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Bangor Hydro Electric News: December 1928, Volume 2, No.1

Bangor Hydro Electric Company

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THE BANGOR HYDRO - NEWS - ELECTRIC

Vol. 2, No. 1

December, 1928

Bangor, Me.

Merry Christmas!

Happy New Year!

Employees of the Bangor Hydro-Electric Co.

The Bangor Hydro-Electric News, our Company paper, is still an infant and we are now entering the second year of its publication. From the favorable reports I have received from many of the employees in our several districts I believe the paper is filling a long needed want in keeping the members of our organization informed of the Company's activities, its developments and progress, thus bringing about a better understanding between the various divisions and departments.

The year 1928 about to close, has been a year of progress. Many extensions have been made into new communities, transmission and distribution lines have been rebuilt and about 40,000,000 kilowatt hours per year have been added to our generating capacity. Approximately \$1,000,000 has been spent on new construction and rebuilding.

The Company functions as a whole and each employee has his important part to perform. Earnest endeavor, loyalty and honest effort on the part of each employee has been given willingly and we enter into the new year with courage, and trust that by cooperative effort on the part of all employees we can make 1929 the best in the history of this Company.

EDWARD M. GRAHAM, President

BANGOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC NEWS

PUBLISHED EVERY MONTH
FOR AND BY EMPLOYEES OF

THE BANGOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMPANY

Vol. 2

Bangor, Maine, December 1928

No. 1

Chief Ed., G. M. Stetson

Mng. Ed., H. C. Dearborn

News Ed., P. A. Mann

-- Editorials --

The Old Year and the New

Just before turning our eyes ahead to the new year which is close upon us, it is profitable and interesting to sum up what has been done in the year that we are about to leave. Plans for the future must grow out of the past, and it is from our experiences that we learn to improve ourselves.

The success of our Company is gauged by the service we render the community. Service is the foundation stone upon which our structure is built. Let us see how we have met our obligations in 1928.

There is a widespread demand for rural communities for electric service. They want electric light, heat and power to the same degree that is enjoyed by the cities. The problem of rural extensions is always present with the Utilities. During this year, we have extended our service to nine communities which have never before had the benefits of electricity. All of these extensions involved elaborate construction programs and the erection of many miles of distribution lines, as well as the secondary networks and street lighting systems. In one extension, we had to lay submarine cables as well as build the overhead lines.

Along with the extension of our service to new territories, we had to provide for the increasing demands of our present customers. To meet this, we have added to our generating capacity at Veazie and Enfield. We have rebuilt transmission and distribution lines. We have located and removed sources of interruption wherever we could. We have endeavored everywhere to extend the use of electric appliances and to let our customers know the many ways in which electricity can serve them.

Now let us look ahead. Increased service to the community brings increased responsibilities. We must be prepared to meet them as they are laid upon us. If we believe our service is good, we must study ways of improving it. We must anticipate demands and be prepared by careful planning to provide for additional capacity in every part of our property as it is needed. We are a part of a vigorous, growing organization and we must prepare to grow with it.

The year ahead of us is rich in opportunity for every one of us. May we all make the most of it.

Christmas

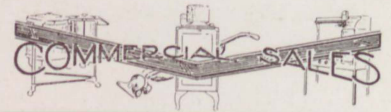
There is no other holiday so universally celebrated as Christmas. Different nations have their own anniversaries which mean much to them, but at Christmas all over the world there is a whole-hearted observance of this best of all occasions. Much has been said and written of the Spirit of Christmas. Everyone knows what it is. Children, and grown-ups too, enjoy hugely the stories of Santa Claus and his eight tiny reindeer. At no other time is the joy of giving so appreciated.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas. We hope that you will have a most happy time and that we all may be able to help spread Christmas cheer and happiness to our friends and neighbors.

Harrington Again Leads In Commercial Sales For November

The Harrington District showing over the one dollar mark, leads the stores in Commercial Department sales.

The Company as a whole shows one of its best months in merchandising sales, exactly doubling the 1927 November sales.



