committees, they departed for their various divisions ready to go to work with renewed vigor.

OUR NEW HOME—ACCOUNTING ROOM



ACCOUNTING ROOM—This general view shows a part of Mr. Sprague's accounting room.

Accounting Dept. News

Lottie Brown and Jane Ware spent some time in Boston during the Christmas holidays.

The unseasonable weather which we have been having of late has hit this department. Since the first of the year several of our members have been out sick with colds.

During this past month Alta Edgecomb has been at the Lincoln office assisting Miss Drew who has recently become clerk at that place.

Osgood Townsend, Jr., spent the Christmas holidays at Waterville. "Buster" can't figure out why that Christmas check from the Senior was not larger, unless it was due to that famous trip to Ithica where he witnessed the Dartmouth-Cornelli game.

We take pleasure in welcoming E. Delmont Tasker to this department. At the present time he is working on the stock ledgers.

The Women's Bowling League is now playing the second round. In the first round the Outlaws were not up to their usual mark, coming out in a tie for sixth place. However, in the second round they have won all four points of the three games already played. The Outlaws also hold the highest single string total of 118 won by Helen Jackson. Alice Grant is also named among those over 105 with a string of 106.

Engineering Department

On January 2nd, in the presence of Messrs. Coffin, Brown and Webster of the Engineering Department, and W. A. Bagley and R. C. Samuels of the Automatic Switching Division of the General Electric Company, the automatic control equipment on the third generator at West Enfield was officially put through its paces and pronounced ready for service.

Ellsworth Division

(Miss S. E. Fields, Reporter)

The office force are deeply appreciative of the splendid gloves received by them at Xmas time.

The Waterman line at Byard's Point is completed with the exception of the transformers and parkway cable; the boys are looking forward to a box of fine cigars, promised by Dr. Waterman upon the completion of the work.

The employees of the Ellsworth Division were deeply shocked by the sudden death of Miss Marion Allen, a former clerk in the Main street office. Her courtesy, efficiency, and splendid personality endeared her to everyone with whom she came in contact and her death is sincerely mourned.

Recent visitors to the Ellsworth office were: Mr. Haskell, Mr. Cosseboom, Mr. Dearborn, Mr. Coffin and Mr. Daggett.

Shirley Carter has returned to his duties after a serious illness of grip and threatened pneumonia. His absence was noted in the decline of the commercial department sales.

Roy Bragdon, Blaine Holmes, J. A. Smith and Fred Springer who have been ill with colds have resumed their duties.

The 40 pole extension out of Franklin on the Cherryfield road, will be completed within a few days.

May the New Year of 1929 bring to the Bangor Hydro-Electric News, prosperity and increased power for bringing pleasure into the homes of its employees.

Within the past month a new transformer substation has been installed near Northern Maine Junction to serve the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad, the Black Stream Electric Company, and several smaller customers near Northern Maine Junction. This station, containing three 75 KVA transformers, is located close to the state highway, about a quarter of a mile toward Bangor from the new Bangor & Aroostook underpass.

Transportation Department

(By C. H. Johnson)

On December 31st there was a change of time on the Charleston Division.

Mr. Lucas, car operator, who has been confined to his home for the past 11 weeks, is gaining slowly.

Mr. Michael Addison, track foreman, has been absent from his duties for several days due to a cold.

Mr. Van Aken, car operator, has been off duty for a week with a cold.

Mr. Frank Earle, car operator, has been off duty for several days with a cold.

During Christmas week there were ten operators off duty in one day with colds.

Mr. A. I. Sprague, car operator, has been off duty since December 18th, due to his family being sick.

Veazie Station News

Veazie Station has sure had its troubles. Just as we thought we had everything all set for winter with no anchor ice, the bottom dropped out of the river, or at least that part of the river which was in the station Forebay, a large hole having developed in the Forebay floor in front of No. 10 wheel, thereby putting said wheel out of commission. Mr. Fournier with his crew of river-men is now at work building a portable coffer dam with which he hopes to make necessary repairs on the Forebay floor.

Our general utility man, Mr. Oscar Poulin, who has been at Stanford Station for several weeks, has returned to Veazie for a while.

Operator M. D. Wentworth had a bad fall recently. As he was coming into the station, snow on the bottom of his shoes caused him to slip on the concrete floor, thereby setting him down quite suddenly.

