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TURBINE RESEARCH CENTER ACTIVE; ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT PRODUCTION UP

SECOND INSTITUTE UNDER CONSTRUCTION -- Borba, No 293, 11 Dec 49

The Turbine Institute of the Litostroj Combine, which is headed by Engineers Vuckovic and Marinek, is one of the largest and most important research centers in Yugoslavia. Important problems concerning the construction of turbines, turbosuction equipment, ventilators, turbocompressors, and aircraft and ship propellers are being solved there.

The Institute has a department for testing hydraulic turbines. In the department there is a model hydraulic turbine through which 100 liters of water pass per second, while 15,000 liters pass per second through a turbine of a hydroelectric power plant. The first domestic Kaplan turbine was constructed at the institute. When perfected, it was able to exploit 10 percent of the potential power of water. The institute is also experimenting with propelled suction pumps for drainage and irrigation, some of which Litostroj is producing serially. These pumps lift 200 liters of water 4 to 7 meters per second. They will be used for reclamation tasks and for irrigating rice fields.

In Sent-Vid near Ljubljana, a new institute with laboratories, experimental rooms, pools, and workshops for experimentation purposes is under construction. The institute will be divided into two departments, one for experimentation in hydraulics and the other in aerodynamics. The first will be equipped with huge reservoirs containing over 1,000 cubic meters of water, two industrial cranes, and testing stations for Pelton, Kaplan, and Francis turbines. The second department will consist of an aerodynamic testing hall equipped with ventilators, an aerodynamic tunnel projecting streams of air on the model turbines, and equipment for turbocompressors.

TO PRODUCE DIELECTRIC PORCELAIN -- Rad, No 304, 22 Dec 49

In prewar Yugoslavia there was only one dielectric porcelain factory, in Novi Sad, producing only 200 tons of dielectric porcelain a year for low-voltage power lines. At present it is planned that the dielectric porcelain industry will produce a variety of insulators for tensions of 35,000 volts up to 110,000 volts.

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Even though Czech experts reported the absence of raw material for the production of dielectric porcelain in Yugoslavia, several deposits of clay have been found in Arandjelovac, Bucovac, Kobilja Glava, Pehcevo, and Velgosti. At Gradesnica, deposits of kaolin, at Prilep, deposits of feldspar, at Strumica, large quantities of pegmatite, and at Dobra on the Danube, deposits of potassium feldspar have been found.

Czechoslovakia has sent some equipment to the dielectric porcelain factory at Stupa near Sarajevo and some firebrick for the furnace of the enlarged Novi Sad factory. The new furnace of the Novi Sad dielectric porcelain factory, with a capacity of 400 tons of finished assorted porcelain a year, is constructed of firebrick from Czechoslovakia. It was placed in operation in mid-1949, but after one month it broke down. The firebrick of the furnace was rebaked and the furnace is again in use.

Several new dielectric porcelain factories are being built in the vicinity of the raw-material deposits. The Novi Sad factory is now three times as large as it was before the war. Today it is producing high-tension insulators of all types from domestic raw material.

ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT SHOPS TURN INTO FACTORIES -- Slovenski Porocevalec, No 286, 8 Dec 49

The electrical equipment shops in Crnuce (near Ljubljana), Slovenia; and in Tezno (near Maribor), have been transformed into electrical equipment factories. The new "Elma" Electrical Equipment Factory in Crnuce has produced installation equipment for the Moste and Savica hydroelectric power plants. This year the factory has produced much equipment for the high-tension power line between the Soca River power plants and Ljubljana. In addition to that, it has repaired several large transformers.

A large electrical equipment factory has also been built at Vrapce near Zagreb. It began operations in December 1949.

ELECTRICAL APPLIANCE WORKSHOPS TO OPEN -- Rad, No 300, 17 Dec 49

Belgrade has five electrical equipment and assembly workshops as well as two electrical machine shops. The value of the merchandise produced by these workshops was estimated at 3,831,000 dinars in 1948 and 9,760,000 dinars for the first 9 months of 1949.

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