NOVEMBER

District	Sales per Res. Meter
Harrington	\$1.24
Millinocket	1.08
Bangor .....	.96
Lincoln .....	.83
Old Town .....	.78
Bar Harbor .....	.68
Eastport .....	.54
Ellsworth .....	.49
Machias .....	.47

FOR THE YEAR

Millinocket	\$18.10
Ellsworth	12.41
Eastport	11.59
Harrington	10.45
Bar Harbor	9.09
Machias	8.62
Bangor	8.19
Lincoln	6.98
Old Town	5.31



NOVEMBER

District	Rev. per Res. Meter
Bar Harbor	\$.88
Bangor .....	.47
Machias .....	.47
Millinocket .....	.47
Lincoln .....	.23
Ellsworth .....	.19
Old Town .....	.13

FOR THE YEAR

Ellsworth	\$7.44
Millinocket	6.95
Machias	6.18
Lincoln	5.72
Bar Harbor	4.27
Bangor	4.01
Old Town	3.54

Carter, Jordan and Tracey Win November Washer Contest

The sales contest in the merchandising department for the month of November was awarded for the largest washing machine sales volume with Mr. Carter of Bar Harbor and Ellsworth leading the group with twelve washers totaling \$1600, while Mr. Jordan of Old Town was a close second and Mr. Tracey of Bangor came in third just ahead of Mr. Bean of Millinocket. Mr. Tracy is the first salesman in the Bangor Division to come into the prize money since August.

The fine work shown by the salesmen in this washer contest was in no small part responsible for an excellent month in the merchandising department.

For the December sales contest the young ladies in the divisions are competing for the prize money on the basis of the largest volume of small appliance sales during the Christmas month and as your News is printed the Misses Shaw, Fayle, O'Connor team of Old Town is in first place and Miss Varney of Eastport is in second place.

Christmas Lighting

Our Merchandising Department is endeavoring this year to interest our customers and particularly our employees in Christmas decorative lighting.

Attractive Christmas tree lighting outfits, candle outfits and other attractive lighting effects are on display in our stores and our employees are urged to make use of these articles to help our efforts toward more and better Christmas lighting.

Small Appliance Campaign

The merchandising department are preparing for their January small appliance campaign to feature a low priced, first quality heating pad which will be offered to our customers, over our entire territory. These pads have been purchased at a price that will make them very attractive.

Merchandising Gifts

Our employees' attention is called to the opportunity of making their gifts electrical. Our stores are showing a complete line of electrical appliances featuring toasters, percolators, flat irons, heating pads, curling irons, waffle irons and many other attractive gifts.

Our employees are offered an opportunity to purchase these gifts at very low prices.

Merchandising Dept. In New Quarters

The work of remodeling the second floor at 31 Main street has been completed and the merchandising department of the Company is occupying the new quarters. The offices of Mr. Haskell, Mr. Parkhurst and Mr. Hammons are in this new location where there are also salesmen's and stenographers' offices.



CONCRETE TIE CONSTRUCTION

By C. H. JOHNSON, Super. of Transportation

The recent installation of cement ties on the Old Town Division, at the entrance to the University of Maine, presents a very fine appearance and is an added attraction to the locality. These ties were made up by our own men but are a product of the Maine Concrete Railroad Tie Corporation.

This tie possesses all the qualities of a fine appearance, durability, quiet riding and security to the patrons of the road, and from results observed to date there can be no question but that this tie overcomes all previous objections to cement ties and will last a lifetime.

According to experts, it is estimated that 26% of the lumber in the United States was wasted last year which was so much needed for other

purposes, and it is only a question of time, experts estimate between twenty-five to forty years, before our forests will be gone. From these facts it may be seen that it is a most vital reason that cement ties be used wherever it is possible to do so.

The installation of this tie means smooth riding, little noise, greater safety with faster travel, simplicity of construction, easily installed and the cheapest cement tie that can be devised and satisfactorily carry traffic.

We heartily recommend this tie to the Railroad World.

In the cut which appears above, at the right is Mr. Sydney Smith, the inventor, and Michael Addison, foreman, who installed the ties.

A CONSTRUCTION EPISODE



A PART OF GILMAN FALLS -- THE SCENE OF THE RESCUE LOCATION

Not all the heroism is confined to our soldiers, our sailors or our firemen, whom we think of as daily facing danger, and if need be, courting death.

Our construction crews assume almost as many risks and face dangers day by day with none of the glamor of the uniform nor the glory of bands and flapping flags and many an act of heroism is performed that goes unsung and unnoted.

The construction crew has been making some repairs to the Taintor Gate section of the Gilman Falls dam and on Wednesday were engaged in building a scaffold on top of the thirty-foot gate which was partially opened, when one of the men, Phillip Therriault, dropped one end of a long plank in the water. In an endeavor to save the plank, he was knocked off of the gate and thrown into the swift water, flowing through the gate opening. A shout went up from his companions but so turbulent and so rapid was the current that no help could be extended and the unfortunate man was swept downstream with no apparent chance of saving him.