Mr. Perkins, superintendent of hydraulic equipment, recently made a trip to Machias where he inspected the water wheels at that Station and East Machias. Mr. Perkins has recently returned from Stanford Station where he has been stationed for two or three months while installing the new unit at that Station.

Eastport News

(J. W. MacDonald, Reporter)

Our latest reports from E. M. Scott are that he is progressing rapidly and cheerfully towards good health.

A surprise party was given Scottie on Christmas eve by the Eastport employees, with "Mac" MacDonald playing Santa Claus, who saw to it that Scottie received many useful and eatable gifts.

Vern Cushing's crew has finished the Pleasant Point line and they now have lights.

Miss Marie McCulloch was employed in the office during December helping with the inventory and stock ledger.

OUR NEW HOME—LADIES REST ROOM



Mr. Alvah Abbott, 26 Years of Service

Mr. Alvah Abbott, Assistant Manager, was born in Eastbrook, Maine, in 1873. He attended school in his native town and for five or six years he worked with a butcher in Eastbrook and Hancock, learning the business. He then entered the employ of the Washington County Railroad, where he worked at construction and track work, also as spare fireman in the engine house for one and one-half years. He came to Bar Harbor about thirty years ago, working summers driving public teams, or private, in the employ of livery people and summer residents. He entered the employ of the Bar Harbor Electric Light Company in 1902, as ground man, later doing repair and trouble work, until he became a first class lineman.

In 1916, when Mr. Austin became Manager of the Bar Harbor and Union River Power Company, he appointed Mr. Abbott, foreman. He held that title until a few years ago, when he was made Assistant Manager. In this capacity Mr. Abbott has proved very efficient, willing and loyal, always willing to do his best.

Bar Harbor Items

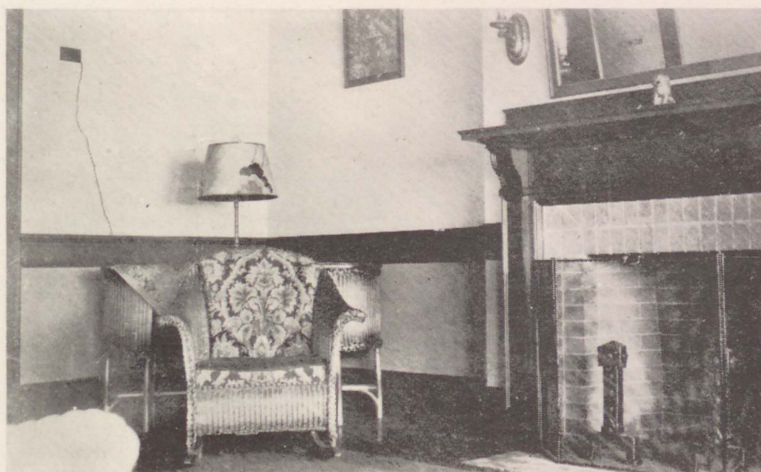
Mr. Nason of the Bangor Department spent Friday and Saturday in Bar Harbor testing for radio trouble.

Miss Agnes Ash of the Bar Harbor office force has recovered from a severe case of measles.

Our Christmas window display which was done by Mr. Kenneth Stetson, received much favorable comment and was spoken of by many as being the best looking window in town.

Mr. Parkhurst of the Commercial Department, with Mr. Banks and Mr. Holbrook of the Maine Electric Company were in Bar Harbor last month in the interest of the General Electric Refrigerator sales.

The Bar Harbor office force are still waiting for the venison which Mr. Stetson brought down during his hunting trip last fall.



LADIES' REST ROOM—This room located on the third floor, in the front of the building, facing Exchange St., has been beautifully decorated and arranged by our own young ladies.

Car House News

(William Ellis, Reporter)

Mr. Edward Burns is planning a fishing trip. He hopes to be able to do some ice fishing, but can still continue to make his plans, and if there isn't a sufficient quantity of ice, he will wait until next spring.

December was a very busy month for our carpenters who had, in addition to their regular work, considerable repair work at 31 Main street, and at the new main office building.

A number of our employees have been out because of sickness; but we are pleased to report that none of these cases have been serious, and have consisted mostly of colds.

Our Mr. C. Harry Sanborn, who happens to be the oldest employee of the Company, went to Portland over Christmas and reports a very pleasant trip.

