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REPORT WIDE INTRODUCTION OF AUTOMATIC AND REMOTE CONTROLS FOR ELECTRIC POWER

One of the postwar achievements of Soviet engineering is the wide introduction of automatic and remote control systems for electric power stations and power transmission networks under the Ministry of Electric Power Stations. These systems assure the uninterrupted supply of power to consumers and contribute to reducing the cost of electric power. Domestic industries have produced automatic and remote control mechanisms developed by Soviet specialists. The mechanisms as well as the control diagrams are simpler and more dependable than those produced outside Russia.

The hydroelectric power stations which are at present automatically controlled represent over 70 percent of the total capacity and include all GES in the Moscow and Uzbek electric power systems. It is planned to complete converting all GES to automatic control in 1951.

The majority of the boiler installation are equipped with automatic stokers and fire controls and an overwhelming majority of them with automatic water feeders. Many deaerators are equipped with automatic pressure regulators; automatic feeders are being installed at the coal grinders; automatic temperature regulators of superheated steam and regulators of heat supplied by heating plants are just being introduced. Simultaneously, remote control mechanisms are continuously being introduced at GES, substations and control rooms of power systems. Several GES and the first substations in the Donets and Gor'kiy power systems are already operated by remote control. In the Uzbek Power System, the installation of remote control equipment has already been completed.

Much has also been done to install electrical equipment for automatically controlling the operations of the high-voltage power transmission lines and generators at the power stations.

The extensive plan for the first half of 1951 was, however, not fulfilled for a number of reasons. Industrial enterprises failed to deliver the necessary equipment and cables on time. Directors and chief engineers were indifferent and careless in the introduction of new technical devices.

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Although the majority of the electric power stations fully utilize the automatic control devices installed, there are some which are lagging because their personnel either do not know how to operate them or still do not appreciate the advantages of using them.

The reduction of personnel, which is very slow at present, must take place simultaneously with the installation of automatic control devices. The continued teaching of automatic operations to personnel is imperative.

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