For almost 200 feet the swift current carried him, sometimes entirely submerged and sometimes with just his head appearing above the water, when suddenly he disappeared en-

tirely from the view of the men on the gate and hope was given up.

However, one of the Milford men, Charles Weymouth, had heard the shout when Therriault first struck the water and had made his way downstream as rapidly as possible along the shore, on the chance that Therriault would be caught in an eddy and could be brought ashore. As it chanced, this was just what happened and Weymouth, without a moment's hesitation, clad as he was in heavy clothes and with heavy rubber boots, plunged into the icy water and seized Therriault and dragged him ashore.

Therriault afterward said that for awhile he was able to swim, but the intense cold of the water had so stiffened his muscles that when he reached the eddy, he could no longer swim, and was completely exhausted and had given up hope.

Both men were bundled into a car and taken to Old Town for a rest and a change of clothing and both appeared on the job the following day apparently none the worse for their terrible experience.

They surely had plenty to be thankful for on the following day which was Thanksgiving, and Weymouth deserves the highest credit for his quick wit and his courage in making the rescue.

Commercial Dept. Items

(E. M. Woodcock, Reporter)

The washing machine department crew is working hard for their monthly quota, and are determined to go over the top for December.

Mr. Ludgate, of the Syracuse Washing Machine Corporation has been giving much valuable assistance in building up a crew. John was awfully blue for three weeks, but his wife arrived on Saturday night and now he thinks Bangor is all right.

Mr. Hitchins of the Eureka Vacuum Cleaner Department enjoyed his Thanksgiving holiday at his home in Melrose, Mass.

Charles Mansur and Ray Arnold have strung lights on the front of the Main street building, topped by a circle enclosing a cross. The arrangement is very effective and adds much to the holiday appearance of Main street.

Friday, Dec. 7, was a busy day with the Commercial Department, when fourteen salesmen, representing twelve different organizations called. The second floor took on a convention aspect with practically all appliance lines being represented.

The showcases on the street floor have been rearranged with a view of conserving space. With the cases in the new position space remains for ranges and refrigerators near the front of the building.

Engineering Dept. News

Mr. Brown, Operating Engineer, reports that Mr. Grady, Westinghouse Engineer, expects to have the new unit at West Enfield ready for operation on or about the 22nd of this month.

The Operating Department wishes to pass a favorable comment on the speed and efficiency of Mr. Joseph Fournier and his crew in moving and setting the new frequency changer at Veazie.

We are glad to announce the safe arrival home of Mr. Coffin's wife and new baby daughter.

BETTER SERVICE

New automatic reclosing feeder switches have recently been installed at Harrington and East Franklin. These should improve the service on the Sorrento lines as service will be automatically restored in case of slight trouble.

Mr. Strout, Chief System Operator, returned to work December 3rd, following a two weeks' vacation spent in Pennsylvania and at his home.

COMPLIMENTS OF THOSE WHOSE DEPARTMENTS

DID SO LITTLE, SAW SO LITTLE, HEARD SO
LITTLE AS TO HAVE

NO DEPARTMENT NEWS

"THE MAN WHO WINS"

The man who wins is an average man,
Not built on any particular plan.
Not blest with any particular luck,
Just steady and earnest and full of pluck.

When asked a question he does not "guess"—

He knows and answers "no" or "yes."

When set to a task the rest can't do
He buckles down 'til he puts it through.

So he works and waits; 'til one fine day,

There's a better job with bigger pay.
And the men who shirked whenever they could

Are "bossed" by the man whose work made good.

For the man who wins is the man who works,

Who neither labor nor trouble shirks—

Who uses his hands, his head, his eyes;

The man who wins is the man who tries.

—T. W. Gavin.

SLIM STANCE

"Now, Paul, tell me why we put a hyphen in bird-cage?"

"It's for the bird to sit on."

As long as we have summer and winter, there is no way of eliminating the other seasons, as nature cannot jump from winter to summer without a spring, or from summer to winter without a fall.

A trip down the main thoroughfare any old day is sufficient to convince the most skeptical that beating swords into plowshares will never be as popular as beating automobiles into parking spaces.

"Why did you leave your last position, Miss Blank?"

"There was no future to it."

"Indeed?"

"No; the boss was already married."

"BIRD THOU NEVER WERT"

This literary gem, a "short essay on frogs," by a young immigrant from Norway, is quoted from the "Bulletin" of the Chicago Board of Education:—

"What a wonderful bird the frog are. When he stand he sit, almost. When he hop he fly, almost. He ain't got no sense, hardly. He ain't got no tail, hardly, either, when he sit on what he ain't got, almost."