We were pleased to receive a visit from Mr. Price just before Christmas.

We are pleased to announce that our genial stock keeper, Mr. John Morrill, has a new radio.

Park Street Substation News

(E. W. Cole, Reporter)

The meter department reports the installation of modern 3-wire 110-220 volt metering equipment as follows:

Woolworth's 5 & 10 cent store—100 amp.

W. T. Grant's 5-10-25-\$1.00 store—150 amp.

Merrill Trust Company (started)—150 amp.

B. H.-E. Company, Main Office—150 amp.

Mr. Nason has been very busy lately investigating reported radio trouble.

The Linemen's Welfare Association held their regular monthly supper Friday p. m., January 4th, George Tyler, Chief Cook. Menu: Mashed potato, brown gravy, cold sliced baked fresh ham, cranberry sauce, sliced beet pickles, hot yeast rolls, cheese, doughnuts and coffee. A good crowd and a good time.

The Line Department under the direction of Mr. Burton, foreman, is building a new substation at the State hospital.

Veterans' Service List

We give below a list of those whose anniversary come during the period from January 1st to February 17th, together with the names of our veterans who complete over twenty years of service during these months:

	Years
Locke, Joseph, Trackman, Feb. 1, 1906.....	23
Wray, William R., Manager Bangor Store, Feb. 1, 1911.....	18
Austin, Sylvia B., Bookkeeper, B. H., Feb. 1, 1911.....	18
Stockwell, Earl H., Bookkeeper, Bangor, Jan. 28, 1918.....	11
Tolman, Roy J., Electrician, Car Barn, Feb. 5, 1918.....	11
Ryder, Henry F., Freight Agt., Bangor, Jan. 28, 1918.....	11
Morgan, Roy A., Car Operator, Jan. 22, 1919.....	10
Baldwin, Horace B., Master Mechanic, Feb. 10, 1919.....	10
Bullard, Appleton R., Bookkeeper, Bangor, Jan. 25, 1921.....	8
Fayle, Edith M., Stenographer, O. T., Jan. 24, 1921.....	8
Harper, Wm. C., Chief Electrician, Feb. 16, 1921.....	8
Baker, George E., Car Operator, Feb. 1, 1923.....	6
Shorey, Ralph E., Repairman, Veazie, Feb. 15, 1923.....	6

Old Town District News

Quite extensive repairs are being made on the building formerly occupied by the Company as a freight house. New doors are being put in and other changes and improvements are to be made. When in condition, the building will be used by the Old Town line crew as a garage and stockroom. Mechanic Albert Sawyer, who is in charge of the repair work, expects to have the new quarters ready for occupancy by Feb. 1st, at the latest. The boys expect to find this a more convenient location than the stockroom at Milford, where they have done business so many years.

December 31st, the Sunkhaze gauge, located at Milford station, registered 110.50 which is the highest point recorded during the fall and winter.

Superintendent Fred Cary of the Milford Station says the ice in the river at the plant is fourteen inches thick now, and getting thicker all the time—on both sides. He says he doesn't feel safe saying much about the weather until he finds out what the ground-hog intends to do about it.

Assistant Operator Reed, who has been enjoying the fine skating for the past week or so, was unfortunate in getting a little off his course, and striking one of the company's booms, one afternoon recently. Mr. Reed said he felt as though a squall had struck his ice boat after he got straightened out. He said he must have been sailing too close to the wind or something. At any rate, we notice he has spent his time ashore since that day.

Rackmen Reed and Anderson are quite busy trying to keep a channel open through the Nekonegan Canal. They report fourteen or fifteen inches of ice.

The annual Christmas tree at the Old Town office proved to be a great success as in previous years, each member of the district being appropriately remembered.

Superintendent A. E. Grose acknowledges with thanks a check for \$5.00, representing one of the special "Six-shooter" awards made to central station employees for outstanding accomplishment during the recent Edison Mazda Lamp Campaign.

We are very pleased with our store sales record for the month of December 1928, having exceeded our business record over the same month of 1927 by \$299.64. As a result, we are the happy recipients of the first prize of fifteen dollars, awarded to office employees having the largest amount of sales in small appliances during the month of December.

Groundman Harold Shirland, who severely injured himself a few weeks ago, is improving slowly. However, he is very courageous and cheerful. He is greatly missed by us all and we hope he will be back with the crew soon.

