

PUBLIC SERVICE CO. BUILDING NEW UNIT

Fifth Big Generating Section of Waukegan Plant to Be Ready in Fall

The fifth unit at the Waukegan Generating plant of the Public Service company on the north flats, with a capacity of 115,000 kilowatts, will be completed by fall of this year, making the local plant one of the largest in the world, Manager Theodore Bleck of the Waukegan district stated today. When the work now under way is completed the state will have reached a total capacity of 290,000 kilowatts.

Begun in 1923

Starting in 1923 with the first 25,000 kilowatt generating unit, the work has steadily gone forward at the local plant with the completion of a second unit approximately every two years. The early part of 1930 saw the fourth unit finished and placed in service.

While work on the fifth unit has been going on, the company has at the same time completed a new 132,000 volt transmission line with a capacity of more than 150,000 kilowatts, between the Waukegan plant and the Northwest Generating Station of the Commonwealth Edison company, a distance of 37 miles.

One of the developments which has gained the company considerable distinction in the last ten years, has been its pioneering in the use of metal-clad switch-gear.

Metal-Clad Switch-Gear

Installations of metal-clad switch-gear were made in 1930, the most important of which were at the Waukegan station in connection with the fourth generating unit just completed and at the new Joliet substation. In connection with the fifth generating unit at Waukegan 132,000-volt metal-clad switching equipment will be installed, the first of this high voltage to be manufactured in America.

With the above mentioned activities going on, Waukegan is in the center of one of the greatest electrical developments in the world but its residents are not aware of the great things being done until they are pointed out by those acquainted with the technicalities of the business.

State Lets Contract For \$2,500,000 Road Improvement in April

Contracts for almost \$2,500,000 worth of road construction were awarded by the state highway division during the last half of April. A compilation of the jobs let between April 16 and May 1, completed today in the office of Frank T. Sheets, chief highway engineer, shows that 33 separate contracts placed on bids received on March now under contract up to about \$21,000,000, including work that had been carried over from 1930.

Other contracts that will place the 1931 construction program expected to approximate \$45,000,000 worth of work, are to be awarded as rapidly as possible, according to the highway officials.

The resume of the late April lettings reveals that this work is well distributed over the state.

Of the 33 contracts placed, 23 that total \$2,184,500 are for paving in 16 widely scattered counties: Cook, Marshall, Jersey, Richland, Edwards, Jackson, Will DePage, Union, McDonough, Williamson, Johnson LaSalle, Macon, Edgar and Perry.

Almost \$200,000 worth of work on nine relatively small bridges, ranging in price from around \$7,000 to \$31,000 dollars, have been placed in Cumberland Jackson, McDonough, Henry and Logan counties.

Most of the extensive grading work now going on is in completion of contracts placed some time ago, including many carried forward from 1930. One big grading contract was awarded on April 23 — on route 147, in Williamson and Johnson counties. It calls for \$81,697.49, most of which will go to pay the men and feed the

teams that level Ozark hills on a section of the "River-to-River" route between Golconda and East Cape Girardeau.

Employment Conditions In State Improving Is Reported to Governor

One of the most gratifying reports on employment conditions in the state that has been compiled by the State Department of Labor was received last week by Governor L. L. Emmerson.

The report reveals that the 15 downstate employment offices operated by the state placed 5,397 applicants for work during the month of April. This exceeds by 636, the number placed in March, which was the

best period for employment of any time within the past six months. The placement made in April exceeded the February record by 1,478. Waukegan placed 130 applicants.

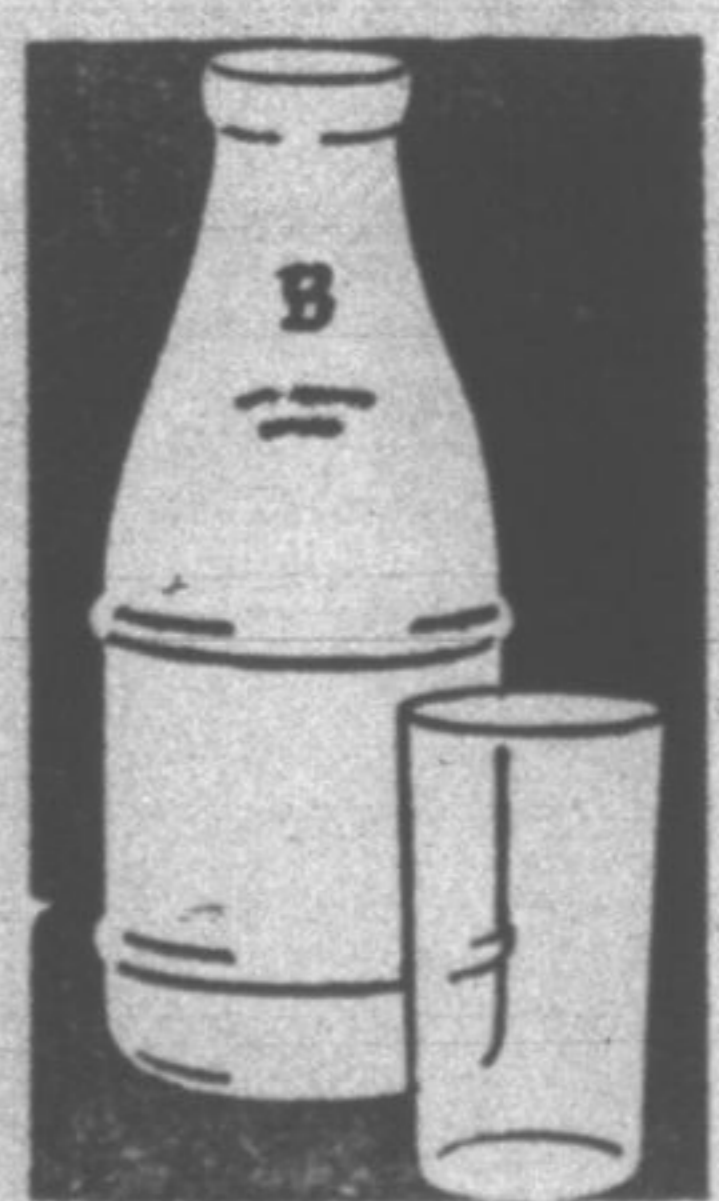
Employment found for applicants in the industrial centers, Aurora, Bloomington, Peoria, and Rockford ranged well upward of half the registration. They showed the greatest improvement in conditions.

The number that were placed in permanent or temporary jobs at each of the 15 downstate free employment offices follows: Aurora, 848, Bloomington, 350, Cicero, 312, Danville, 207, Decatur, 458, East St. Louis, 722, Galesburg, 154, Joliet, 338, Moline, 115, Peoria 1,008, Quincy, 395, Rockford, 394, Rockford, 202, Springfield, 128, and Waukegan, 130.



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