IT'S THE WAY YOU DO IT

If advice we would convey,

There's a time we should convey it;

If we've but a word to say,

There's a tone in which to say it.
Oft unknowingly, the tongue

Touches on a chord so aching

That a word or accent wrong

Pains the heart almost to breaking.

Many a tear of wounded pride,

Many a fault of human blindness,

Has been soothed or turned aside

By a quiet voice of kindness.

—Selected.

ON FILE

"If an unkind word appears,
File the thing away,
If some novelty in jeers,
File the thing away.

"If some clever little bit
Of a sharp and pointed wit,
Carrying a sting with it,
File the thing away.

"If some bit of gossip come,
File the thing away.
Scandalously spicy crumb,
File the thing away.

"If suspicion come to you,
That your neighbor isn't true,
Let me tell you what to do—
File the thing away.

Do this for a little while
Then go out and burn the file."

—Selected.



Elmer W. Cole

On March 26th, 1928, Elmer Cole completed twenty-five years of continuous service with the Bangor Hydro-Electric Company and its predecessor companies. Elmer first saw the light of day in East Corinth, October 7th, 1882, and in due course of time graduated from East Corinth Academy. His first venture away from home led him to Caribou, Me. where he spent a year clerking in a market. He then went to Bar Harbor where he worked for two years as an engineer in a grain mill.

With a young man's traditional desire to see something of the world, his next venture carried him to New York City, where for a year he was employed by the New York Edison Company in the construction crew which was building the Waterside No. 1 Power Station. This plant was at the time the largest steam electric generating station in the world, and contained sixteen 7500 KW generators, driven by Corliss engines of the vertical, cross compound type. In 1901 when the Penobscot Central electric railway was built from Bangor to Charleston, Elmer saw opportunity for advancement in his chosen profession in the vicinity of the old home town. He first became engineer of one of the Patten System cars which were operated on the Penobscot Central, and later engineer of the steam power plant at Kenduskeag. It seems that the Patten cars carried a complete power plant, consisting of a gasoline engine driving a 250 volt d. c. generator, and a set of motors for the propulsion of the car. The system was designed to do away with the necessity for substations, overhead trolley and trolley feeders.

Veterans Service List

We give below a list of those employees whose anniversaries come during the period from December 15th to January 15th:

	Years
Humphrey, Leslie C., Car Operator, December 22, 1917.....	11
Tait, Roland P., Lineman, Old Town., December 19, 1921.....	7
Coffin, Harold W., Planning Engineer, Bangor, Dec. 26, 1922.....	6
Tasker, Lester B., Substation Operator, Bangor, December 31, 1923....	5

The system did not prove successful, at least in its application to the Penobscot Central with their heavy freight business, and ultimately a steam generating station was built at Kenduskeag. Storage batteries were installed at Morse's Mill, Kenduskeag, East Corinth and Charleston.

In 1903, after the Penobscot Central had gone through bankruptcy and been purchased by the Bangor Railway & Electric Company, a 6600 volt transmission circuit was run to Kenduskeag, where a railway substation was installed. At the same time the storage battery at Morse's was retired and the trolley system of the two railroads were tied together. With the installation of the substation, the steam power station at Kenduskeag was shut down and Mr. Cole became substation operator, service man, meter reader and bill collector for the towns of Kenduskeag, Corinth and Charleston, as well as handling the freight and express business at Kenduskeag, emergency line work beyond North Bangor and the maintenance of the railway storage batteries. When not occupied by any of these duties, he had the rest of the time to himself.

Elmer outlines in an interesting manner the operating conditions of that day, saying that they never expected to have more than two men in a crew sent out to hang a transformer on the 6600 volt line, or later on the 13,200, and that when an order for a service came in it was quite the usual thing to take a reel of wire and a few tools in a wheelbarrow and strike out to do the job. In outlining the history of the Charleston line, he says that before the construction of Kenduskeag substation, a booster feeder was run all the way from Veazie, starting out at approximately 1100 volts. By the time it reached Kenduskeag, the voltage was sufficiently reduced to be about right for charging the battery at approximately 600 volts. With the construction of the substation, the Kenduskeag storage battery was moved to Charleston, at which place the original battery had seen its best day. Later when the East Corinth battery began to show signs of weakness, a new substation was installed at East Corinth, and the Charleston battery was again renewed from the serviceable parts of two old batteries. Finally the Charleston battery was entirely abandoned, as the East Corinth substation, with the help of a trolley

feeder, was well able to handle the entire traffic. With the building of the East Corinth substation the Charleston line voltage was raised from 6600 to 13,200 throughout its entire length, beginning at Valley Avenue, Bangor.