Linemen Roland Tait and Roland Shirland are both on the sick list with heavy colds.

Commercial Department

The Commercial Dept. enjoyed a very nice Xmas business, finishing the month of December with an increase of over \$5,000 over the month of December, 1927.

Bar Harbor led the divisions for the year with an increase of 72%, while S. H. Carter ranked first among the salesmen with nearly \$21,000 worth of merchandise credited to his sales efforts.

The "Special" for the month of January is on the Westinghouse Heating Pad. The electric heating pad is fast replacing the hot water bottle in the modern home and this opportunity gives our employees a chance to purchase a heating pad at a very reasonable figure.

Mr. Forest Bean, our salesman in the Millinocket branch is fast recovering from an operation for appendicitis. Forest says he's thankful he has only one appendix.

Mr. Herbert Hammons has been enjoying a week's vacation. Herbie keeps the Commercial Department well supplied with display cards and signs, and he frankly admits he "made signs before he could talk."

The flu epidemic has been felt in the Commercial Department by Miss Clark, Miss Treworgy, Miss Stearns and Mr. White.

J. P. Ludgate of the Syracuse Washing Machine Corporation has returned to Bangor after spending Christmas at his home in Pittsburgh.

Small appliances went over big for Christmas. Many lines were sold out and re-orders were numerous.

The washing machine department is well organized for 1929. Many demonstrations have been booked and already several sales have been made.

The outlook for Refrigeration for 1929 is very bright. Many sales have been guaranteed for spring and interest is daily growing in electric refrigeration.

The new offices and show room at 31 Main street have been completed and are in full operation. The display of electric refrigeration, ranges and other appliances is excellent and attracts much interest from prospective buyers.

Lincoln News

Leroy McIntyre who has been ill with appendicitis has returned to work.

Miss Edgecomb of the Bangor office was a recent visitor and remained a few days to assist in balancing up the books for the year.

We have received our 1929 Edison Mazda Lamp calendar for the office, and it is certainly a very beautiful calendar.

Mr. Haskell and Mr. Clark attended a recent meeting in Bangor at 31 Main street where commercial policies were discussed for the purpose of determining our 1929 commercial activities.

Harrington News Items

(R. A. Fernald, Reporter)

Mr. William Frost, formerly of Beals Island, has moved his boat building shop to Jonesport. At his present location he has obtained an excellent shore site. This gives him a chance for a runway for hauling out large boats, to be stored for the winter, of which he has four at present. Since being in his new location he has built two large motorboats and is under contract for a 90-foot power boat. We supply his shop with 550 volt power. Mr. Frost is very much pleased with his new power installation. He says it is some different by just throwing the switch from having four men spend two hours these cold mornings starting an old gasoline engine. At present he is employing approximately ten men.

Mr. Thomas Gower and Mr. Philip Theriault made a short call at the Harrington office while on their way from Enfield to Machias. Mr. Theriault was the man who took the icy bath last month on one of the dam construction jobs, but came through safely.

Mr. Vose, District Manager at Machias, and Mr. Fernald made a survey on the South Addison road recently.

Mr. William Harper and crew have installed the single circuit reclosing feeder switch at the Harrington Sub-station. This is a big improvement over the old equipment, as recently in one storm this kicked out thirteen times, also closed automatically, while with the old equipment this would have meant thirteen fuse replacements. At present the interruptions are at a minimum.

Mr. Alfred Sawyer, meter reader, and Mr. Philip Reynolds, county salesman, spent Christmas in Bangor.

Miss Vera McEacharn spent the holidays at her home in Machias.

Mr. Philip Sprague, Assistant Treasurer, was a recent caller at this office.

The Machias line crew have made a patrol of the high tension line from Machias to Tunk Pond, trimming right of way, and straightening poles.

Mr. Joseph Sproul, part time employee, at Cherryfield, had the good fortune of getting his quota of game this season, by shooting one large buck deer.

Mr. D. O. Hall part time employee at Jonesport is opening a clam factory where he expects to start operations soon.

On January 4th we had a record low temperature for the winter of 20 degrees below zero.

The recent cold weather has caused considerable trouble with anchor ice at Stanford plant.

The new unit at Stanford plant has been put on the line and operated for test purposes and we are in hopes it will soon be turning K.W. into the system.