The freight business in these days was of much greater magnitude than now. Pulpwood, cordwood, bark, cedar ties, pressed hay and potatoes were the principal products handled in bulk, and five-car trains were the rule rather than the exception.

In 1918, while Phifer Smith was Chief Engineer, and Arthur Davis was in charge of electrical construction and maintenance, Elmer was sent to Ellsworth to rewind a damaged generator. Shortly after he was appointed Chief Electrician on the Veazie line and handled the other electrical work connected with the installation of No. 4 generator at Ellsworth. From this job the electricians moved to Veazie where thirteen generators were installed, together with bus structure, switchboard and outdoor substation. The electrical crew increased from one man in 1918 to eight permanent employees in 1927. This crew has rebuilt the high tension room at Bar Harbor substation, installed both 25-cycle and 60-cycle substation equipment at Milford, installed the 44,000 volt substations on the Lincoln line, made numerous improvements at Bangor substation, installed the 5,000 KVA substation at South Brewer, replaced nearly all of the underground cables in Bangor, installed the Hampden booster at the car barn, and, under the direction of Arthur Davis, installed the original radio broadcasting equipment for station WABI.

In August, 1928 Mr. Cole became Meter Superintendent, filling the vacancy caused by the resignation of Lloyd L. Black, which position he still holds.

Mr. Cole has become active in politics in his present home city of Brewer, and has recently entered upon his third term as alderman. He is also a Blue Lodge Mason.

"C-c-could I have an appointment with the d-d-dentist today?"

"No hope."

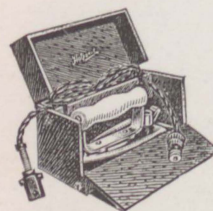
"Oh, thank you so much."—Bulletin (Sydney).



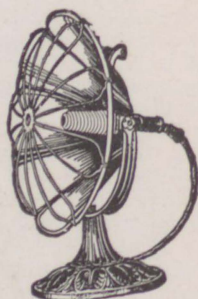
MAKE THIS CHRISTMAS ELECTRICAL



HEATING
PADS
\$7.50



TRAVELER'S
IRON
\$6 95



SPOT
HEATERS
\$4.98

PERCOLATORS **\$7.50 UP**

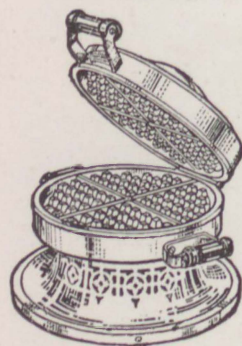
TOASTERS **5.00 UP**

GRILLS **6.00 UP**

IRONS **3.75 UP**

COFFEE URNS **12.50 UP**

CORN POPPERS **3.00**



WAFFLE
IRON
\$10.00

GENERAL ELECTRIC EASY WASHERS

REFRIGERATORS EUREKA VACUUM

KELVINATORS

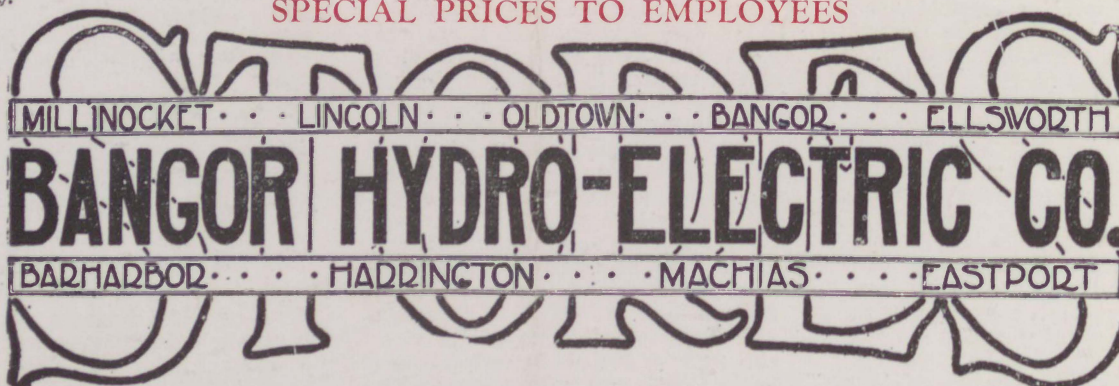
SWEEPERS

HOTPOINT
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BUY EARLY

SPECIAL PRICES TO EMPLOYEES



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